



## Illegal Wildlife Trade (IWT) Challenge Fund Annual Report

**Important note:** To be completed with reference to the Reporting Guidance Notes for Project Leaders: it is expected that this report will be about **10 pages in length**, excluding annexes

**Submission Deadline: 30<sup>th</sup> April**

### IWT Challenge Fund Project Information

Project Reference	IWT007
Project Title	Border Point Project: <b>Stopping illegal wildlife trade in the Horn of Africa</b>
Country/ies	Ethiopia
Contract Holder Institution	Born Free Foundation
Partner institutions	Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority
IWT Grant Value	<b>£331, 657</b>
Start/end dates of project	01 March 2015- 28 February 2018
Reporting period (e.g. April 2015-Mar 2016) and number (e.g. Annual Report 1,2,3)	Annual Report # 01
Project leader name	Fetene Hailu Buta
Project website	<a href="http://www.bornfree.org.uk">www.bornfree.org.uk</a>
Report author(s) and date	Fetene Hailu, Zelealem Ashenafi & Claudio Sillero

### 1. Project Rationale

Sixteen leopard skins were seized on 21 July 2014 at a check point between Sudan and Ethiopia. Four days later, two cheetah cubs were confiscated from traders on the Ethiopian side of the Somali border, but the traders escaped. The cubs were transferred to the Regional Police Commission as “evidence.” At exactly the same time, there was a seizure of ivory from a merchant in Addis Ababa.

Multiple points stand out from the above examples:

- The illegal wildlife trade is widespread and pervasive in Ethiopia and the wider region;
- It threatens multiple species and people (if the premise is accepted that the same border points are used for human trafficking and other forms of organised crime);
- Borders are porous. Ethiopia has six neighbours, and as such it is internationally recognised as a transit hub for wildlife products as well as a source;
- Border points are ill staffed and staff are poorly trained;
- There is limited coordination between government agencies, both nationally and regionally;
- Animals and their products are perceived as commodities, not as protected by law, let alone as part of a country’s natural heritage.
- These risks further impoverish pastoralists and other vulnerable communities who are losing a potentially valuable resource.

No one knows exactly how many cheetahs leave the Horn of Africa destined to become exotic pets in the Middle East, but estimates range from 150 to over 300 per year. Even at the lower end of the estimate, this means that there is essentially no recruitment into the adult population – virtually every litter born in the region is at risk of poaching. The only possible outcome from this scenario would be the extirpation of the species from the region. The problems faced by elephants are in a similar scale and do not require repetition. Similarly, the pressure on leopards seems to be mounting, as indicated by the recent seizure of 16 skins, which is not considered unusual.

The rationale for the Border Point Project is straightforward, and is reflected in the proposed methodology. Illegal wildlife trade in Ethiopia, and across the Horn of Africa, is an acute and growing problem. Every year, hundreds of people try to smuggle ivory either out of, or through, the country. The demand from the Arabian Gulf States for cheetahs as exotic pets, risks local extermination of the species. These problems have been highlighted internationally but more action is need.

Tackling these threats requires strong leadership and coordinated effort. Hence, activities proposed under Output 1 concentrate on strengthening Government and inter-Government institutions. At a conference hosted by the UK Government on the Illegal Wildlife Trade, Ethiopia's Foreign Minister HE Tedros Adhanom committed Ethiopia to playing a leadership role in stopping the trafficking of ivory and other wildlife products. The proposed establishment of a high level National Committee (here referred tentatively as a Steering Committee) is a natural development of this commitment.

The composition of the Steering Committee will show political intent, by including the Prime Minister's office, and senior officers from various law enforcement agencies (i.e. Ministry of National Defence; Ethiopian Revenues and Customs Authority; Police) and the Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority, Born Free Foundation's partners in this project. The Steering Committee will ensure that the illegal wildlife trade remains on the political agenda both as an issue in itself and because of its potential to be a national security concern, involving as it does trans-national crime and a consequential threat to civil society.

In on of its roles, the Steering Committee will establish a mobile Task Force which will be deployed to the Country's nine major open Border Points, namely:

1. Humara Ethiopia & Sudan
2. Matama Ethiopia & Sudan
3. Gizan Ethiopia & Sudan
4. Akobo/Jikawo Ethiopia & South Sudan
5. Omorate Ethiopia & Kenya
6. Moylae Ethiopia & Kenya
7. Mandera Ethiopia, Kenya & Somalia
8. Togochale Ethiopia & Somalia (Somaliland)
9. Dawale Ethiopia & Djibouti

(a tenth, with Eritrea is currently closed)



One of the Border Point Project's main elements (Output 2) is support for this Task Force. Teams of at least five law enforcement (LE) experts, led by Project Staff, will spend extended periods at each of these border crossings, working alongside the officials stationed there, increasing their knowledge and enhancing their skills. Significant funds for travel and accommodation expenses are required, but the expected impact will be significant. Protocols and systems for the seizure of high value products and the confiscation of live animals will be enacted. The Task Force will also visit surrounding areas to monitor other nearby official and unofficial border-crossings. This will guard against the risk that the illegal wildlife trade is simply displaced, rather than checked.

Included under Output 2 is the deployment of a Training Team. Ethiopia has both Federal and Regional Training Centres for many Government agencies, including Police, Customs, Military, Judiciary, Municipality Officials and airport staff. Born Free and their partners have set a realistic goal of visiting 30 of these Centres during the project's lifetime, that will result in raising the awareness of over 10,000 officials on national and international wildlife legislation. Concurrently, a review of the effectiveness of current laws and their implementation will be conducted and publicised. This will help guide the Judiciary in making informed decisions when sentencing offenders.

It is recognised that "the stick" of law enforcement will not be enough to stop IWT. Born Free and their partners state openly that enhanced law enforcement is the major focus of the Project (IWT Challenge Fund Objective 2) but the local communities must be engaged. Thus the project also includes innovative poverty alleviation activities (Output 3). Ways in which relief and development agencies can incorporate wildlife protection into their work are being explored. At the local level, people living under the Productive Safety Net Programme (PSNP), which has received strong historical support from DfID, will be recruited in a food-for-work programme to support activities to tackle the IWT. These efforts directly target the most needy and vulnerable members of society.

The Productive Safety Net Programme is designed to reduce the vulnerability of poor people. The 2014 Ethiopia PSNP Annual Review stated that in 2013 "the PSNP has demonstrated consolidation and incremental improvements in systemic capacity (reduced payment processing times, improved targeting, and [of direct relevance to the Border Point Project] levels of household transfer receipts that are large enough to have an effect on household living standards and livelihoods [emphasis added])". ([iati.dfid.gov.uk/iati\\_documents/4411721.docx](http://iati.dfid.gov.uk/iati_documents/4411721.docx)).

From a recent discussion with DfID in Ethiopia, it was learned that the biennial Impact Assessments of the PSNP/food-for-work programme repeatedly records sustained increases in school attendance, improvements in diet, and a reduction in the food gap. Additional evidence shows similar findings, namely that the food for work programme not only helps solve the primary problem of food insecurity but, at the same time, compliments wider poverty-alleviation efforts such as better education (through increased school attendance rates); improved health and gender disparity. Incorporation of activities to tackle the IWT into the PSNP can only augment and not detract from the successfully established programme, which has received DfID support from its inception.

In addition to poverty-alleviation, there is scope for more general public-awareness of the threat posed to a country's natural heritage by IWT. The Border Point Project is implementing three innovative methods for raising awareness (Output 4): installing loudspeakers at borders and in market places to relay information about wildlife crime, encouraging Ethiopian Airlines to include messages about IWT during their inflight announcements, and through the trialling of a "universal text message" so millions of mobile phone users will receive, in their hand, messages about conservation. While "ignorance of the law" is no excuse, such efforts will reduce the number of people who can claim it.

In parallel with these activities the project supports the new Horn of Africa Wildlife Law Enforcement Network (HAWEN), of which the Project Leader was the second Chair. HAWEN was formed by the wildlife authorities of seven countries but it lacks resources. The Border Point Project is assisting the development of HAWEN both at board level and at border points, through facilitated inter-agency communication and coordination.

There are three strategies to combat illegal wildlife trade that Born Free and their partners are aware of but consciously omitted from this project, namely: demand reduction; site specific work to protect vulnerable wildlife populations; and concentrated efforts in Addis Ababa's Bole International Airport. The decision not to address these issues was taken to keep the project focussed, within a reasonable budget, fulfilling the most urgent needs, while protecting multiple species. In no way does this imply that other work

is less important; indeed, opportunities to either implement or collaborate on their implementation is constantly sought out.

The Border Point Project, in summary, aims to:

- Support a high level, influential committee to keep IWT on the regional political agenda;
- Deploy a team of experts to border points (multiple, extended visits) to ensure LE is effective;
- Have wildlife law on the curriculum in every government college;
- Assist people living in poverty; and
- Raise public awareness in innovative, far-reaching ways.

As such, the project addresses nine of the commitments made in “The London Declaration”.

## **2. Project Partnerships**

Born Free Foundation is a UK registered Charity (No. 1070906). BFF has been actively involved in tackling illegal wildlife trade for over two decades. In that time, the organisation has been represented at every CITES CoP and has worked alongside the British and other governments in establishing positions to safeguard threatened species. BFF has a long-history in assisting overseas projects, providing both managerial and financial oversight.

Born Free’s support for EWCA dates back to 2007, with the registering of Born Free Foundation Ethiopia, established primarily to address one of the most pressing problem faced by EWCA: what to do with confiscated live animals. Immediately, this involved BFF in wider efforts to stop the illegal wildlife trade, of which the confiscated animals were but a symptom. Since that time, BFF has helped EWCA instigate training programmes, hold community-engagement workshops, and facilitate introductions to other relevant organisations, such a Stop Ivory.

BFF assumes the role of implementer of the Border Point Project, in full partnership with EWCA. BFF administers funds, accounting and takes responsibility for employment contracts and other third party agreements. BFF is responsible for submission of all necessary reports and audited accounts.

EWCA is the designated Governmental Authority charged with the conservation and sustainable utilization of Ethiopia’s wildlife and natural resources. The Authority operates 15 National Parks and 2 Wildlife Sanctuaries, as well as Controlled Hunting areas. In total, these protected areas cover approximately 14% of Ethiopia’s land surface.

Within EWCA, the work of the Wildlife Trafficking Control Directorate is directly relevant to the project proposed here. The Directorate is already attempting to tackle some of the identified problems, and have instigated multi-agency training programmes, however available resources to support these initiatives are very limited. The Director of the Wildlife Trafficking Control Directorate is currently chair of the Horn of Africa Wildlife Law Enforcement Network (HAWEN).

EWCA’s role in the Border Point Project is to provide the over-arching legal and technical remit for the Task Force’s operations. Also, EWCA ensures that the Task Force’s members are themselves competent to achieve the project’s goals. Furthermore, EWCA takes the lead in the delivery of the external training programmes.

## **3. Project Progress**

### **3.1 Progress in carrying out project activities**

- The deployment of experts to the border points began on 21 June 2015; including Border Point Project Leader, EWCA, Police, Ethiopian Revenue & Customs Authority and National Defence Training. To date face-to-face communication involved 2,227 ‘stakeholders’ at 31 checkpoints within seven regional states.

- Terms of Reference for the Steering Committee (SC) were developed; awaiting approval by the SC members during the first quarter of year two.
- Universal text message developed in Nov 2015; agreed with Ethio-Telecom, BFF & EWCA for release; the text message was conveyed on 7 December 2015 to reach 12,300,000 (60%) of the 20 million mobile phone users in the country in all nine regional states and two city administrations.
- 10,000 technical manuals were produced in Amharic and 5,000 in Oromia to assist law enforcement officers and are now ready for distribution.
- 10,000 posters (5,000 in Amharic and 5,000 in Oromia) were produced.
- Training to 4,859 police trainees was delivered at Oromia police training centres, which will equip police officers with the necessary knowledge to tackle illegal activities including wildlife crime. Training took place at two sites on 2 February and 19 March 2016. Eight hundred technical manuals were distributed during the training.
- Border points community/stakeholders meetings with 673 participants took place, and will lead to the practical steps needed to end wildlife crime. Nine hundred technical manuals were distributed.

### **3.2 Progress towards project Outputs**

The Terms of Reference for the Steering Committee (SC) was developed and are awaiting approval by SC members. An inception SC workshop was conducted on 4 December 2015 during which participants agreed on the proposed SC member agencies. These include EWCA, ERCA, INTERPOL-NCB, Ministry of Justice, National Defence, National Intelligence & Information, Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Foreign Affairs, Police Commission and Born Free.

The Task Force consisted of six law enforcement agencies including EWCA, Born Free, Ethiopian Revenue & Customs Authority, Police (federal & regional), National Defence, and regional offices (Culture & Tourism, Environment, Forest & Climate Change). All participated during awareness raising and/or training programme at border points.

A total of 2,450 technical manuals were distributed during year one. Fifteen thousand technical manuals and 10,000 posters were printed and will be delivered during the second year.

The translation and design of posters in two other local languages (Somali and Tigray) has also been completed, and printing of 10,000 copies will follow.

A total of 2,227 personnel from multiple law enforcement agencies were trained at 31 sites/check points within seven regional states and a further 4,859 police officers were trained for half a day at Oromia Police Colleges. Six hundred and seventy three border point community/stakeholders participated in a one day training.

Ethiopia disposed of 6.1 tons of confiscated ivory on 20 March. Born Free has been assisting with the ivory stockpile inventory since early 2014.

Communication was initiated with the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to plan a joint initiative with the Administration for Refugees and Returnees Affairs (ARRA) at Refugee Centres in Gambella (Pugnido, Ningnang), Benishangul Gumuz (Sherkole, Bambasi, Tongo) and Tigray (Shimelba) to raise awareness. At the same time communication started with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), World Vision, Oxfam GB and SOS Sahel.

Public awareness raising messages, using loudspeakers, were conveyed in Asossa, Genda Wuha/ Metema Area, Debre Tabor (transit route), Jinka & Hawassa and Yabello.

A universal text message was sent to 60% mobile phones in the country, released on 7 December, reaching 12,300,000 mobile phone users in all nine regional states and two city administrations.



HAWEN 3<sup>rd</sup> Steering Committee meeting was held in Nairobi, 22-23 October 2015. Minutes have been forwarded to EWCA to be relayed to Natural Resources & Environment Standing Committee of House of People's Representatives. The BPP Project Leader handed over the chairmanship of HAWEN to EWCA's Wildlife Trafficking Control Directorate and introduced the Border Point Project objectives and targets to participants. The minutes were forwarded to all HAWEN members.

The BPP Project Leader approached CITES, INTERPOL and created links with other partners at the 26<sup>th</sup> INTERPOL - Wildlife Crime Working Group (WCWG) meeting. This link will pave the way for SC communication and cooperation.

### **3.3 Progress towards the project Outcome**

- Two pieces of ivory weighing 86kg were seized in Addis Ababa (through the Gambella-Addis link investigation). The case was brought to EWCA and Police by a community member (October 2015); Police, and EWCA worked in collaboration to take the case to court. Two individuals were sentenced for three years with no fine and are now in jail in Addis Ababa.
- The Tulu Bolo operation took place (August 2015) in a small town near Addis Ababa (82km from Addis Ababa). The case was reported to EWCA by Ethiopian Revenue & Customs Authority (ERCA) through collaboration between EWCA, Police, (federal & regional) ERCA. The operation seized seven ivory ornaments, one bag of crocodile skin, one bag of python skin and one python skin sent from Lebanon to Ethiopia to a relative living in Tulu Bolo. The case was taken to court through the collaboration of EWCA, Police, (federal & regional) and is awaiting a decision.
- Developing and distribution of public awareness-raising strategies and materials ongoing. Law enforcement awareness materials leading to an increase in the number of reports on Illegal Wildlife Trade (IWT) incidents by members of the general public.
- Mobile text message and loudspeaker announcements related to combating illegal wildlife trade has created an opportunity to create awareness on the negative impacts of IWT.

### **3.4 Monitoring of assumptions**

There are no changes on the outcome and output level assumptions.

## **4. Impact: achievement of positive impact on illegal wildlife trade and poverty alleviation**

- Cheetah, elephant, leopard and other species in the Horn of Africa are no longer threatened by cross-border illegal wildlife trade, giving impoverished communities the opportunity to benefit from their presence.
- The project is working to establish Intra- and inter-governmental networks, strengthened and sustained, leading to robust, coordinated action to tackle IWT. Development and distribution of public awareness-raising strategies and materials lead to an increase in the number of reports of IWT incidents by members of the general public; implementing activities related to combating IWT through the Safety Net/Food for Work programme is currently under discussion with government and non-government organization.
- So far community workshops have been organized in four of the nine regional states. A total of 673 community leaders/stakeholders participated in these workshops.

## **5. Project support to the IWT Challenge Fund Objectives**

### **❖ Strengthening law enforcement and the role of the criminal justice system;**

- The universal text message was released to 60% of 20 million mobile phone users to create awareness on the negative impacts of illegal wildlife trade. The message read as follows:
  - ❖ Wildlife trafficking is a dire threat to nature and humanity. Stop illegal trade, protect wild animals! Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority & Born Free.

- Face to face communications with 2,227 'stakeholders' at border points within seven regional states and 31 sites will help to curb the illegal wildlife trade. The face to face communication was done between 21 June 2015 and 10 August 2015. Seven hundred and fifty technical manuals were also distributed.
- Delivered training to 4,859 trainees at Oromia police training centres will equip police officers to tackle illegal activities including wildlife crime. The training was delivered at a couple of training centres on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2016 and 19<sup>th</sup> March 2016. Eight hundred technical manuals distributed during the training.
- Informing communities at various events, including EWCA staff communication meeting (101 attendees), EWCA staff meeting in connection with 8 March 2016 "Women's day celebration (122 attendees), Chinese business companies workers meeting hosted by TRAFFIC in collaboration with EWCA (100 attendees), and INTERPOL's 26<sup>th</sup> WCWG meeting (120 attendees) in Singapore, these meetings and attendees will help to act together to curb the illegal wildlife trade.
- Border points community/stakeholders meeting with 673 participants will lead to the practical steps needed to end wildlife crime. Nine hundred technical manuals were distributed during the meeting.

## **6. Impact on species in focus**

The Border Point Project is focusing mainly on cheetahs, leopards, and elephants, along with other species that are caught and traded opportunistically (e.g. lions, white-eared kob, several birds and reptiles). Since the start of the project no wildlife population surveys have been published. Currently some ground surveys are underway in Ethiopia's Somali region enabling us to project the reporting of these results during year two of the project.

## **7. Project support to poverty alleviation**

- The general public and especially impoverished communities support the initiative, and are engaged in efforts to combat illegal wildlife trade, while benefitting from so doing through the following activities including: moderately technical tasks, such as distributing and collecting household questionnaires that identify wildlife species and products that are being traded (while at the same time raising awareness), and/or performing the same function at border points through "Surveys of people moving across borders pre-and post- exposure to awareness raising initiatives at the border points (loudspeakers, brochures, posters)". A less technical activity would be information distribution within communities and in market places and another possible job, for the unskilled, would be guarding the physical infrastructure such as the loudspeakers.
- Because the delay in drafting and approval of Agreement with relevant Government agencies and NGOs no impact and noticeable achievements have been seen so far.

## **8. Consideration of Gender equity issues**

- ❖ The gender equality of the project is manifested on the project staff recruited; two of four are female (Project Officer and Logistics Officer).
- ❖ There is no other ways for directly impacting gender equality. However, considering gender affairs offices during border points' community/stakeholders whenever possible may fit to the indirect gender equality impacts from this project. The BPP delivered awareness creation/capacity strengthening training at Babilie Elephant Sanctuary on the event organized in relation to "Women's Day". This event was conveyed on 26 February 2016 with 77 female and 45 male participants. The meeting was held in Babilie Elephant Sanctuary to pass the message of combating IWT for Babilie Area invitees and also asking the local support to conserve the wildlife species in the Sanctuary.

## **9. Monitoring and evaluation**

- Seizures of illegal wildlife and wildlife products at transit and exit routes will deter traffickers and contribute to significant reduction in cross-border illegal trade in cheetah, elephant, leopard and other species, therefore helping to preserve their wild populations.
- Developing and distribution of public awareness-raising strategies and materials is ongoing in two local languages (Amharic and Oromo people language). The law enforcement awareness creation material leads to an increase in the number of reports of IWT incidents by members of the general public. The mobile text message and loudspeaker announcement, the training at all levels (border point officers, police training centres and community /stakeholders meeting on combating illegal wildlife trade) will support the initiative.
- No changes made to the M & E plan over the reporting period (year one of the project)

## **10. Lessons learnt**

- ❖ Engagement with Ethio-telecom (or relevant Ethiopian Ministry) to agree on series of universal text messages per year relevant to IWT.
- ❖ Deployment of the task force to the border points to join partners onsite (at checkpoints); and delivering training at the police training centres.
- ❖ Community workshop in each regional state/province (zone) and district (wareda) to explain the IWT/Safety Net programme to community leaders and ensure buy-in.
- ❖ Establishing a steering committee and Test vehicles used to assess uptake of information & effectiveness of border controls as planned doesn't work well.
- ❖ Minimizing the steering committee to focal institutions (EWCA, ERCA and Police).
- ❖ Consistency building training top - down for focal agencies.
- ❖ Learn from experiences and pull resources (human, financial, logistics) together and work in cooperation
- ❖ Engagement with Radio, TV to agree on a series of airtime for selected local languages in all the nine regional states and two city administrations to convey IWT message to the public once or twice a week.
- ❖ Signing MoU with Airport Administrations and known advertising agencies to run IWT messages within selected airports at local, regional and global level.
- ❖ Integrating Wildlife Enforcement Monitoring System (WEMS) with developing sustainable livelihoods for communities affected by IWT.

## **11. Actions taken in response to previous reviews (if applicable)**

No review so far as this is the first annual report.

## **12. Other comments on progress not covered elsewhere**

- No project changes have been made over the last year either refining methods or exit strategy.
- There was unexpected political turmoil in all regional states, preventing travel outside Addis Ababa.
- No identifiable risks to the project so far because of information exchange with site level project partners.

## **13. Sustainability and legacy**

On 14 May 2015 TRAFFIC hosted a workshop in Addis Ababa for Chinese businesses and citizens based in Africa to address the growing issue of IWT. The event was organized in collaboration with the Chinese Embassy in Ethiopia and EWCA, approximately 100 Chinese nationals from State-owned enterprises operating in Ethiopia and the local Chinese community attended the meeting, showcasing the Ethiopia-Chinese partnership in the fight against wildlife crime.



The BPP Project Leader presented on the EWCA-BFF relationship and introduced the BPP objectives and targets.

INTERPOL's 26<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Wildlife Crime Working Group Singapore, was held on 23– 27 November 2015 - Panel #1- Law enforcement and civil society: Can we work together? focused on the working relationship between law enforcement and civil society. The session provided participants with some insight into case studies highlighting how the collaboration between civil society and law enforcement has taken place in the past, what difficulties and obstacles have been identified, and how each presenter proposes to overcome these obstacles and continue to strengthen this relationship. The BPP Project Leader presented EWCA-BFF relationship and introduced the BPP objectives and targets.

Face to face communication with 7,982 stakeholders, at 31 sites/checkpoints (2,227 attendees); police training centres (4,859 attendees) and border points' community/stakeholders meeting (673 attendees), EWCA staff communication and "Women's day" related celebration and meeting (223 attendees) will increase interest and resulting capacity from the project. The meeting was held in Babilie Elephant Sanctuary to pass the message of combating IWT for Babilie Area invitees' and also asking the local support to conserve the wildlife species in the Sanctuary.

The planned exit strategy is still valid because as clearly mentioned during the project design the national and international intergovernmental, and inter-organisational relationships cemented during this project will continue beyond its lifespan. They will not require continued, external support. Secondly, by design, this project puts no long-term burden on the Government, lead organisation or partners. This is because it is knowledge and systems led process, not one reliant on physical infrastructure or extensive human resources. Both of these factors mitigate the need for an exit strategy (besides the formal transfer of assets/capital equipment) - the project delivers in its lifetime by providing the foundation of which future growth can occur. By deliberately training recruits, the project will provide them with knowledge that will last throughout their careers. However, it is recognised that there will be a need for further training, in the future, after the completion of the project. Funding for this will be sought separately.

It is important to note that Born Free has made a long-term, high-value commitment to the conservation of Ethiopia's wildlife. The organisation's involvement in the country will continue after the completion of the proposed project.

#### **14. IWT Challenge Fund Identity**

The IWT Challenge Fund and its UK Government is acknowledged on the manuals posters and presentations. Government communications affairs /mass media of the regional states were invited to attend the border points' community/stakeholders meeting so that they can learn more on the awareness creation/capacity building aspect and publicise the project.

The IWT Challenge Fund and its UK Government is acknowledgement will continue during year two and three.

## 15. Project Expenditure

Please expand and complete Table 1.

**Table 1 Project expenditure during the reporting period (April 2015-March 2016)**

Project spend (indicative) since last annual report	2015/16 Grant (£)	2015/16 Total actual IWT Costs (£)	Variance %	Comments (please explain significant variances)
Staff costs (see below)				
Consultancy costs				
Overhead Costs				
Travel and subsistence				
Operating Costs				
Capital items (see below)				
Others (see below)				
<b>TOTAL</b>				

Yes, these changes have been discussed with and approved by IWT.

## 16. OPTIONAL: Outstanding achievements of your project during the reporting period (300-400 words maximum). This section may be used for publicity purposes

Face to face communication with 7,982 stakeholders at 31 sites/checkpoints (2,227 attendees); police training centres (4,859 attendees) and border points' community/stakeholders meeting (673 attendees), EWCA staff communication and "Women's day" event (223 attendees) which will increase interest and resulting capacity from the project.

The universal sms message conveyed in December 2015 reached 60% of 20 million Ethiopian mobile phone users that included all the nine national regional states & two city administrations. The message was released once in order to use the budget effectively.

Fifteen thousand technical manuals and 5,000 posters produced to assist law enforcement officers.