



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: 30th April 2017

IWT Challenge Fund Project Information

Project Reference	IWT007
Project Title	Border Point Project: Stopping illegal wildlife trade in the Horn of Africa
Country/ies	Ethiopia
Contract Holder Institution	Born Free Foundation
Partner institutions	Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority (EWCA)
IWT Grant Value	£331, 657
Start/end dates of project	March 01, 2015 – February 28, 2018
Reporting period (e.g. April 2015-Mar 2016) and number (e.g. Annual Report 1,2,3)	April 01, 2016 to March 31, 2017 Annual Report # 2
Project leader name	Fetene Hailu Buta
Project website	www.bornfree.org.uk
Report author(s) and date	Fetene Hailu, Zelealem Tefera

1. Project Rationale

Every year, hundreds of people try to smuggle ivory either out of, or through, Ethiopia. The demand from Arabian Gulf States for cheetahs as exotic pets risks local extermination of the species. These problems have been highlighted internationally but more action is needed, and this project aims to support that effort to reduce illegal wildlife trade from Ethiopia.

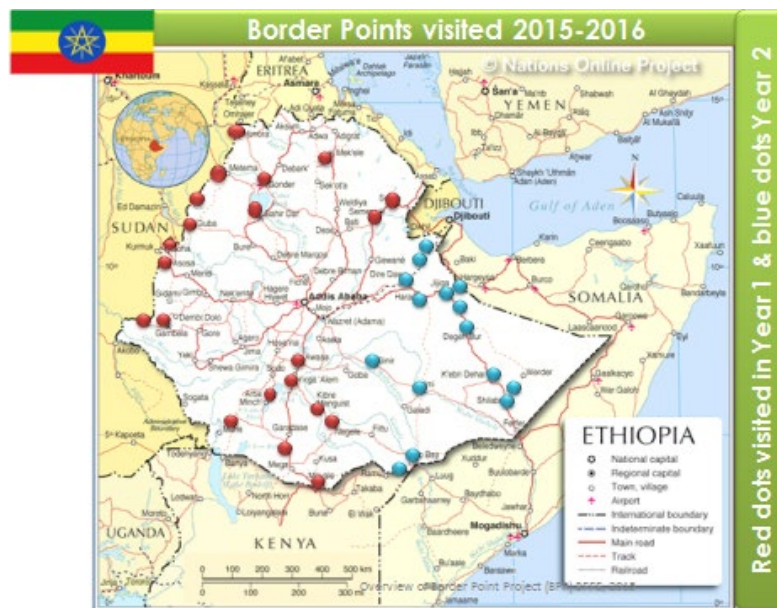
The Border Point Project (BPP) has four outputs (with six to twelve activities per output):

1. Countries in the Horn of Africa have enhanced capacity to detect, apprehend and prosecute wildlife criminals at border points – activities cover recruitment and terms of reference development for project steering committee members.
2. Personnel from multiple law enforcement agencies implementing national wildlife protection laws as a result of the deployment of the project's task force and training programme – activities cover defining task force composition and deployment.
3. Incorporation of IWT activities into poverty alleviation programmes in Ethiopia – activities covering engagement with the Public Safety Net Programme and food for work programme coordinating agencies.
4. Innovative public awareness raising mechanisms launched – activities covering distribution of messages via loudspeakers, text message, brochures, posters, in flight announcements, etc.

The Border point Project is designed to address the above mentioned outputs and activities. The major border points where the project will be operational are:

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 including Somaliland
9. Dawale Ethiopia & Djibouti

These include identified suspected areas of illegal wildlife trade for intervention connected to the nine major border points.



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 currently running until 28th February 2018. 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) steering committee.

EWCA's role in the Border Point Project is to provide the over-arching legal and technical remit for the Task Force's operations. EWCA also 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. The official letter of communication to the regional governments, border points and law enforcement training centres was signed by EWCA Director General and the Director of the Wildlife Trafficking Control Directorate and BPP provided the financial and logistical support.

3. Project Progress

3.1 Progress in carrying out project activities

The deployment of experts to the border points continued during year two from April 17th, 2016 to August 18th 2016. The team include BFF, EWCA, Police (Federal & Regional), Ethiopian Revenue & Customs Authority and defense force. In this regard, the capacity building training on IWT involved 3,026 'stakeholders' at 28 checkpoints within three regional states (Somali, Harari, eastern Oromia) and Dire Dawa City Administration. Furthermore, the round two (revisiting) training involved 2,036 officials and officers at 13 sites in Oromia, Southern Nations Nationalities and People's Regional States (SNNPRS) and Benishangul-Gumuz. The majority of the participants were defense force and police (federal & regional). The capacity building training on combating IWT at Benishangul-Gumuz regional state border points and transit routes was delivered from February 18-28th 2017 after the improvement of the state of emergency.

Capacity building training on combating IWT delivered to 6,780 Defense Force officials and officers, and 4,118 police officials and officers at the defense force and federal and regional police training centres. The face to face communication will equip officials and officers with the necessary knowledge on IWT to tackle illegal activities including wildlife crime. Training took place at nine defense force and six police (federal & regional) training centres between May 21st 2016 and March 31st 2017.

Border points community/stakeholders meetings with 418 participants took place at Somali Regional State on November 14th at Jijiga and 17th, 2016 at Godey; Tigray Regional State, Humera on January 29th 2017 and Benishangul-Gumuz regional states on February 18th 2017. The meeting with border point communities will lead to the practical steps needed to fight wildlife crime. The meeting held at Benishangul-Gumuz Regional State on February 18th 2017 resulted in establishing a regional taskforce that will lead to fight illegal activities within the region and beyond.

7,500 additional technical manuals were produced in Amharic and 5,000 in Somali language to assist law enforcement officers to understand the scope and impact of illegal wildlife trade (IWT) and help to tackle the challenge. 10,000 posters (5,000 in Somali and 5,000 in Tigray language) and 5,000 brochures in Amharic were produced. Innovative public awareness campaign carried at Dire Dawa City Administration, Jijiga, Togochole and Humera to boost public concern on IWT.

Terms of Reference for the Steering Committee (SC) developed during year one was approved by the SC members on September 16th 2016 and chaired by Mr. Dawud Mume, EWCA Director General.

3.2 Progress in carrying out project outputs

Border Point Project steering committee was established at a meeting held on September 16th 2016; SC ToR approved on the same date. Participants of the meeting agreed that EWCA is the designated Governmental Authority charged with the conservation and sustainable utilization of Ethiopia's wildlife and natural resources and reached to consensus that EWCA Director General to be the chair of the steering committee on combating IWT. The initial steering committee include Ministry of Foreign Affairs, FDRE Attorney General (the former Ministry of Justice), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, FDRE National Defense Force, Federal Police Commission (Crime investigation Bureau, Crime Prevention Bureau, INTERPOL and International Police Cooperation Directorate), Ethiopian Revenue & Customs Authority (ERCA) /Border Control

& Contraband Administration Directorate, Addis Ababa, Police Commission, National Information & Security Service, Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority (EWCA) Addis Ababa City Administration Police Commission and Born Free Foundation Ethiopia Office. The chair of the steering committee EWCA's Director General, recruited four additional agencies onto the SC including; 1. PM Office, Social Cluster Adviser; 2. Government Communication Affairs; 3. Ethiopian Biodiversity Institute (EBI) and 4. Ethiopian Airports Enterprise;

The Horn of Africa Wildlife Enforcement Network (HAWEN), 4th Steering Committee meeting was held at Sarem Hotel, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on December 7-8th, 2016. Minutes have been forwarded to EWCA Director General to be relayed to Natural Resources & Environment Standing Committee of House of People's Representatives. The BPP, Project Leader and EWCA's Wildlife Trafficking Control Directorate explained the Border Point Project objectives, targets and achievements to participants. Participants include Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia/Somaliland, South Sudan, Sudan, Uganda; AWF, CITES/ICCWC, HoAREC, IFAW, IGAD, IUCN Netherlands.

The BPP, Project leader participated on Hanoi Conference on Illegal Wildlife Trade, November 17-18, 2016 – Vietnam, and get a chance to deliver presentation on the BPP performance and collaboration with its partners to the Global Wildlife Program (GWP) meeting participants where the session was arranged by EWCA Director General in collaboration with the Global Wildlife Program (GWP).

The BPP objectives and targets were introduced to CoP17 participants through Darwin Initiative NEWSLETTER, September-October, 2016. (darwininitiativeuk.wordpress.co). The BPP brief articles were also published on Born Free Foundation News, BFF Wildlife Times in March, July, and November as well as a dedicated BFF-Ethiopia newsletter in April and October.

Public awareness raising message, using loudspeakers, was conveyed in Dire Dawa City Administration (April 22nd 2016); Togo chale, Jijiga (May 31st 2016); and Humera (January 29th 2017). Laptops, projectors, camera, loudspeaker, generator and electric cables were purchase and in use since 2015.

Communication that was initiated during year one 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 is still ongoing. The EWCA-BFF team had a chance to discuss the issue with Benishangul-Gumuz ARRA Branch office representative on March 17th 2017 and planned to continue at country office level.

The BPP completed translation and design of technical manual on wildlife crime in Ethiopia in collaboration with Ethiopian Somali Bureau of Agriculture and Natural Resources. The posters and the technical manual will benefit the local communities and the wildlife resources within country and beyond.

A consultative workshop was held on August 11th 2016 to incorporate IWT activities into poverty alleviation programmes in Ethiopia. The workshop focused on identifying environmental threats, including illegal wildlife trade, and suggested short-term and long-term programmes /interventions for the conservation of wildlife resources in view of tackling illegal wildlife trade and supporting sustainable development in Ethiopia. Benefiting the local communities affected by illegal wildlife trade.

Participants suggested that the main approaches to tackle IWT and to deliver successful natural resources management needs local communities' participation and strong attention should be given to alternative income generating schemes. This could be done by integrating and focusing on effective structures related to natural resource conservation and management within Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources. This is because of the ongoing natural resource restoration programme in the country, as a base for a climate resilient green economy strategy. Thus, natural resource conservation and management was suggested as a better way to incorporate IWT than productive safety net programme.

The BPP, Project leader also participated on Cheetah trafficking workshop held at Sarem International Hotel, December 9-11th 2016, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia and shared BPP experiences with Cheetah Conservation Fund, IFAW, IUCN Netherlands Committee, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, Somaliland, Range Wide Conservation Program for Cheetah and African Wild Dog, Colorado State University,

DECAN- Djibouti, Somalia Wildlife and Natural History Society, US Embassy Regional Environment Office, Somalia/Somaliland government, and EWCA which is expected to boost collaboration in cheetah conservation. The BPP Project Leader approached Cheetah Conservation Fund (CCF), IUCN Netherlands, CITES/ICCWC, INTERPOL and created links during HAWEN 4th steering committee meeting and Cheetah trafficking workshop held in Addis Ababa. This link will pave the way for IWT Steering Committee communication and cooperation.

3.3 Progress towards the project Outcome

In November 2016, a Toyota pickup was seized loading six pieces of ivory weighing 63.14kg, firearms, bullets and drugs around Dembidolo, western Oromia regional state on its way to Addis Ababa (through the Gambella-Addis criminal network). The case was brought to the attention police and EWCA to take the case to court. The two smugglers were not yet sentenced because of the firearms found with the ivory needed further investigation.

The Moyale area Federal police reported on August 10th, 2016 the seizure of ten pieces of Ivory (unknown weight) from two suspects and EWCA is still working to trace the suspects and ivory pieces.

The Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority confirmed the seizure of 307kg of ivory – initially announced by the Ethiopian Revenue and Customs Authority as 302kg illegal elephant ivory, (EBC; February 24, 2017) and there was no suspect interrogated.

A Rwandese national was arrested at the Bole International Airport in Addis Ababa, in possession of 103 kilograms of ivory and on June 22nd has been found guilty of illegal possession of ivory and jailed for one year, three weeks after her arrest.

Ugandan national was arrested at the Bole International Airport in Addis Ababa in possession of 13 pieces (33 kilograms) of ivory and has been found guilty of illegal possession of ivory and deported back to Uganda under NCB's and security follow up.

All ivory seizures mentioned added up to 506.14 kg which is higher by 73.34% of the baseline 292 kg of 2013/14 stated in the application form.

Developing public awareness-raising strategies and distribution of technical materials in multiple languages is ongoing. Awareness raising materials for law enforcement officers lead to an increase in the number of reports on Illegal Wildlife Trade (IWT) incidents by members of the general public.

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 still under discussion with government and non-government organization.

During year one and two community workshops have been organized in six of the nine regional states where an average of fifteen sectoral offices officials and officers participated in such a meeting. More than 1,090 community leaders/stakeholders from related sectors including the local elders, justice systems and police participated in these workshops. These community leaders/stakeholders will keep it sustainable through working government structure.

Taskforce on IWT established and guideline developed in Benishangul-Gumuz regional state to tackle the challenge bordering Sudan. Establishing the same taskforce in Amhara regional state is ongoing, guideline developed and forwarded to the regional justice office for comment. Strengthening the taskforces at regional level and working on its sustainability is expected to curb the challenge at the respective borders and beyond. Keeping the sustainability of the training at military and police (both federal and regional) training centres is expected to bring positive impact on illegal wildlife trade.

5. Project support to the IWT Challenge Fund Objectives

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

- Face to face communications with 3,026 'stakeholders' at border points within three regional states and 28 sites will help to curb the illegal wildlife trade. The face to face communication was done between April 17th 2016 and August 18th 2016. More than 2,000 technical manuals distributed during the training.
- In addition, the round two (revisiting) training involved 2,036 officials and officers at 13 sites in Oromia, Southern Nations Nationalities and People's regional states (SNNPRS) and Benishangul-Gumuz. The majority of the participants were defense force and police (federal & regional). The capacity building training on IWT in Benishangul-Gumuz regional state border points and transit routes was delivered from February 18-28th 2017 after the state of emergency is improved.
- Delivered training to 6,780 Defense force officials and officers at nine military training centres and to 4,118 police officials and officers at six federal and regional police training centres, which is a total of 10,898. The training was delivered between May 21st 2016 and March 31st 2017 at the military training centres; and between July 29th 2017 and March 24th 2017 at the federal and regional police training centres. The half day training will equip the Defense force and police (federal & regional) to tackle illegal activities including illegal wildlife trade. The training was delivered at fifteen training centres of the military and police (federal and regional). More than eight thousand technical manuals distributed during the training.
- Border points community/stakeholders meeting with 418 participants will lead to the practical steps needed to end wildlife crime. Four hundred technical manuals were distributed during these 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 cats, birds and reptiles). Since the start of the project no wildlife population surveys have been published. The ground surveys that was underway in Somali regional state during year one is not yet published.

7. Project support to poverty alleviation

A consultative workshop was held on August 11th 2016 to incorporate IWT activities into poverty alleviation programmes in Ethiopia. The workshop focused on identifying environmental threats, including illegal wildlife trade, and suggested short-term and long-term programmes/ interventions for the conservation of wildlife resources in view of tackling illegal wildlife trade and supporting sustainable development in Ethiopia. Benefiting the local communities affected by illegal wildlife trade.

Participants suggested that the main approaches to tackle IWT and to deliver successful natural resources management needs local communities' participation and strong attention should be given to alternative income generating schemes. This could be done by integrating and focusing on effective structures related to natural resource conservation and management. Further discussion with the Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources indicated that the appropriate effective structures linked with the implementation of natural resource conservation and management are within regional states. Ministry of Agriculture Natural Resources expertise also indicated the interventions for the conservation of wildlife resources in view of tackling illegal wildlife trade and supporting sustainable development should be approached through ongoing natural resource restoration programme in the country, as a base for a climate resilient green economy strategy. BFF-EWCA also discussed the issue with Administration Refugees & Returnees Affairs branch office at Assosa, Benishangul-Gumuz Regional State as a means to approach regional bureau of agriculture to explore the possibilities to incorporate IWT into regional poverty alleviation programmes.

8. Consideration of Gender equity issues

The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia (FDRE) Constitution Article 35: Rights of Women sub-article 3 states that “The historical legacy of inequality and discrimination suffered by women in Ethiopia taken into account, women, in order to remedy this legacy, are entitled to affirmative measures. The purpose of such measures shall be to provide special attention to women so as to enable them to compete and participate on the basis of equality with men in political, social and economic life as well as in public and private institutions”. Based on this provision as mentioned in year one report the BPP had considered the issue of gender equity on staff employment.

There is no other ways for directly impacting gender equality during the capacity building training on illegal wildlife trade. At border points’ community/stakeholders meeting BPP considers gender affairs offices whenever possible and this may fit to the indirect gender equality impacts from this project. The BPP delivered awareness creation/capacity strengthening training on trade illegal wildlife at more than 28 sites to 3,026 border point officials and officers. The gender balance is 2,830 (93.52% male and 196 (6.48%) female. The same training was delivered at nine military training centres to 6,780 officials and officers, and six federal and regional police training centres to 4,118 police officials and officers, that is to a total of 10,898 during the year. The gender equity of the military and police training centres was 10,032 (92.05%) male and 866 (7.95%) female. No noticeable achievement during the year as influencing this participation as it is beyond the capacity/mandate of the project and the project team can only deliver training to officials and officers at these sites.

9. Monitoring and evaluation

Seizures of illegal wildlife and wildlife products at transit and exit routes and penalising traffickers 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 (Somali and Tigray (posters) language). The law enforcement awareness creation material lead to an increase in the number of reports of IWT incidents by members of the general public. The training at all levels (border point officers, police and defense force training centres and community/stakeholders meetings will boost IWT understand. Similarly, innovative public awareness campaign on combating illegal wildlife trade) will support the initiative. In additional to year one the printing and distribution of 10, 000 posters in two local languages (Somali and Tigray) and the translation of law enforcement technical manual into Somali language is expected to advance the initiative.

No changes made to the M & E plan over the reporting period (year two of the project)

10. Lessons learnt

- Deployment of the task force to the border points to join partners onsite (at checkpoints) and delivering training at the defense force and federal as well as regional police training centres requires investment to print materials in multiple language on combating IWT.
- Development and distribution of public awareness-raising strategies and materials leads to an increase in the number of reports of IWT incidents by members of the general public;
- Design, production and translation of posters, brochures etc. Further to year one the design, production and translation of posters effected in two additional languages (Somali and Oromo language including Somali language manual.
- Community workshop in three regional state/province (zone) and district (wareda) to explain the IWT/Safety Net programme to community leaders and ensure buy-in.
- Test vehicles used to assess uptake of information & effectiveness of border controls as planned doesn’t work well because of the local civil unrest Engagement with Safety Net/Food for work coordinating agencies and development of suggested programme of work for participants (per region/border point) does not work well because of weak commitment
- Minimizing the steering committee to focal institutions (EWCA, ERCA, Police and defense force).
- 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.
- Strengthening taskforces at regional state level will also play a key role in tackling the illegal wildlife trade challenge.

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

It was requested by the reviewers of the 1st annual report that we provide clarification on the outcome and outputs of the project (Section 2 paragraph 5 of review). This appears to have been a mistake in the completion of the log frame – within which the outcome was broken down into its four constituent parts. The outcome **itself** has not changed from the application stage:

Countries in the Horn of Africa have enhanced capacity to detect, apprehend and prosecute wildlife criminals at border points, leading to a significant reduction in cross-border illegal trade in cheetah, elephant, leopard and other species, consequently helping preserve their wild populations. Intra- and inter-governmental networks established, strengthened and sustained, leading to robust, coordinated action. Impoverished communities support the initiative and are engaged in efforts to combat illegal wildlife trade while benefitting from so doing.

The issue raised regarding gender balance is explained under item #8 above

The issue related to task force deployment in seven regional states was completed with no challenges. The task force was engaged in a fieldwork at Somali, Harari Regional States, and eastern part of Oromia, and Dire Dawa City Administration during the writing of year one annual report. The plan for year two started on April 17th 2016 and completed on August 18th 2016. This was immediately followed by local civil unrest until last week of December 2016 where the BPP team started travelling to the regional states to carry out project activities at the law enforcement training centres and border points.

Laptops, projectors, camera, loudspeaker, generator and electric cables were purchased and in use since 2015. Samples of printed materials (posters & technical manual) for public awareness-raising will be annexed as a separate document to this 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.

The delay in signing the Memorandum of Understanding between Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority, Ethiopian Airlines and UNEP to undertake in-flight announcements on every Ethiopian Airlines flight. This in turn affected the survey of effectiveness of in-flight announcement pre- and post- exposure. EWCA-BFFE team amended the UNEP draft MoU and sent to all partners to the MoU and the progress is still weak.

In addition, the civil unrest and a national state of emergency limited the team's travel out of the main city, Addis Ababa starting first week of September 2016 until last week of December 2016. This was a risk to the project in limiting information exchange with site level project partners and law enforcement training centres. Even if, the Somali Regional State was relatively safe the team was unable to travel by road to Jijiga and Godey to carry out border point community meeting which was planned earlier. Under such situations the team uses air transport to reach to partners to implement some of the plans at some destinations. e.g. Benishangu-Gumuz regional state police training, Somali Regional State border point community meeting at Jijiga & Godey.

13. Sustainability and legacy

On June 3rd 2016, the BPP project leader participated in a strategic meeting on the Horn of Africa Wildlife Crime Programme and presented the objectives, targets and achievements of the Border Point Project and its key partners to participants of the first strategic meeting. The aim of this first strategic meeting between all involved parties was to elaborate further on supporting Horn of Africa Wildlife Enforcement Network (HAWEN) and the strategic positioning of the Horn of Africa Regional Environment Centre and Network (HoA-REC&N) in the regional wildlife crime.

On November 16th 2016 the objectives, targets and achievements so far of the Border Point Project and its key partners was presented to Global Wildlife Crime Program meeting participants at Lotte Hotel, Hanoi, Viet Nam

and the session was organized through the Director General of Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority in collaboration with the World Bank Global Wildlife Crime Program.

The Border Point Project objectives, targets and achievements and its key partners contribution was presented to Cheetah Trafficking Workshop participants on December 9-11th 2016 at Sarem Hotel, Addis Ababa. The session was organized by IFAW, CCF and Horn of Africa Regional Environment Centre & Network.

Capacity building training on combating IWT to 10,898 defense force and police officials and officers; 418 border point community stakeholders; and 3,026 border point officials and officers at 28 sites/checkpoints helps to boost community concern on illegal wildlife trade

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, printing of technical manuals, posters, public awareness campaign 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 Ethiopia's wildlife conservation. The organisation's involvement in the country will continue after the completion of the proposed project.

14. IWF Challenge Fund Identity

Similar to year one the IWT Challenge Fund and its UK Government is acknowledged on the printed technical 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 the collaboration between agencies was acknowledged through regional states media. The IWT Challenge Fund and its UK Government is acknowledged at Global Wildlife Program meeting held in Hanoi alongside with Hanoi Conference on illegal wildlife trade (November 17-18, 2016 and CITES, CoP17 held in Johannesburg, Cheetah Trafficking workshop December 9- 11th, Horn of Africa Wildlife Enforcement Network (HAWEN) 4th Steering Committee meeting December 7-8th both held in Addis Ababa. Furthermore, the IWT Challenge Fund and its UK Government is acknowledged at all local border point community meeting and fifteen military and police training centres and will continue during year three.

15. Project Expenditure

Table 1 Project expenditure during the reporting period (April 2016-March 2017)

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)				
TOTAL				

Highlight any agreed changes to the budget and **fully** explain any variation in expenditure where this is +/- 10% of the budget. Have these changes been discussed with and approved by IWT? Yes we have discussed BFF-HQ

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

The deployment of experts to the border points continued during year two from April 17th, 2016 to August 18th 2016. The team include BFF, EWCA, Police, Ethiopian Revenue & Customs Authority and defense force. In this regard, the capacity building training on IWT involved 3,026 'stakeholders' at 28 checkpoints within three regional states (Somali, Harari, eastern Oromia) and Dire Dawa City Administration. Furthermore, the round two (revisiting) training involved 2,036 officials and officers at 13 sites in Oromia, Southern Nations Nationalities and People's regional states (SNNPRS) and Benishangul-Gumuz. The capacity building training on IWT at Benishangul-Gumuz regional state border points and transit routes was delivered from February 18-28th 2017 after the improvement of the state of emergency. The majority of the participants were defense force and police (federal & regional). Capacity building training on IWT delivered to 6,780 Defense Force officials and officers, and 4,118 police officials and officers at the defense force and federal and regional police training centres. The face to face communication will equip officials and officers with the necessary knowledge on IWT to tackle illegal activities including wildlife crime. Training took place at nine defense force and six police (federal & regional) training centres between May 21st 2016 and March 31st 2017 for half day.

Border points community/stakeholders meetings with 418 participants took place at Somali regional state on November 14th at Jijiga and 17th, 2016 at Godey; Tigray regional state, Humera on January 29th 2017 and Benishangul-Gumuz regional states on February 18th 2017. The meeting with border point communities will lead to the practical steps needed to fight wildlife crime. The meeting held at Benishangul-Gumuz regional states on February 18th 2017 resulted in establishing a regional taskforce that will lead to fight illegal activities within the region and beyond. 7,500 additional technical manuals were produced in Amharic and 5,000 in Somali language to assist law enforcement officers to understand the scope and impact of illegal wildlife trade (IWT) and tackle the challenge. 10,000 posters (5,000 in Somali; 5,000 in Tigray language) and 5,000 brochures in Amharic were produced. Innovative public awareness campaign carried at Dire Dawa City Administration, Jijiga, Togochole and Humera to boost public concern on IWT.

I agree for the IWT Secretariat to publish the content of this section (please leave this line in to indicate your agreement to use any material you provide here)