

Project Ref No: XXIWT007

Project Title: The Border Point Project: Stopping illegal wildlife trade in the Horn of Africa

Country (ies): Ethiopia

Lead Organisation: Born Free Foundation Ethiopia (BFFE)

Collaborator(s): Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority (EWCA)

Project Leader: Fetene Hailu

Report date and number : 31st October 2016 - HYR2

Project website: www.bornfree.org.uk

1. Outline progress over the last 6 months (April – Sept) against the agreed baseline timetable for the project (if your project has started less than 6 months ago, please report on the period since start up to end September).

Between 17th April and 18th August 2016 the BFFE-EWCA team visited two National Regional States (Ethio-Somali & Harari), one City Administration (Dire Dawa), and the eastern parts of Oromia. These visits were conducted with the aim of meeting stakeholders on site and delivering capacity building training and awareness creation on wildlife crime for law enforcement agencies. During this time the team undertook training sessions at a total of 28 sites, including the Ethiopian Revenue and Customs Authority (ERCA), federal and regional police, National Defence Force and other stakeholders, reaching 3,026 officers and officials of different ranks.

In addition the team delivered capacity building training and awareness creation on illegal wildlife trade (IWT) in six National Defence Force Training Centres' and one Regional Police Training Centre to a total of 5,952 officials and officers.

A public awareness campaign, using a loudspeaker, was conveyed in Dire Dawa City Administration and Ethio-Somali Regional State (Togochale and Jijiga). The message, conveyed in Amharic, was:

Keep wildlife resources in the wild!

This message is expressed by the Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority & Born Free Foundation Ethiopia

Do we know that "The right to ownership of all natural resources is exclusively vested in the State and in the peoples of Ethiopia"? If not, please refer to FDRE Constitution article 40 (3)

Wildlife is a national heritage with immense value. Wildlife trafficking is a serious threat to nature and humanity. Illegal wildlife trade pushes species to extinction. Therefore, it negatively impacts wildlife populations, national/regional security, political stability, good governance, environmental quality, biodiversity, local economies and human health.

Therefore, as a citizen let's contribute our share by tackling this serious Illegal wildlife trade challenges.

Protect wildlife & wildlife habitats & Keep wildlife in the wild!

Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority & Born Free Foundation Ethiopia.

The Terms of Reference for the Steering Committee (SC) were prepared and shared with EWCA for comments, and have since been approved by the SC during their meeting held on 16th September 2016.

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 rather than productive safety net programmes. Because of the ongoing natural resource restoration programme in the country, as a base for a climate resilient green economy strategy, natural resource conservation and management was suggested as a better way to incorporate iwt than productive safety net programme.

On June 3rd 2016, the BPP project leader participated in a strategic meeting on the Horn of Africa Wildlife Crime Programme. The aim of this first strategic meeting between all involved parties was to elaborate further on the strategy towards supporting Horn of Africa Wildlife Enforcement Network (HAWEN) and the strategic positioning of The Horn of Africa Regional Environment Center and Network (HoA-REC&N) in the regional wildlife crime.

Key participants of this meeting were HoA-REC&N, the South Rift Association of Land Owners (SORALO; which is a HoA-REC&N member organisation selected to strengthen community engagement in the Kenyan South Rift landscape); The International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW; key partner of HoA-REC&N in the law enforcement component); The International Union for the Conservation of Nature - Netherlands Committee (IUCN NL; lead organisation, and contracting party to the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs), BFFE (represented by the BPP project leader), and the Inter-Governmental Agency for Development (IGAD).

The Administration and Security hosted workshop (August 27th, 2016) which was held at Babelle, where Ethio-Somali and Oromia Regional State Zones (provinces) and weredas (districts) bordering Babelle Elephant Sanctuary, participated to address the growing challenges facing the sanctuary, including the illegal ivory trade. The event was organised by the Administration and Security affairs of the two regions in collaboration with EWCA. The BPP project leader highlighted the collaboration between BFF, EWCA and law enforcement agencies in tackling the illegal wildlife trade not only to meet the BPP objectives but also to sustainably manage Ethiopian wildlife resources.

2a. Give details of any notable problems or unexpected developments that the project has encountered over the last 6 months. Explain what impact these could have on the project and whether the changes will affect the budget and timetable of project activities.

The delaying of the Memorandum of Understanding between Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority, Ethiopian Airlines and UNEP to undertake inflight announcements on every EA flight. This in turn affects the survey of effectiveness of inflight announcement pre- and post-exposure.

In addition, the recent civil unrest and a national state of emergency limited the team's travel out of the main city, Addis Ababa since the first week of September 2016.

2b. Have any of these issues been discussed with LTS International and if so, have changes been made to the original agreement?

Discussed with LTS:	No
Formal change request submitted:	No
Received confirmation of change acceptance	No

3a. Do you currently expect to have any significant (e.g., more than £5,000) underspend in your budget for this year?

Yes No Estimated underspend: £

3b. If yes, then you need to consider your project budget needs carefully as it is unlikely that any requests to carry forward funds will be approved this year. Please remember that any funds agreed for this financial year are only available to the project in this financial year.

If you anticipate a significant underspend because of justifiable changes within the project and would like to talk to someone about the options available this year, please indicate below when you think you might be in a position to do this and what the reasons might be:

If the recent civil unrest and a national state of emergency continuous to hamper the team's travel out of the main city there might be a **significant underspend**.

4. Are there any other issues you wish to raise relating to the project or to IWT challenge Fund management, monitoring, or financial procedures?

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.

While the outputs remain:

1. *National Steering Committee within Ethiopia provides direction to multiple agencies regarding measures for combatting IWT, while regionally, HAWEN performs the same function*
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*
3. *Incorporation of IWT activities into poverty alleviation programmes in Ethiopia*
4. *Innovative public awareness raising mechanisms launched*

Please note: Any planned modifications to your project schedule/work plan can be discussed in this report but should also be raised with LTS International through a Change Request.

Please send your **completed report by email** to Joanne Gordon at IWT-Fund@itsi.co.uk. The report should be between 2-3 pages maximum. **Please state your project reference number in the header of your email message e.g., Subject: 001 IWT Half Year Report XXIWT007**