

(due 31st October 2017)

Project reference:	IWT007
Project title:	Border Point Project: Stopping Illegal Wildlife Trade in the Horn of Africa
Country(ies):	Ethiopia
Lead organisation:	Born Free Foundation
Collaborator(s):	Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority
Project leader:	Fetene Hailu Buta
Report date and number (e.g. HYR3):	31 st October 2017, HYR3
Project website/blog/social media etc:	www.bornfree.org.uk

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

Since April 2017 the team has delivered IWT capacity building training at 12 police (federal and regional) training centres to 15,785 police officials & officers. This brings the project total to 24,762 police trained in the last 2.5 years). In addition the team also organised 2 defence centres' meetings with 115 defence force officials & officers and bring the total to 6,895; and conducted training at 2 Justice Professionals Training & Research Centre, reaching 515 officials & officers.

A discussion was held with the Oromia Regional State and Federal State Justice Professionals Training and Legal Research Centres to guarantee permission to deliver the IWT capacity building training at the Centres. The discussion was also supported by EWCA's official letter of request and consensus was reached to deliver the training at sessions starting from October 2017 to June 2018.

The BPP team supported the Amhara National Regional State illegal wildlife control Task Force in developing the Task Force guideline and initiating discussion on members, establishment procedures and accountability. The Regional Justice bureau offered to amend the guideline to be forwarded to the council of Environment, Forest and Climate Change for review and approval by the regional council as a decree.

In additional the BPP team organised an indigenous sapling planting event at Born Free Wildlife Rescue, Conservation and Education Centre for Oromia Police College teachers and officials on May 1st 2017 and Ministry of Culture & Tourism and Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority Staff on August 30th 2017 and 100 *Olea africana* and 100 *Junipers procera* saplings were planted. This engaged the attendees by giving them information on the consequences of IWT while promoting environment restoration.

The Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority (EWCA) and Born Free Foundation (BFF) team delivered awareness raising training on IWT for 34 participants of Productive Safety Net Programme (PSNP) training of trainers drawn from Oromia Amhara, Afar, Southern Nations Nationalities, People's National Regional State, and Federal government PSNP Coordinators. The PSNP 'training will continue at different levels from region experts up to community level based on budget availability and release from the Federal government to Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources (MoANR) PSNP and then to Regional respective bureaus.

2a. Give details of any notable problems or unexpected developments/lessons learnt 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.

- Engagement with Ethiopian Airlines (EAL) and agreement to undertake in-flight IWT announcements on every EAL flight - communication is still in progress through EWCA Director General.
- Test vehicles used to assess uptake of information & effectiveness of border controls - The security problem inside and outside the country has hampered our efforts to conduct the required operations per the annual operation plan.
- Engagement with Safety Net/Food for work coordinating agencies to Incorporate IWT activities into poverty alleviation programmes in Ethiopia - Communication on this activity is now progressing since the BFF/EWCA team participated at Monitoring and Evaluation and Environmental and Social Compliance workshop organized by the Ministry of Agriculture Natural Resources Management Division from 15-18 September, 2017 at Adama – awareness raising at regional level is ongoing.

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. 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, please submit a rebudget Change Request as soon as possible. There is no guarantee that Defra will agree a rebudget, so please ensure you have enough time to make appropriate changes if necessary.

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 second annual report that we provide clarification on the following issues:-

1. Please expand on how the **project is contributing to poverty alleviation.**

Output 3: Incorporation of IWT activities into poverty alleviation programmes in Ethiopia:

The Border Point Project team's follow up and discussion with The Ministry of Agriculture & Natural resource development conservation and utilization Directorate resulted in the team being invited to participate in the Monitoring and Evaluation and Environmental and Social Compliance workshop between 15-18 September, 2017 at Adama.

- The main focus of the workshop being the Productive Safety Net Programme (PSNP) - 4 project cycle management, results based management for programme planning, monitoring and evaluation, PSNP public work results framework and PSNP-4 public work planning process.
- The participants were from Oromia, Amhara, Afar, Tigray, Southern Nations Nationalities, People's National Regional State, and Federal government PSNP Coordinators.

- The PSNP training of trainers will continue at different levels from regional experts up to community level based on budget availability and release from the Federal government to MoANR and Regional respective bureaus.
- It was learned that, the PSNP work flow is from Federal experts - regional experts - wereda experts - kebele experts and then to the community, where all plan and report would be endorsed by community members at the first stage before being accepted by the federal coordination team.

During this workshop the Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority (EWCA) and Born Free Foundation (BFF) team delivered awareness raising training on IWT for 34 participants of which four were female. The Ministry of Agriculture Natural Resources Sector head explained that regional states have their own mandate to implement PSNP; therefore, Born Free/EWCA team can continue raising awareness on IWT using PSNP regional structures and would be wise to communicate directly with regional agriculture office heads and PSNP experts. The regional and Federal PSNP coordinators welcomed the idea of raising/creating awareness on IWT using PSNP regional structures during the organised sessions.

In order to achieve Output 3 and given the progress noted above the BPP team will begin approaching selected regional agriculture office heads and PSNP experts directly to deliver awareness raising training and start discussions on IWT. This will continue during the project life, to integrate tackling IWT and is expected to help to formalise the agreement with federal and regional Agriculture and Natural Resources government agencies and strengthen the link between poverty alleviation and IWT prevention.

2. Please expand on how the **project is contributing to gender equality.**

- Gender equality is addressed where possible by the inclusion of the gender equality department in local meetings and task force discussions to play a key role in wildlife conservation and development, but influencing the recruitment of women into the roles this project aims to train is beyond the projects ability and scope.

2. Please clarify the lessons learnt from bullets three, four and nine of the Lessons Learnt section of the Annual Report #2

- In addition to year one, the BPP translated, printed and distributed information materials on IWT (posters in Somali & Tigray language), brochures (Amharic) and manual in Somali language. These local demand driven translations and production of posters and IWT manual during year two helped the local community to better understand illegal wildlife trade as a threat to their natural resources. Responding to the local demand on information materials need should continue beyond the life span of the current phase of the BPP to reach wider community and increasing the buy-in of IWT for long-term sustainability.
- Community workshops in three regional states/provinces (zone) and districts (wareda) to explain the IWT/Safety Net programme to community leaders helped to ensure buy-in and increased reporting on additional smuggling routes and illegal activities including IWT.
- Engagement with Airport's Administrations and known advertising agencies (or relevant Ethiopian Ministry) to agree on running IWT messages within selected airports at local, regional and global level in multiple languages is a key avenue to reach wider communities.

If you were asked to provide a response to this year's annual report review with your next half year report, please attach your response to this document. Additionally, if you were funded under R3 and asked to provide further information by your first half year report, please attach your response as a separate document.

Please note: Any planned modifications to your project schedule/workplan 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 Victoria Pinion at IWT-Fund@ltsi.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: IWT001 Half Year Report.