



Illegal Wildlife Trade (IWT) Challenge Fund Final Report

IWT Challenge Fund Project Information

Project reference	IWT017
Project title	Tackling Illegal Wildlife Trade in Mongolia through Improved Law Enforcement
Country(ies)	Mongolia
Contract holder institution	Zoological Society of London
Partner institution(s)	IRIM, Legal Atlas
Total IWT grant value	£480,583
Start/end dates of project	Start: 1 st April 2015 End: 30 th March 2018
Project leader's name	Dr Gitanjali Bhattacharya
Project website/blog/social media	https://www.zsl.org/conservation/threats/illegal-wildlife-trade-crisis/illegal-wildlife-trade-in-mongolia
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1. Project Summary

Mongolia's Illegal Wildlife Trade Problem:

Whilst Mongolia's species face broad pressure from climate change and habitat loss, the international IWT is arguably their greatest immediate threat (Wingard and Zahler, 2006; Clark et al., 2006; Wingard et al., 2018). This profitable market has garnered the attention of organised crime, which drives much of the poaching inside Mongolia for most of its small to medium mammals, some live trade of birds (e.g. saker falcon), and increasingly fish species (Annex 4.3a – Silent Steppe II Report). This has most impacted the project's focal species, with large-scale demand for species including the grey wolf (fur, skull, internal organs), red deer (antlers, genitals), musk deer (glands), marmot (fur, meat), saiga antelope (horn), argali sheep (horn), saker falcon (claws and live trade) and snow leopard (fur)(Clark et al. 2006; Mallon 2008; Nyambayar et al. 2015; Nowell et al. 2016; Wingard et al., 2018).

Mongolia has taken steps to address this crisis but significant capacity gaps and challenges remain. ZSL and the Ministry of Environment and Tourism (MET) identified a number of gaps in the Convention on Biological Diversity 5th National Report including the following: *A lack of systematic knowledge in wildlife management, especially trade, is substantial. Studies have shown harvest quotas and licensing totals are dwarfed by the number of wildlife products available at market. Additionally, while several government bodies have enforcement authority and regularly conduct patrols within their jurisdiction, there is no standardised method or protocols for interagency data sharing. Inadequate training and capacity to enforce existing hunting and trade restrictions is also an issue. When engaging with the community, inadequate use of economic incentives and fines results in lack of community support, restricting information flow and preventing timely intelligence from being received. This project aims to address several of these key gaps.*

The project:

In order to strengthen the Government of Mongolia's efforts to combat IWT this project broadly sought to i) improve knowledge of IWT, ii) strengthen government capacity, iii) raise public awareness, and iv) promote public stewardship of natural resources.

i) Improve knowledge of IWT (Output 1 and 3). To update and improve our understanding of IWT, this project conducted the most comprehensive and first cross-sectional analysis of IWT in Mongolia, and the legal framework it operates within. The Silent Steppe II Report (Annex 4.3a) (Output 1) will operate as a sequel to the most comprehensive IWT study conducted in Mongolia to date, Silent Steppes: the illegal wildlife trade crisis in Mongolia. Over 4010 household interviews and 650 market surveys were conducted across Mongolia providing an up-to-date, accurate, and, uniquely longitudinal understanding of IWT in Mongolia. In addition, this analysis involved a review and gap-analysis of Mongolia's legal environment relating to IWT. This highlighted areas where legislation could be strengthened to better police and prosecute IWT, including promoting stewardship of local communities natural resources and alignment of national legal framework with IUCN Red List (Output 3). This collective data is vital to providing the Government of Mongolia, and a variety of stakeholders, an empirically derived foundation of knowledge to more effectively combat IWT.

ii) Strengthen government capacity (Output 2). Strengthening the capacity of Mongolia's law enforcement was targeted through the training of frontline law enforcement officers, and the improvement of inter-agency intelligence sharing. In partnership with Mongolia's law enforcement agencies, a training needs assessment was conducted, with training materials and a programme developed and delivered to 113 frontline officers from across the different law enforcement agencies responsible for policing IWT (Annex 4.7b-c). Content collated from training materials was used in the development of a FCO-funded wildlife identification mobile application (Sorgog) to support frontline officers' capacity to effectively identify wildlife products. The lack of inter-agency collaboration and intelligence sharing was addressed through the creation of a National IWT Committee comprised of senior officers from each law enforcement agency, facilitating more effective sharing of intelligence in the policing and prosecution of a dynamic, international illegal market (Annex 4.8). The sharing of intelligence will be maintained and reported through a newly centralised and standardised, illegal wildlife trade database (Annex 4.4d) (FCO funded). This database will also improve record keeping both nationally and internationally as CITES uses national reports to gather its global information on species, and as a result Mongolia's national reports will be much more accurate. Holistically, these activities better equip frontline law enforcement through improved training, tools, and improved inter-agency operations.

iii) Raise public awareness (Output 3). A public awareness campaign was conducted to raise awareness of the damaging impacts of IWT and its laws and penalties. A text message campaign was conducted through MobiCom phone users (reaching approximately one million users, approximately 33% of Mongolia's adult population per month, totalling 7.2 million text messages) (Annex 4.9a), including a broader media approach through newspapers (Annex 4.9c), TV (Annex 4.9b) and radio. Public information is commonly disseminated this way as even the most rural communities often have a simple power source for radio and TV. In support of these activities the National IWT Committee, formed an Ulaanbaatar taskforce comprising the city's major law enforcement agencies, and wildlife experts. This taskforce engaged potential IWT participants in public marketplaces and through media to educate them on law and penalties related to trading of illegal activities (Annex 4.8c).

iv) Promote public stewardship of natural resources (Output 4). To support public engagement activities, 21 officers from each aimag (province) environmental department and Ulaanbaatar City, encompassing the whole country, were trained as trainers in sustainable natural resource use to provide a scalable, long-term model for conserving Mongolia's biodiversity. A training package was developed and given to trainers from each of the 21 provinces to allow continued training to both government staff and rural communities, strengthening long-term community stewardship of their natural resources (Annex 4.6).

The project's impact on species:

The project will have a broad impact on many of Mongolia's most notable species threatened by IWT. Species classified under Mongolian law (Rare and Very Rare; e.g. Siberian marmot, snow leopard), and species threatened under the IUCN Red Lists (CR Saiga antelope), and absolutely protected, or partially protected under CITES quotas (grey wolf) will be most impacted. The Silent Steppe II Report will provide accurate data, and fill knowledge gaps of hunting in Mongolia, broadly impacting all species affected by poaching through informing more effective interventions against IWT, and more effective mitigative legislation. Training of frontline officers (including village centre police and rangers) in identification of wildlife products will impact groups often misidentified (e.g. fish and bird), or those species whose products are unidentifiable (e.g. bones from wolves, bile from bear, meat for consumption) (Annex 4.6-7). The IWT database (Annex 4.4d) will strengthen enforcement of hunting restrictions of all species impacted by IWT by improved inter-agency intelligence sharing and record-keeping paving the way for more successful prosecution of smugglers. Despite legislative protection for many species, many rural communities are unaware of the true impact (and the seriousness of penalties) of wildlife poaching on Mongolia's ecosystems, consequently, the project's public awareness campaign (Annex 4.9), and the Ulaanbaatar taskforce (Annex 4.8c) have improved knowledge of the consequences of participating in IWT, reducing the likelihood of individuals partaking in poaching. Likewise, species commonly harvested by rural communities (e.g. Siberian marmot for food and pelts) will be more effectively managed as a part of the community training on sustainable natural resource use (and materials) (Annex 4.6), improving community willingness to sustainably manage Mongolia's landscapes, and wildlife.

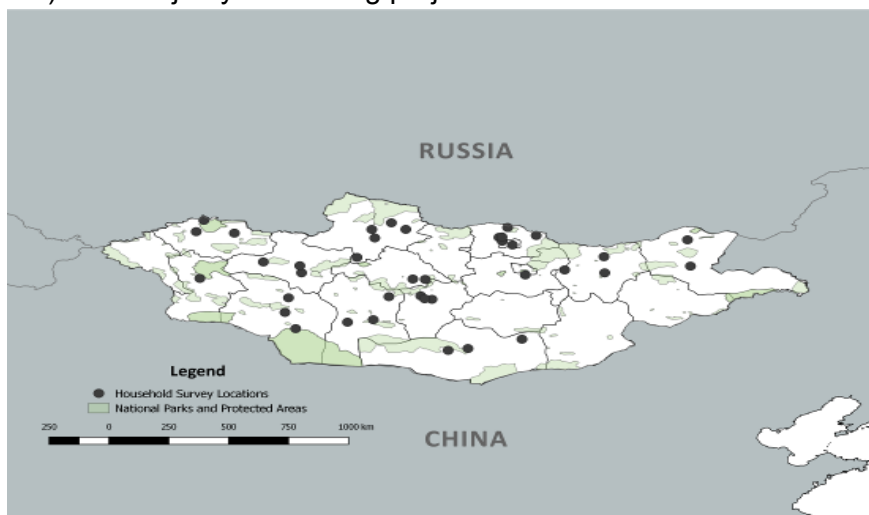
The project's impact on rural and herder communities:

Illegal wildlife trade in Mongolia affects a broad spectrum of society, both directly and indirectly, by reducing biodiversity, wildlife abundance, and impairing ecosystems services. In Mongolia rural and herder communities are more directly impacted by IWT. Many of these communities are still dependent upon the land, and will benefit by the long-term preservation of Mongolia's biodiversity. This will indirectly alleviate poverty by ensuring that ecosystems are able to provision resources more effectively to communities who directly depend upon healthy, productive landscapes to support livestock. Furthermore, wildlife is a significant tourism drawcard in Mongolia, and there are potential long-term monetary benefits to securing this as an income through sustainable hunting permit revenue (included in legal recommendations submitted to MET), and wildlife sightseeing. These are, however, potential long-term benefits of the project and so monitoring, with accuracy, of this will be unlikely in the project timeframe.

The training of trainers in sustainable natural resource (Annex 4.6) use across Mongolia's 21 provinces will provide a scalable model to equip rural communities with the knowledge and tools necessary to more effectively manage their interactions with their surrounding landscape. In the long-term this should enhance livelihoods indirectly alleviating poverty.

Project Map

The map below indicates the cities, towns and village locations of household and market surveys (Output 1). The majority of remaining project activities were carried out in Ulaanbaatar.



2. Project Partnerships

Since the project's inception, ZSL as the lead organisation has developed not only valuable formal partnerships, but has also greatly benefited from broader engagement with many of Mongolia's key government, private, and non-government institutions (Annex 4.1).

ZSL's collaboration with national NGO, Steppe Forward (SF) continues to go from strength to strength. ZSL is assisting Steppe Forward to strengthen Mongolian capacity in biodiversity conservation with the aim of empowering Mongolian people to create and manage conservation programmes by providing them with the tools and skills necessary to design and implement their own ecological studies, surveys and monitoring schemes. Steppe Forward staff are on secondment to the project and have conducted all administration and in-country logistical oversight for the project. The Steppe Forward office, provided by ZSL was the base for the project in Mongolia. Steppe Forward and ZSL staff worked successfully together to deliver the objectives of this project. ZSL and SF Staff contributed to the compilation of this final report.

Project Partner Roles:

All project partners and major stakeholders were involved in project planning and decision making in various ways in different stages of the project. The roles of those agencies and institutions were an essential part of the project implementation. Partners and stakeholders were involved in the writing and completion of the final report by providing supporting documents and advice where necessary.

Ministry of Environment and Tourism, Mongolia (MET). The MET being the major government department responsible for environmental issues assisted ZSL with general oversight of project implementation. Experts from MET supported the project's delivery by providing government backing, and promoting inter-agency cooperation. They have been supportive of the project, and receptive to considering legislative changes to combatting IWT.

Law enforcement agencies: General Agency for Specialized Inspection (GASI); Customs General Administration (CGA); and National Police Agency, Police Eco Crime Unit (NPA). GASI, CGA and NPA are the primary law enforcement agencies actively involved in policing IWT. They were instrumental in facilitating training of law enforcement officers, offering senior level backing in inter-agency project activities (e.g. National IWT Committee), and provided criminal offence data from the last three years (2015-2018) for National IWT database, in accordance with the standard data collection protocol, hosted by the Information and Research Institute of Meteorology, Hydrology and Environment (IRIMHE) under MET.

Independent Research Institute of Mongolia (IRIM). IRIM played an important role during the planning, conducting and compilation of nation-wide household and market IWT surveys (Annex 4.3a) and the project end rapid survey (Annex 4.3b). ZSL and Legal Atlas, with the support of IRIM, were able to create the sampling design and survey questionnaires. The specialist IRIM socioeconomic survey team conducted the household and market surveys, including the rapid survey at the end of the project as part of the project's monitoring and evaluation. IRIM cleaned all data according to standard quality data control protocols, providing the prepared data for Legal Atlas for further analysis.

Legal Atlas (LA). LA are a legal analysis and consultancy firm, specialising in the creation of legal intelligence. The co-director of LA was also one of two authors of the original Silent Steppe report on Mongolia's illegal wildlife trade, as such they were an important partner in this project. LA worked alongside ZSL and IRIM to conduct the IWT study, legal framework review and formulation of recommendations, and writing of the Silent Steppe II Report (Annex 4.3a).

Informal Partners:

In support of the project activities being developed and implemented by formal partners, our project involved a variety of informal partners, ensuring the project was supported across different levels of project implementation.

MobiCom. Mongolia's largest telecommunication and media company has supported the project through media outreach, the text message campaign, TV, brochures, and information outlets at their nationwide stores (Annex 4.9a). ZSL worked alongside MobiCom's creative and media departments to develop innovative methods of disseminating information derived from the Silent Steppe II report to a broad nationwide audience.

Ulaanbaatar Environmental Department. Representatives from the Ulaanbaatar Environmental Department participated in the National IWT Committee and supported its activities (Annex 4.8c), including displaying the IWT project promotion videos on the Ulaanbaatar's public buses for to raise awareness of IWT (Annex 4.9b).

Sustainable Forest Management Commission of Mongolia (SFMC). The SFMC is a national NGO working on community based forest conservation and public awareness. They compiled the training materials and delivered the training of trainers on 'Sustainable use of natural resources' (Annex 4.6).

Mongolia Academy of Science (MAS) & National University of Mongolia (NUM). Research and taxonomy experts from the MAS and NUM were consulted throughout the project during different activities related to the capacity building of law enforcement agencies, including developing training materials, delivering training and consulting the National IWT Committee.

The British Embassy in Mongolia. The British Embassy in Mongolia was vital in gaining the support of senior officials, such as the State Secretary, who spoke at the televised project inception meeting. The Embassy also enabled the project to gain previously unplanned project outputs including the ratification by Mongolia of the Hanoi statement on IWT, and the presence of the project in the Hanoi statement under Mongolia's volunteered obligations towards reducing IWT. They also contributed funding to the further development of the IWT database (Annex 4.4d), and the 'Sorgog' wildlife product identification mobile application (Annex 4.9f).

Project Partnership Strengths:

Without the support and involvement of project partners and major stakeholders, the project's main activities would not have been achieved. A major strength of the project was ZSL's historically strong working relationship with research institutions, including NUM, MAS, and leading national scientists during 15 years of long-term scientific studies and conservation in Mongolia. These relationships were leveraged for consultation throughout the project from its initial conception. Their scientific knowledge of Mongolia's most traded taxonomic groups, and species, was critically important in the development of effective training materials (Annex 4.7a).

A second strength of the project was the strategic involvement of senior decision-makers from partner organisations. Through lessons learnt in previous projects, it was acknowledged that actively engaged senior decision-makers are key to ensuring the longevity of project deliverables beyond the project's conclusion. The active involvement of project partners was a considerable achievement of the project and was demonstrated at key events during the project, with examples including: MET hosting of project inception meeting, attended by former UK Ambassador to Mongolia, Catherine Arnold, and Mongolian State Secretary, Tsengel Tsegmid (Annex 4.9g); and senior official (GASI, CGA, NPA, scientific experts) involvement in the National IWT Committee (Annex 4.8), contributing to developing law enforcement activities, hosting trainings etc. (Annex 4.7b).

Project Partnership Challenges: and Lessons Learnt:

A significant problem faced by the project in its early stages was the severe cold weather conditions of 2015. The large loss of livestock, and the declared state of emergency in several provinces led to the decision to postpone household surveys as a response to health and safety concerns. Excellent communication between WCS (our original partner) and ZSL led to the sound decision to work directly with Legal Atlas and IRIM, both leaders in their field of expertise, enabling the recovery of lost time.

Working with an unstable government, and the resulting changes to its structure and staff were significant challenges during the beginning of the project. This impacted the ability to initially strengthen inter-agency relationships, and consequently required a long-term commitment from project staff to ensure an organisational commitment to collaborate on IWT issues.

Initially, partner objectives did not align with our project objectives despite law enforcement agencies commitments to combatting IWT. Establishing MoUs (Annex 4.1), and ensuring close collaboration and regular meetings was beneficial in reflecting and aligning the project activities into their workplans, and aligning our overall project activities with our partner's objectives.

Different organisations (e.g. academic versus enforcement) have different understandings of wildlife trade at both an institutional and personnel level. In this project our partners, major stakeholders, and their representatives had different priorities and understandings of the impact of IWT in Mongolia. For example, the mission and priority of CGA is to collect taxes from imported goods and products. As a result, it was critical to engage the CGA more actively to ensure their understanding of IWT and its impact on Mongolia's wildlife is a priority at border points where they operate. Once their interest at an individual and institutional level was strengthened they were more active in identifying their institutional training and capacity building needs, which was critical in creating more effective training components.

Project Partnership Lessons Learnt:

A Structured Decision-Making approach to project development with partners and major stakeholders during the early stages of proposal development is essential. This is especially true for governmental partners, where aligning of goals, annual workplans and meeting their needs is a priority. The sooner project activities and regular communications are introduced, the easier it is to coordinate in-country activities.

The effort required to coordinate multi-agency involvement is a significant undertaking in time and resources. This large investment and the element of uncertainty that comes with multi-agency involvement needs to be stated and responsive actions mapped at the project design stage in an effort to reduce negative impacts on the project activities.

Our approach in seeking partners' active contributions to the project needs assessment was critical to the success and relevance of key activities (e.g. law enforcement training).

Ongoing Project Partnerships:

ZSL has worked in Mongolia for over 15 years and has since registered a country office in 2017. The new and existing partnerships strengthened during the project will be developed beyond the project's conclusion to strengthen regional conservation efforts against IWT. This is evident through ZSL's 2018 IWT Challenge Fund project "Securing Mongolia's Borders and Communities against Wildlife Trafficking" which works with many of this project's existing partners to continue building Mongolia's capacity to combat IWT.

3. Project Achievements

3.1 Outputs

Output 1: Current status of Illegal Wildlife Trade in Mongolia is defined as accurately as possible using proven and comparable methods.

Output 1 was achieved through the completion of the Silent Steppe II Report (Annex 4.1) (Indicators and Means of Verification 1.1-1.2) currently available through the ZSL website. This report represents the most comprehensive, and first longitudinal study of IWT in Mongolia today, utilising data collected during the Silent Steppes Report. Given increased government legislation and enforcement of hunting since the original study in 2006, our study incorporated modern sensitive questioning techniques, such as the Unmatched Count Technique (Raghavarao and Federer, 1979). Surveys were coordinated and implemented by ZSL and project partners LA and IRIM (Annex 4.1). By October 2016, 4010 household surveys were completed across 13 provinces (39 villages/towns) and 5 districts in Ulaanbaatar. 650 Market surveys across 9 provinces were completed in place of the original estimation of 1100. The decision to reduce market surveys was made to avoid unnecessary replication of surveying areas with similar characteristics according to the study's sample selection criteria. 180 stakeholder and key informant interviews (e.g. tourism agencies, police) provided qualitative insight to support the quantitative data collected. Collectively, these interviews conducted across Mongolia provide the most accurate, representative insight into IWT in Mongolia over the past decade, informing future mitigation efforts to be more effective and empirically based.

Output 2: Effective, well-trained border and enforcement staff team.

Output 2 was achieved through the development and delivery of law enforcement IWT training, supported through greater inter-agency engagement (i.e. National IWT Committee (Annex 4.8), IWT database (Annex 4.4f)) (Indicators and Verifiers 2.1-2.5).

The training programme and materials were developed with five taxonomic experts from NUM and MAS and revised by the National IWT Committee. Physical training materials comprised a guidebook on IWT in Mongolia (including status, distribution, products, identification and legal status of 98 commonly traded species), 400 hundred copies have been printed and distributed (Annex 4.7a). These physical materials were complemented through the additional distribution of a manual (and DVD) on 22 of the most commonly traded species (Annex 4.7a), and the presentation of the freely downloadable 'Sorgog' (Annex 4.9f).

Training was organised over two days on September 26-27th, December 5-6th, and one day on December 14th 2017 with the NPA, GASI and CGA. A total of 113 law enforcement officers from each of Mongolia's 21 provinces were trained on IWT, with a focus on wildlife product identification (Annex 4.7b). In addition, officers were trained as trainers and equipped with training packs (Annex 4.7a), enabling the scaling of IWT training independently within each of their local offices. Pre and post-training assessments showing average participant information retention rates of 92.5% (Annex 4.7d).

To support newly trained law enforcement agencies and promote inter-agency intelligence sharing, a National IWT Committee (Annex 4.8) was established with senior officials from MET, GASI, CGA, NPA, NUM and MAS. A previously siloed and unused IWT database was centralised, and five training workshops were held with the National IWT Committee in Ulaanbaatar. The IWT database (Annex 4.4d) will be held by MET, with data collected from each of the law enforcement agencies and inputted by IRIMHE. In March 2018 the committee undertook IWT investigations in popular IWT marketplaces in Ulaanbaatar, distributing information (brochures) and engaging the public to raise IWT awareness (Annex 4.8c).

Output 3. Recommendations for legal amendments submitted, facilitating an increase in IWT crime convictions.

Output 3 was achieved through the submission of recommendations for legal amendments to the Government of Mongolia on March 27th 2018 (Indicator and verifier 3.1). Formal receipt and acknowledgement by the Government was received on Jun 18, 2018 (Annex 4.5). The formal recommendations will serve to highlight the detailed review of Mongolia's legal framework's effectiveness in combatting IWT that was undertaken in the Silent Steppe II Report, and will be produced in Legal Atlas' interactive online platform (planned for release in the coming months). Mongolia's commitment to combatting IWT has been demonstrated in recent legislative draft amendments in the second quarter of 2018 (Annex 4.5d), and through their attendance at the Hanoi Conference on IWT (Annex 4.2), and upcoming London Conference on IWT.

An information campaign to promote greater public awareness of IWT and its laws and penalties was achieved through several activities. A social marketing campaign supported by corporate partnership (MobiCom) delivered IWT awareness raising material via SMS-text messages to approximately one million members (roughly one third) of the Mongolian public aged between 18-60. Eight text messages were sent and included messages: calling the public to act; promoting respect for nature; promoting pride in Mongolia's wildlife; reporting IWT's impact on species decline and the ecological and economic importance of many of these species; promoting respect for and guidance on, laws and regulations, specifically, highlighting fines and penalties associated with IWT (Annex 4.9a). Results from the Rapid Survey to examine the efficacy of the campaign indicate that 23.4% of MobiCom users (self-reported) receiving the series of SMS-text messages, and 9.7% of non-users were told about the IWT text message content through friends and families (Annex 4.3b).

In support of the text campaign, a short animated video (Annex 4.9b) was produced highlighting the devastating impact of IWT on the poaching of Mongolia's rare and very rare species, and the public's role in informing police of IWT-activities. This video was played on local Ulaanbaatar public buses with the support of the Ulaanbaatar City Environmental Department.

Finally, a newspaper article named 'Let's contribute to reduce Illegal Wildlife Trade' was published in the 'Daily news' newspaper highlighting the critical situation Mongolia's fauna (and

its ecosystem) face due to the illegal hunting and trade of wildlife products in markets, souvenir shops and during other trade activities on April 2nd 2018 (Annex 4.8a). These activities holistically provided a broad public outreach component to raise IWT awareness, and support future legislative amendments.

Output 4. A qualified trainer in the sustainable use of natural resources is present in every province to provide community training workshops.

Output 4 was achieved through the delivery of training on community sustainable natural resource use on the 15th and 16th of March 2018 (Annex 4.6) (Indicators and verifiers 41.-4.2). Environmental officers from the Environmental department of 21 individual provinces attended the training in Ulaanbaatar. Training was delivered to each of these officers, and included the presentation of a training package for each attendee (i.e. training handbook, DVD containing soft copies of the training material) (Annex 4.6 and 4.7a). The training detailed sustainable natural resource methods for rural communities, including communities' legal opportunities, rights, responsibilities and duties in natural resource usage. In addition, ZSL's wildlife product identification mobile application (funded by the British Embassy in Mongolia) was presented and distributed to training attendees (Annex 4.9f). As a result of this activity, representatives from Environmental departments of Mongolia's 21 provinces were equipped and trained as trainers in sustainable natural resource use. This promotes the long-term scalability of this training across Mongolia, enabling ongoing community training workshops in sustainable resource use. The MET expressed support to continue this activity (Annex 4.6, *MET records*).

3.2 Outcome

Outcome: *An increase in law enforcement capacity results in an increase in arrests and convictions of wildlife criminals. This in turn leads to reduced poaching. Recommended amendments to legislation address gaps. Trainers in each of Mongolia's provinces are able to conduct community workshops in the sustainable use of natural resources, reducing poverty and supporting conservation. The severe decline of Mongolia's endangered species from wildlife trade can begin to be reversed.*

The project outcome was achieved as demonstrated in the logframe indicators, however, demonstrating reduced poaching is more difficult to quantify at this project's end. Law enforcement capacity has been significantly improved as a result of project activities through improved knowledge, training, inter-agency cooperation, access to technology, highlighting legislative improvements to more effectively combat IWT, and improving public awareness of IWT (Section 3.1). Poverty alleviation is addressed through improved livelihood and personal security by reducing IWT, and actively encouraging sustainable use of Mongolia's natural resources by rural communities. Many of these activities are expected to have an amplifying impact beyond the duration of the project, as greater enforcement will result in further arrests, increased prosecutions (currently a long legal process), ultimately deterring poaching and allowing wildlife populations to recover, providing greater security, and alleviating poverty in Mongolia's rural communities. In spite of caution taken of drawing false associations, and in considering the natural long-term, accrued outcome of project activities, the evidence presented below demonstrates the project's significant contribution to fulfilling the project outcome (Section 11, Legacy).

An increase in law enforcement capacity results in an increase in arrests and convictions of wildlife criminals. This in turn leads to reduced poaching:

Law enforcement capacity was increased through training, the National IWT Committee, and the IWT database (Section 3.1 Output 2) (Indicators 2, 7, 8). Records report the number of wildlife crime convictions to have increased by 42.6% in 2017 compared to 2015 (nearly the 50% target). The total number of wildlife crimes and offences was 154 in 2017, 96 in 2016, and 108 in 2015 (National IWT database – www.eic.mn/iwt) (Annex 4.4f). These statistics (Measurable Indicator 9) demonstrate an increase in detection and arrest. Unfortunately, the completion of training in 2017 means it is not realistic to attribute these criminal records with the project activities, with 2018 data (not currently available) required to draw such associations. As a result of such short project periods, it is challenging to reveal the direct association between law enforcement improvements and direct poaching reductions during the project's timeframe.

Recommended amendments to legislation address gaps:

MET has expressed that it is formally considering the project's recommended amendments to Mongolia's IWT legal framework, including the alignment of the legal framework with Mongolia's IUCN Red List, and ring-fencing of fines from hunting for local communities (Annex 4.5 a - b). In support of this, discussions are on-going with the Government of Mongolia to align legislation with the IUCN Red List categories, with progress recently made to include the Laws on Fauna and Natural Plants (Indicators 3 and 4) (Annex 4.5 d).

One of the most important project assumptions was that the current Mongolian Government would remain in office. However, since the inception of the project, the Mongolian government has changed three times (in 7 to 10 months), resulting in major changes in the structure and staff of major project stakeholders, e.g. Ministry of Environment and Tourism. This significantly affects the speed of project implementation, delaying the project's ability to discuss legal amendments. In spite of this, the project team with the support from British Embassy in Ulaanbaatar were able to lobby the government to join the London declaration on IWT. This significant commitment to combat IWT at an international level is an important step to highlight IWT nationally, aiding future legislative reforms.

Trainers in each of Mongolia's provinces are able to conduct community workshops in the sustainable use of natural resources, reducing poverty and supporting conservation:

Government officials from each of Mongolia's 21 provinces were trained and equipped as trainers in sustainable natural resource use (Section 3.1 Output 4) (Indicator 5 and 6). MET formally expressed that the necessary capacity of the relevant staff will enable the training and equipment of other staff on the sustainable use of natural resources at a local level within each of the provinces (Indicator 1) (Annex (Letter from MET on output 4)).

3.3 Impact: achievement of positive impact on illegal wildlife trade and poverty alleviation

Project Impact: Law enforcement agencies will develop increased capacity to implement wildlife crime laws resulting in an increase in arrests and convictions of wildlife criminals. Legislation will be amended to address gaps as well as provide revenue sharing mechanisms that will channel funds from anti wildlife crime activities back into the communities, reducing poverty and creating support for conservation. The severe decline of Mongolia's endangered species as a result of the illegal wildlife trade can begin to be reversed.

The project has made high-level contributions to combatting IWT in Mongolia (Section 3.1). The Silent Steppe II study (Annex 4.3a) has updated knowledge to inform effective other long-term initiatives, including much-needed legal reforms (Annex 4.5c-d). Government capacity was strengthened through targeted training of frontline officers (Annex 4.7a), the establishment of an inter-agency intelligence sharing National IWT Committee (Annex 4.8); and the centralisation of an IWT database which will monitor the efficacy of all future IWT projects and reports (Annex 4.4d). Large-scale public awareness campaigns (sms-text, video, newspaper, sustainable resource training) aimed at long-term behaviour change through improved awareness and support (Annex 4.6, 4.9 c-d). Lastly, a significant project impact was the facilitation of Mongolia's international commitment to combatting IWT at the Hanoi conference (Section 3.1) (Annex 4.2). These contributions go beyond the duration of the project and contribute to broad and far-reaching efforts to combat IWT aiding the efforts of the various stakeholders involved, from government, public, and private institutions, to national and international NGOs.

The project has made long-term, indirect impacts to alleviate poverty through initiatives to reduce the long-term loss of Mongolia's biodiversity. This is important for ensuring the health of Mongolia's ecosystems and the provision of ecosystem services to Mongolia's people. This is particularly relevant to many of Mongolia's most marginalised rural communities (Section 1), which account for one third of its population. Many of Mongolia's marginalised communities are significantly impacted by IWT through exposure to criminal networks. Policing, and prosecuting these networks will alleviate other dimensions of poverty, through improved personal security and discouraging individuals that may participate opportunistically or unknowingly in illegal poaching or smuggling. Ongoing training in natural resource management will contribute to

long-term poverty alleviation by promoting community stewardship of their surrounding landscape, and provide the knowledge to ensure resources are managed effectively, ultimately resulting in higher long-term yields.

4. Monitoring of assumptions

Outcome Assumption 1. Current Mongolian government remains in power.

Since the project's inception in 2015, there have been three changes in government. These changes occurred in 2015 (Nov 2014 to Jul 2016), 2016 (July 2016 to October 2017), and late 2017 (October 2017 until now). ZSL monitored these changes and, through strong relationships with key government personnel and robust MoU's (Annex 4.1 a-d) with key agencies, was able to work alongside project partners to mitigate this risk and deliver the project outcome.

Outcome Assumption 2. The recommended changes in fines and prosecutions will be enough to stop hunters given the relatively low financial return for the most hunted products such as marmot furs.

Unfortunately, changes to Mongolia's legal framework weren't feasible within the project's timeline, however, through ZSL's strong government relationships, a thorough legal review was conducted in collaboration with legal experts from MET and project partner Legal Atlas. The compiled legal review has been submitted to MET and is being formally considered. ZSL has been in active discussion with MET, through meetings and lobbies with related working groups to make amendments to the Law on infringements and Laws on Fauna and Natural Plants. The recommended amendments (Annex 4.5a-b) are seeking the alignment of species protection laws with those of Mongolia's IUCN Red List categories (Annex 4.5d). If the government approves these amendments (Annex 4.5d), Mongolia's rare and very rare species lists will be renewed and extended, more strictly regulating their management under the Criminal Code of Mongolia.

Outcome Assumption 3. The Mongolian government remains resolute about its priorities in changing legislation.

Mongolia has become a signatory on both the London Declaration on the Illegal Wildlife Trade and the Hanoi Statement on the Illegal Wildlife Trade, demonstrating their commitment to IWT at an international level (Annex 4.2). Both "Guidelines for refining the legislations of Mongolia until 2020" and "The Action Plan of the Government of Mongolia for 2016-2020" indicate the Mongolian government remains resolute about its priorities in changing legislation. Further commitment of the Mongolian Government to tackling IWT, and associated legislative amendments has been demonstrated through their support for ZSL's second IWT CF project. Despite not working directly on legal amendments in the second project, ZSL staff have been in continuous dialogue with government officials to lobby future legislative amendments.

Output Assumption 1. Trained staff are willing to stop IWT products leaving the country.

This assumption remains unchanged and ongoing partnerships and discussions with law enforcement agencies have highlighted their commitment to combat IWT, and the international market that drives it. ZSL's 2018 IWT CF project will focus on strengthening border law enforcement capacity, directly demonstrating law enforcement staff willingness to improve efforts to combat international trade.

Output Assumption 2. Legal framework is changeable during the project timeframe.

This assumption proved untrue. A technical change request was submitted in year 2 to revise Output 3 to account for the infeasibility of legal amendments being implemented within the project. As a result, recommendations for legal amendments (Section 3.1 Output 1 and 3) (Annex 4.5a-b) were submitted to MET as a more realistic project output.

Output Assumption 3. Income from hunting permits and fines is enough to make a difference on the ground at local level conservation initiatives.

This assumption remains unchanged. Legal recommendations (including fund ring-fencing) still assume that effectively managed hunting, and the collection of funds from corresponding fines and permits would be sufficient to meaningfully contribute to on the ground conservation.

Output Assumption 4. MET continues to support the training of trainers for community workshops on sustainable use, and supports trainers to conduct workshops once they are trained.

This assumption remains unchanged since its definition in the technical change request submitted on October 2017 (with HYR3). The MET demonstrated support for, and interest in, participating in the training of trainers program for each provincial environmental department, providing positive feedback on training delivery. MET delegates expressed their willingness to continue the training, reiterating the importance of building the capacity of local officers (Annex 4.6d).

5. Project support to the IWT Challenge Fund Objectives and commitments under the London Declaration and Kasane Statement

Developing sustainable livelihoods for communities affected by illegal wildlife trade;

This project contributed to developing sustainable livelihoods for communities affected by IWT. Directly, the project's sustainable use of natural resource training (Section 4.1 Output 4) (Annex 4.6) and IWT public outreach activities (Section 4.1 Output 3) (Annex 4.9) will educate many of the rural communities that inadvertently contribute to IWT through hunting and accidental trade with criminal organisations. This output will directly educate communities affected by IWT on methods to more sustainably manage their livelihoods.

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

By working closely with the institutions whose role it is to reduce IWT in Mongolia we are well positioned to make a real difference in strengthening law enforcement. This was directly achieved through the submission of legal amendment recommendations to strengthen the role of Mongolia's criminal justice system (Section 4.1 Output 3) (Annex 4.5a-b). Whilst the delivery of IWT specialist training (Section 4.1 Output 2) and materials (Annex 4.7b) directly strengthens law enforcement. Mongolia's newly functioning IWT database (Section 4.1 Output 2) (Annex 4.4d) and National IWT Committee (Annex 4.8) significantly improve the ability of the justice system (and law enforcement) to prosecute smugglers through greater record-keeping, and inter-agency intelligence sharing.

Reducing demand for the products of the illegal wildlife trade.

Through partnerships with Legal Atlas and MobiCom (Annex 4.1e-f) we have developed the most accurate understanding of IWT in Mongolia, coupled with the technology and resources to promote this message widely. This was initiated through the SMS-text messaging campaign (Annex 4.9a), and was supported through the National IWT Committee (Annex 4.8), which used a variety of media channels (brochure (Annex 4.8c and 4.9e), newspaper (Annex 4.8a and 4.9c)) to raise awareness of the laws, restrictions, and penalties of participating in IWT. Community stewardship of natural resources (Annex 4.6) provided a scalable method of reducing IWT through better landscape management practices. The aim of these holistic project activities is to begin, or contribute to, a gradual process that will change the way people view many IWT products and reduce demand for them locally.

London Conference Declaration (I, II, III...); Kasane Statement (1, 2, 3...)

Under this project Mongolia ratified the London Declaration and the Hanoi Statement in November 2016, and will be attending the 2018 London Conference on IWT having joined the list of subscribing countries in Hanoi. The project has therefore supported the London Declaration by generating a new signatory. Under Output 2, Activities (2.1- 2.5) the project addresses the following actions and sections from the London Declaration: Action B, section X and XI; Action C, section XIII, XIV.

Under Output 1, Activities (1.1- 1.3) the project addresses the following actions and sections from the Kasane Statement: Action A, section 2 and Action B, section 5. Under Output 2, Activities (2.1- 2.5) the project addresses the following actions and sections from the Kasane Statement: Action A, section 2 and Action C, section 7. Under Output 3, Activity (3.1) the project addresses the following action and section from the Kasane Statement: Action D, section 10 and 11. Under Output 4 the project addresses Section D 12 and 13 of the Kasane

Statement. For further details about specific points within the London Declaration and the Kasane Statement (Annex 4.13).

6. Impact on species in focus

The project is designed to positively impact the project's focus species through an iterative process of improving knowledge, improving capacity, raising awareness, and improving community resource stewardship. This has been achieved in the following ways:

- 1) Strengthen knowledge of IWT. To effectively combat IWT and reduce the poaching of focal species, it is critical that the stakeholders involved have an accurate and comprehensive understanding of its occurrence. Silent Steppe II provides this information, informing a plethora of stakeholders involved in combatting IWT, from government agencies, to NGOs. By making the report public, the project provides complex metrics on the hunting, trade and use of wildlife products; it highlights trade routes, current product prices and trends in IWT since the 2006 Silent Steppe Report.
- 2) Understand the capacity of Mongolia's legal framework for policing and prosecuting IWT. The Silent Steppe II (Annex 4.3a) involved a review and gap analysis of Mongolia's legal framework. This provides legal experts an understanding of its current effectiveness, and identifies areas for improvement. ZSL presented the Government of Mongolia a Legal Framework Recommendations Report (Annex 4.5 a&b) to consider making appropriate and feasible legislation changes. Effective legislation is critical for allowing frontline law enforcement officers to effectively police IWT, and for prosecutors to successfully prosecute apprehended smugglers, deterring poaches of focal species.
- 3) Improve the identification and interception of focal species making it less attractive to trade. Training of law enforcement officers (Annex 4.7b-d) and the complementary wildlife identification application (Annex 4.9f) will provide officers with the knowledge and equipment to more effectively identify wildlife products of focal species. More effective identification will lead to greater apprehension of smugglers of focal species.
- 4) Improve community awareness of IWT, its environmental impact and the penalties for participating. The SMS-text messaging campaign (Annex 4.9a), Ulaanbaatar taskforce (Annex 4.8) and broader media campaign (Annex 4.8a and c, 4.9e) reached a significant portion of Mongolia's population. This is critical as many rural communities in Mongolia aren't aware of the holistic impacts that hunting is having on Mongolia's environment, its role in IWT, and the legal repercussions of participating in it. Public engagement and awareness of IWT is crucial for deterring the hunting of focal species.

7. Project support to poverty alleviation

This project contributed to poverty alleviation in Mongolia in several ways. The major beneficiary, Mongolia's rural and herder communities, will benefit from poverty alleviation in the long-term through the conservation of biodiversity (Section 1). Specifically, the project's key pillars (improved knowledge, enforcement, awareness, and stewardship) will improve the capacity of law enforcement agencies in rural areas to manage and reduce the unsustainable exploitation of natural resources, including the poaching of many of Mongolia's most economically and ecologically important species (e.g. marmots have been reported to be key ecosystem architects through their burrowing behaviour (Adiya, 2000)). Ensuring the long-term persistence of such species across Mongolia's landscape, will improve the provisioning of ecosystem services, providing broad economic benefits to Mongolia's public. These non-monetary, poverty alleviating project aspects result in the increased protection and sustainable use of, biodiversity, and facilitate the equitable sharing of benefits derived from natural resources.

Improved law enforcement, and greater public awareness of IWT (e.g. penalties) is likely to have an indirect benefit on poverty alleviation amongst Mongolia's most marginalised community members through improved personal security. This could be by reducing the likelihood of an opportunistic hunter participating in poaching due to improved knowledge of the risk of financial penalty and/or imprisonment, and through reducing the wider impact that

criminal organisations (participating in IWT) have on marginalised communities (e.g. recruitment of 'mules' for smuggling, human-trafficking).

8. Consideration of gender equality issues

The project sought to investigate and consider the effects of IWT and gender differences in several ways. Of particular interest was the divide between men and women when it comes to hunting, selling and using IWT products. The household surveys (Output 1) are a way this project contributing towards a better understanding of IWT and gender. The surveys involved a gender analysis of how IWT affects men and women differently in terms of economic revenue, and dependency on hunting. Survey data has also been disaggregated by sex to examine other gender related impacts of IWT such as the risks associated with hunting and the risks associated with use (such as medical use) in future studies (Annex 4.3a). This information will allow a better understanding of the effects of legislative changes by indicating how these changes in IWT will impact men and women differently and how this might lead to trickle down effects throughout society.

In conducting the project's sociological surveys, our protocol ensured a mixed gender survey team for both safety and to provide the option to consider a particular gender for a particular interview depending on the interviewee.

The capacity building elements of the project (both enforcement and sustainable natural resource use) have targeted men and women with no preference for either gender (Annex 4.6 and 4.7). Where appropriate, equal gender ratios have been maintained (as per GESI approach) or reflected through existing gender ratios of the participating organisation.

The National IWT Committee is represented equally by men and women (Annex 4.8). Ensuring equal representation and an awareness of gender equality at senior levels will improve the likelihood of improving gender equality within individual agencies.

The targeted media campaign drew on the data disaggregated survey data to more effectively reach different audiences (in considering gender) during awareness raising activities.

9. Lessons learnt

What worked well:

In the 15 years ZSL has been working in Mongolia it has developed strong partnerships with the government, its national institutions, and in-country NGOs. These strong partnerships were critical throughout this project to enable adaptive management in the face of unexpected events (e.g. extreme weather) that would otherwise severely impact project deliverables.

ZSL's partnership with MobiCom (Annex 4.1f) (Mongolia's largest telecom) was extremely beneficial in disseminating information on IWT, enabling us to reach approximately one million members of Mongolia's adult population per month (Annex 4.9a).

The Silent Steppe II study improved upon existing techniques used in 2006. Advanced surveying techniques were incorporated, specifically designed to gather sensitive data from recipients without fear of legal reprisal (Unmatched Count Technique) (Annex 4.3a). This was complemented through modern technologies (electronic tablets) improving data collection (Annex 4.10). Surveyors were selected to maintain an equal gender ratio, which helped to elicit sensitive information more effectively from interviews with women and men. As a result of these (and other) successful surveying strategies, ZSL has now developed repeatable methods, detailed in the Silent Steppe II report (Annex 4.3a), which will allow the collection of comparable results in the future and the replication of this survey by other IWT projects around the world.

In order to ensure the project's sustainability we sought to train trainers in each of the relevant governmental agencies (Annex 4.6 and 4.7). The training materials (Annex 4.6b and 4.7a) we compiled were based on agencies own needs-based assessments and were therefore extremely accurate in meeting their current needs. Training materials were provided to allow wider distribution within each agency, and easy access to frontline officers in remote locations (e.g. DVD videos of lectures to allow distance learning) (Annex 4.6b and 4.7a).

What didn't work well:

Building partnerships and inter-agency collaborations took longer than anticipated (Section 2, partnership challenges).

A broader global challenge, the lack of close cooperation amongst international NGOs, may also impede progress. Greater collaboration of financial and technical resources could help achieve IWT goals more effectively. Greater government led coordination of NGOs working on similar issues could aid this cooperation in the future.

Planned legal amendments during the project weren't possible due to Mongolia's current political climate, nor possible within the project's short time span (Section 3.1-2).

How would we implement the project differently, including recommendations:

Establish an inter-agency agreement prior to project commencement. In Mongolia, and in most of the cases of correspondence, this usually requires an official letter to establish high-level communication with heads of departments, and appointing specific departmental staff to work with. Without such agreements it is difficult to work with governmental agencies.

Integrate activities into the government's action-program (the Mongolian workplan) to ensure the effective completion of project activities. This will enable the reflection of project objectives into the government's upcoming action-plan or annual work plan of the relevant agencies.

Ensure greater community buy-in, and public engagement during the project. Ideally from the beginning, however, this was not as relevant in our project to avoid biasing social surveys.

Consider modern relevance of today's media channels for project promotion. For example in Mongolia, TV/national radio is better for long-term engagement than other mass media outlets.

Key Lessons Learnt:

The National IWT Committee was an important contribution. By bringing together all of the relevant organisations, we were able to analyse the current IWT issues from different perspectives. Each member brought their own skills and experiences, and organisational perspective. This ultimately makes inter-agency operations more effective.

Working closely with the British embassy was helpful for networking. This led to partnership development (MobiCom) and fuelled greater access to publicity (e.g. public events such as the annual British Embassy's InspireMe Festival, various receptions and talks) (Annex 4.9d).

Overall, the management structure was suitable for the project activities. While engaging multiple stakeholders with varying reasons or individual objectives for being involved in the project presented challenges, it was necessary to the success of the project. As such, interventions that can make that process easier in the future, as suggested above, would be a useful development.

9.1 Monitoring and evaluation

Changes to Project Design:

Partner change from WCS to Legal Atlas. The Change request on project partner organisation from WCS to Legal Atlas was approved in year one. The main contractor with WCS works at Legal Atlas and so key skills remained within the project. This change was due to the harsh winter in Mongolia which put both ZSL and WCS work on hold. Discussions with WCS suggested working directly with James Wingard at Legal Atlas. As such, Legal Atlas conducted the Silent Steppe nationwide surveys and the legal review alongside a local subcontractor. This ultimately caused no disruption, as James Wingard (author of the first Silent Steppe report) had significant experience conducting similar surveys and legal reviews in other countries.

Technical change request to revise the completion of legal framework amendments to recommendations for legal amendments submitted to the government (Output 3). Please refer to Section 3.1 Output 3, where this has been discussed extensively.

Technical change request to introduce Output 4, the training of sustainable use of nature resource community trainers. This was introduced to account for the infeasibility of ring-fencing of funds during the project's timeframe, and was created to complement existing project

activities (e.g. awareness raising, reducing over-exploitation of focal species), and alleviate poverty in rural communities.

Technical change request to establish the National IWT Committee in place of the regional wildlife taskforce. Discussions with project partners resulted in the decision to create a National IWT Committee in Ulaanbaatar. This was deemed as a more effective solution to as Ulaanbaatar comprises one of Mongolia's largest IWT marketplaces.

Project Monitoring and Evaluation:

The project monitoring and evaluation was a vital tool to ensure that project activities were progressing towards ultimate achievement. This allowed dialogue and regular engagement with project partners to make amendments where necessary to ensure the enhancement of project activities where possible. Regular monitoring and evaluation is also key to allowing the project to maintain budget and react to unexpected changes.

Project Evaluation:

During the project there were several opportunities for both internal ZSL, and external project partner reviews. Internally, ZSL maintains its own M&E protocols (e.g. asana, trello and ZSL's own management tools). This provided the framework on which to assess the logframe and adaptively manage activities. Externally, the project was regularly reviewed by Defra IWTCF M&E experts. Independent of Defra, IRIM conducted a rapid survey as part of the M&E to calculate output metrics (Annex 4.3b). Workshops and meetings with partners offered important opportunities to gather feedback for internal assessment of activities. Furthermore, regular reviews were conducted with partners during all training activities to examine their efficacy. For example, IRIM evaluated the effectiveness and delivering of social surveys, whilst ZSL in partnership with individual law enforcement agencies used assessment sheets and training evaluation forms to evaluate training success (Annex 4.7d). Holistically these internal and external reviews enabled effective evaluation, and change were necessary.

9.2 Actions taken in response to annual report reviews

All feedback from previous annual report reviews was discussed with partners where necessary and has been previously addressed. Copies are included in the Annex 4.11.

10. Other comments on achievements not covered elsewhere

Project Design Enhancements

The project has been refined in several additional ways.

- Training was initially planned for two regions (Ulaanbaatar and Zamiin-Uud), and through government discussion this was centralised to improve logistics and save budget.
- The National IWT Committee (Annex 4.8) was prioritised over two previous regional taskforces. This was decided upon review with senior law enforcement officials (and technology experts) as the most effective solution as Ulaanbaatar represents one of Mongolia's major marketplaces for trade of wildlife products.
- Due to the demand created by foreign tourists for wildlife products, a brochure was developed (in English and Mongolian) to educate tourists on IWT, its impact on wildlife, and the fines and penalties for participating in it (Annex 4.8c and 4.9e). This information was distributed at Customs' border points and tourist information centres in collaboration with the Ulaanbaatar Tourism department.

The major project hurdles have all been discussed comprehensively in Section 2 Partner Challenges, and in Section 9 What didn't work well.

11. Sustainability and legacy

IWT Project Profile and Promotion:

Since the publication of the Silent Steppes Report in 2006, IWT has gained significantly more attention from the Mongolian government and public. Our project leverages this attention through the Silent Steppe II (Annex 4.3a) and associated activities, strategically engaging

senior decision-makers within the relevant national stakeholders working on IWT, both government (MET, NPA, CGA, GASI, UB Environmental Department) and non-government (IRIM, NUM, MAS, SFMC). In addition, the British Embassy was instrumental in supporting our profile both in country and internationally, and as a result the project had the high-level profile and buy-in required to mitigate IWT.

The project was promoted across a variety of private, public and academic events. A selection of these events are presented to highlight the variety of platforms used:

- A full page article was published in Mongolia's largest daily newspaper, *Unuudur* (12th October 2016) and republished online in Mongolia's leading English language newspaper, *The UB Post* (17th October 2016) (Annex 4.9c).
- A newspaper article 'Law enforcement on illegal wildlife trade and capacity building' was published in the 'Daily news' (6th December 2017) (Annex 4.8a). The collaboration between ZSL and law enforcement agencies was highlighted.
- On the 26th September 2016 project staff gave a ten minute interview on our project on Bloomberg TV, Mongolia.
- On September 25th and December 5th 2017, during NPA and CGA training, trainers and project staff gave interviews on Star TV, Eco Tv and Mongolian National Broadcasting (Annex 4.9d). During this interview ZSL's capacity building activities were highlighted.
- The former British Ambassador to Mongolia Catherine Arnold promoted the project at a variety of public events, including an interview on 'Talk With Me' on 28th February 2016 and in an online blog article (Annex 4.12).
- The project team hosted a stall at the British embassy at the Inspire Me British festival on the 11th and 12th November 2016. The team developed a short video and presentation for display during the two-day event in Ulaanbaatar's city centre.
- At the British Fair, hosted by the British Embassy in Mongolia on the 15th September 2016 the project team gave a 30 minute public demonstration, and introduction to ZSL's work in Mongolia. A large part of this demonstration, attended by government officials, corporate representatives, media staff and the public, focused on the current project.
- The project team presented a scientific poster at the Building Resilience of Mongolian Rangelands conference in Ulaanbaatar, hosted by Colorado State University, 9th June 2015. The conference was attended by approximately 300 people.
- At the World Economic Forum, Global Shapers public event in Ulaanbaatar on the 17th July 2015 project staff presented to over 200 people. This included a live stage discussion on issues of poaching, IWT and sustainability.

Project Legacy

Project activities have been developed to ensure a lasting impact beyond the duration of the project. The Silent Steppe II Report (Section 3.1 Output 1) is freely downloadable for IWT stakeholders, and is particularly relevant for future CITES species classifications.

The recommendations to amend Mongolia's legal framework to better combat IWT (in several forms e.g. Silent Steppe II, formal recommendations submitted to the government, Legal Atlas interactive online platform) has strong potential for future legislative changes. This is supported by the Mongolian Government's international commitment to IWT through ZSL's close working relationship and their attendance at the Hanoi IWT Conference (and commitment to two of the Hanoi statements), and planned attendance at the 2018 London IWT Conference.

Training programmes (Section 3.1 Output 2) produced lasting physical, and intellectual material (Annex 4.7) to be institutionalised into agency training programmes in the future. We expect that the originally projected increase in arrests, and subsequent reduction in poaching will be realised in the future through such longer term uptake of specialist IWT training (and greater national awareness) across Mongolia.

The IWT database (Annex 4.4d) will be held by MET, and a standardised database entry protocol will be controlled and implemented by IRIMHE. This will ensure that law enforcement agencies collect, record, and share data on IWT, improving inter-agency intelligence sharing, ultimately improving apprehension, and prosecution of illegal wildlife product smugglers.

'Sorgog' is free to download and the technical developers are contracted to maintain it until 2023. Ensuring the legacy of the app for at least five years beyond the project.

Open Access:

The project has posted all major outputs that are thought to be of interest to the public, such as statistical information relating to wildlife trade in the form of a series of infographics produced by Legal Atlas on ZSL's webpage and multiple Twitter accounts. Information provided to the government and data useful for future research will be made available through the Mongolia pages of the ZSL main website. Information relating to the legal review which is presented using data tables, maps, infographics and written text will be available on legal Atlas's web platform and is on ZSL's website in the Silent Steppe II Report.

All major project training outputs and materials have been distributed to the government of Mongolia. The rapid survey conducted by IRIM is available on their website (Annex 4.3b). The IWT database is hosted on the National Environmental database under MET (Annex 4.4d).

Exit strategy:

ZSL has made a long-term commitment to Mongolia, establishing a permanent presence as part of ZSL's international hub country strategy (Section 2). We will therefore be in a position to continue providing ongoing technical support to the Mongolian government and other partners. Furthermore, this concluding project was designed to reach a stable and sustainable conclusion (This Section, Project Legacy). Many of these activities provided the foundation for developing ZSL's successful 2018 IWT CF project, and continued presence in Mongolia.

12. IWT Challenge Fund Identity

This project was principally funded from the IWT Challenge Fund, with some support from the British Embassy. As a result it was primarily recognised as a stand-alone project with a clear identity as the majority of activities were solely funded by the IWT CF. The UK Government and the IWT Challenge Fund has been extensively recognised as a funder of this project throughout project activities and across all forms of public outreach. The IWT Challenge Fund has been publicised as a funder of the project, and a broader funding stream across a variety of media as discussed (Section 11), and the logos have been included in project materials such as: training materials for law enforcement officers and environmental officers; training photos (Annex 4.6a, 4.7a); the scientific poster presentation (Annex 4.9d); news articles (Annex 4.9.c); brochure for tourist and expats (Annex 4.9e); presentations in events such as the project launching workshop; and IWT training for law enforcement officers.

Given ZSL's strong conservation presence in Mongolia, we have developed close working relationships with senior government officials. These project partners are regularly involved in meetings related to project activities (e.g. workshops, presentations) and have a strong understanding of the IWT Challenge Fund and its global impact in funding IWT projects. This understanding within Mongolia's highest political levels was on display at the Hanoi Conference on Illegal Wildlife Trade where the attending Vice-Minister Batbayar Tserendorj of Mongolia, accompanied by ZSL Mongolia staff, spoke with Prince William about the IWT CF and the current project. Given all publications with project partners (i.e. police) or project stakeholders display the IWT Challenge Fund logo, the fund's role in supporting the current project, and combatting IWT is reiterated broadly across Mongolia's government, private and public institutions, and among the partner organisations.

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

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)

The signing of the London Declaration and the Hanoi Statement on Illegal Wildlife Trade are outstanding achievements of the project. This was not initially planned but it became apparent that Mongolia's CITES committee has been inactive since its inception in 1995. Therefore

ratifying the London Declaration and the Hanoi Statement was seen as a way to encourage activity within Mongolia's CITES committee. This achievement was facilitated by the strong links our project has made with both the British Embassy in Ulaanbaatar and the Mongolian government. Without the influence of the Embassy and the willingness to listen on the part of MET this activity would not have been possible.

Other outstanding achievements of our project was the leveraging of support of the British Embassy to fund the development of the 'Sorgog' wildlife identification mobile application (Annex 4.9f) and IWT database (Annex 4.4d). These initiatives were critical to effectively complementing and supporting original project activities, and are both long-term creations that will be vital for combatting IWT in Mongolia.

14. Finance and administration

14.1 Project expenditure

Project spend (indicative) since last annual report	2017/18 Grant (£)	2017/18 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				

Staff employed (Name and position)	Cost (£)
Nathan Conaboy, Project Coordinator	
Munkhjargal Myagmar, Technical Specialist	
Myagmarsuren Shagdarjav, Project Administration and Logistics officer	
Khaliun Tsog, Finance officer	
Gombobaatar Sundev, Technical Advisor	
Partner salary	
TOTAL	

Capital items – description <i>Please detail what items were purchased with fund money, and where these will remain once the project finishes</i>	Capital items – cost (£)
None	
TOTAL	0

Other items – description <i>Please provide a detailed breakdown for any single item over £1000</i>	Other items – cost (£)
Car repairs and maintenance	
TOTAL	

14.2 Additional funds or in-kind contributions secured

Source of funding for project lifetime	Total (£)
ZSL	
MobiCom	
FCO	
TOTAL	

Source of funding for additional work after project lifetime	Total (£)
None	
TOTAL	0

14.3 Value for Money

This project has been able to ensure value for money through:

- Raising additional funds (GBP) from the FCO through the support of the British Embassy in Ulaanbaatar to develop the wildlife identification mobile application “Sorgog” and upgrade and standardise the existing IWT database.
- Leveraging private partnership with MobiCom to support the project with significant in-kind resources (GBP) by sending mobile text messages to the public over the course of one year free of charge, significantly magnifying the project’s impact.
- A short 105-minute IWT animation video was developed by contracting Mongolian Promotion Craft Company through an in-kind contribution from ZSL (GBP).
- Through the support of the Ulaanbaatar City Environmental Department, a public awareness IWT video was displayed for free on public transport buses across three different routes over one week.
- Free access to information from the General Police Agency on criminal records saved resources (time and monetary) that would have been otherwise spent on data collection.
- The project made effective use of time and resources during law enforcement training by centralising training courses in Ulaanbaatar.
- Through ZSL’s existing Ulaanbaatar office, administrative and overhead costs are minimised without risk to project implementation.

Annex 1 Project’s original (or most recently approved) logframe, including indicators, means of verification and assumptions.

Note: Insert your full logframe. If your logframe was changed since your application and was approved by a Change Request the newest approved version should be inserted here, otherwise insert application logframe.

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
<p>Impact: Law enforcement agencies will develop increased capacity to implement wildlife crime laws resulting in an increase in arrests and convictions of wildlife criminals. Legislation will be amended to address gaps as well as provide revenue sharing mechanisms that will channel funds from anti wildlife crime activities back into the communities, reducing poverty and creating support for conservation. The severe decline of Mongolia’s endangered species as a result of the illegal wildlife trade can begin to be reversed.</p>			
<p>Outcome: An increase in law enforcement capacity results in an increase in arrests and convictions of wildlife criminals. This in turn leads to reduced poaching. Recommended amendments to legislation address gaps. Trainers in each of Mongolia’s provinces are able to conduct community workshops in the sustainable use of natural resources, reducing poverty and supporting conservation. The severe decline of Mongolia’s endangered species from wildlife trade can begin to be reversed.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. By January 2018, levels of household consumption, and market availability of wildlife products decreased from 2015 baseline levels. 2. By March 2016, the 4 relevant government agencies following the same standard data collection protocol. 3. By March 2018 MET are formally considering the projects recommended amendments to Mongolia’s IWT legal framework, including aligning the legal framework with Mongolia’s IUCN Red List. 4. By March 2018 MET are formally considering the projects recommendation to make legally feasible, and implement, the ring-fencing of funds from hunting fines and permits for community conservation efforts. 5. By January 2018, the level of public support for conservation in Mongolia increased by 10%. 6. By March 2018, 21 trainers in the sustainable use of natural resources are trained and equipped with training materials, to operate in each of Mongolia’s 21 provinces 7. Between May 2016 and September 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Household and market survey reports made public on the ZSL website and provided in the interim and final year reports to DEFRA (Annex 4.3a). 2. Signed declaration by the 4 relevant agencies of uptake of new protocol Annex (4.4a). 3. Formal communication from MET; legal recommendations; Indicator 3 and 4. Formal communication from MET (Annex 4.5) 5. Results of social surveys conducted at the Project start and end, published online and provided in the final report to Defra(Annex 4.3b). 6. Post-training assessment scores, records of workshop attendees, MET records(Annex 4.6) 7. Signatures of attendance of all those attending training and training materials. (Annex 4.7) 8. Media records; Minutes of meetings recorded by Committee (Annex 4.8) 9. Records held with and shared by Mongolia’s National Police Agency. And official letter/email (Annex 4.4d and f) 10. Reports published from existing independent surveys such as Saint 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Current Mongolian government remains in power. 2. The recommended changes in fines and prosecutions will be enough to stop hunters given the relatively low financial return for the most hunted products such as marmot furs. 3. The Mongolian government remains resolute about its priorities in changing legislation

	<p>2016, 100% of relevant border agency staff in Mongolia trained in advanced recognition techniques of IWT products and data management.</p> <p>8. By December 2015, a National Illegal Wildlife Trade Committee is operating within priority regions of Mongolia.</p> <p>9. By January 2018, the number of wildlife crime perpetrators arrested and successfully prosecuted increased by 50%.</p> <p>10. By March 2016, public confidence in Mongolia's legal system, with regards to wildlife crime prevention, will have increased by 5% from baseline Year 1 levels.</p>	<p>Maral Foundation's Politbarometer survey, Transparency International's Corruption Perception Index (CPI) and the World Bank's Rule of Law Index. Rapid survey (Annex 4.3b).</p>	
<p>Output 1. Current status of Illegal Wildlife Trade in Mongolia is defined as accurately as possible using proven and comparable methods.</p>	<p>1.1 By October 2016 nationwide statistics on wildlife hunting, trade, and product use are established based on 4000 household and 1100 market surveys. Baseline = 0 completed surveys</p> <p>1.2 By November 2016 comparative analysis of 2006 survey data indicating trends in IWT conducted for 100% of species outlined in 2006 report. Baseline = no trend established.</p>	<p>1.1 - 1.2 Survey report document produced and available on ZSL project web page and supplied in the end of year report to DEFRA (Annex 4.3a).</p>	
<p>Output 2. Effective, well-trained border and enforcement staff team.</p>	<p>2.1 The number of training days provided to Mongolian border agency staff during the project period. Baseline = 0</p> <p>2.2 The number of training days provided to police during the project period. Baseline = 0</p> <p>2.3 Five training workshops conducted for regional level multi-agency inspection teams</p> <p>2.4 Newly developed database to record and disseminate cases of attempted IWT to relevant government departments.</p> <p>2.5 Number of recorded cases on the database. Baseline = 0</p>	<p>2.1- 2.2 Training schedule and attendance lists. (Annex 4.7c)</p> <p>2.3 Training schedule, training material and attendance lists for 10 regional-level multi-agency inspection teams (Annex 4.7c)</p> <p>2.4 Database template available on the ZSL project website and provided in annual report to Defra (Annex 4.4c and d).</p> <p>2.5 Copies of database entries taken at the end of each project year (Annex 4.4d).</p>	<p>1. Trained staff are willing to stop IWT products leaving the country.</p>

<p>Output 3. Recommendations for legal amendments submitted, facilitating an increase in IWT crime convictions.</p>	<p>3.1 A formal set of recommended legal amendments to Mongolia's IWT framework has been submitted to MET</p>	<p>3.1 Legal Recommendations (Annex 4.5)</p>	<p>2. Legal framework is changeable during the project timeframe.</p>
<p>Output 4. A qualified trainer in the sustainable use of natural resources is present in every province to provide community training workshops.</p>	<p>4.1 Average scores of trainers in post training assessment increase a by minimum of 50% relative to pre-training assessments. 4.2 100% of trainers self-report a high level of understanding and confidence with the IWT mobile application post-training, and are able to complete the example mobile application tasks assigned as part of the post-training assessment.</p>	<p>4.1 Average scores of trainers in post training assessment (Annex 4.6) 4.2 Trainers self-reported understanding and confidence with the IWT mobile application (Annex 4.6)</p>	<p>3. Income from hunting permits and fines will be enough to make a difference on the ground at local level conservation initiatives. 4. MET continues to support the training of trainers for community workshops on sustainable use, and supports trainers to conduct workshops once they are trained.</p>
<p>Activity 1.1 Household surveys; replicate 2006 nationwide survey to determine wildlife take, use and trade in each of Mongolia's 21 provinces, with a total of 4000 household surveys. Activity 1.2 Market Survey; replicate 2006 market surveys at know wildlife trade centres and shops throughout Ulaanbaatar, 1100 surveys to be conducted. Activity 1.3 Wildlife trade report produced indicating current status of wildlife trade in Mongolia and a comparative analysis with Wingard and Zahler (2006).</p>			
<p>Activity 2.1 Collate information; all existing training materials for law enforcement agencies highlight gaps or areas which need improving. ZSL already has many of these materials for work on the CITES report but needs to develop a better understanding of what exists already. Activity 2.2 Workshop held with police and border agencies to determine specifically the training needs regarding identify illegal products. Many are not obvious as they can be transported over the border fresh or dried. The Police Department has already expressed to ZSL staff the need for such training. Activity 2.3 Training material. Produce training materials, sample products and data collection and storage methods working with the police, border agency and MET. Activity 2.4 Deliver Training. Deliver five training workshops with law enforcement agencies in Ulaanbaatar and at the road and rail border town of Zamyn Uud in Year 2 and five training workshops scheduled in year 3 in key landscapes based on results of the household based surveys. The training will be focussed on detection and data management. Activity 2.5 Training assessments conducted before and after training to assess participant uptake; training will be adapted and repeated if uptake is not >90% for each participant. Activity 2.6 National IWT Committee created to complement the existing task forces in the Eastern Steppes which have proven to be very effective in law enforcement.</p>			
<p>Activity 3.1 Review all Mongolian legislation relating to wildlife trade and hunting and recent changes since updates in 2011. Activity 3.2 Log frame; develop a model to fully demonstrate how the legal framework relates to convictions and a reduction in crime. Highlight gaps in the framework in order to provide target areas for legislative amendments. Activity 3.3 Legislation; Recommendations submitted to MET to effect amendments to; the Law On Fauna; the Law On The Control And Prohibition of Animal And Plant Derived Products; the Law On Payment Of Natural Resource Use; the Law On Environment; Law On Regulating International Trade Of Endangered Wildlife And Plants And Derivatives. Activity 3.4 Wildlife hotline: Improve crime reporting mechanisms, finalise a formal agreement with MobiCom to introduce a free reporting hotline to police headquarters in Ulaanbaatar from where local authorities can be contacted to mobilise existing local response teams. Activity 3.5 Fines; Recommendations submitted to ministry of justice and MET to establish fines that offset market incentives and can be changed easily to reflect changes in market prices and demand. Use recently established species ecological values to determine baseline starting point for fines. Activity 3.6 Reporting crime incentives increased. Recommendations submitted to MET to introduce guidelines to reporting wildlife crime that includes reporter anonymity</p>			

and increased financial incentives. These changes will be involved in the legislation amendments and promoted through the MobiCom campaign and TV appearances.

Activity 3.7 Information campaign; a four tier approach. Establish a text message campaign through MobiCom phone users, a media approach through newspapers, TV and radio can all be achieved by paying for airtime or space in papers. Public information is commonly disseminated this way as even the most rural communities often have a simple power source for radio and TV, MobiCom is the only provider with signal coverage in every town and village throughout Mongolia.

Activity 3.8 Recommendations submitted to MET for payment for resource use; through local administrative offices establish payment mechanisms to Local Protected Areas. LPA are being established throughout Mongolia in a drive to reach a target of area under protection. LPAs are managed by community groups or NGOs overseen by the local government administrative unit but are expected to fund themselves at present. Many are struggling to do this.

Activity 4.1 Development of a 'training of trainers' curriculum and materials (package)

Activity 4.2 Conduct a 'training of trainers' workshop, including usage of the IWT application, and post-training assessment; and hand over community training packages to all attendees.

Activity 4.3 Submit and hand over the 'training of trainers' curriculum and materials to MET for reuse and scaling up.

Annex 2 Report of progress and achievements against final project logframe for the life of the project

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements
<p>Impact: Law enforcement agencies will develop increased capacity to implement wildlife crime laws resulting in an increase in arrests and convictions of wildlife criminals. Legislation will be amended to address gaps as well as provide revenue sharing mechanisms that will channel funds from anti wildlife crime activities back into the communities, reducing poverty and creating support for conservation. The severe decline of Mongolia's endangered species as a result of the illegal wildlife trade can begin to be reversed.</p>		<p>Collaborative development of project activities with partner law enforcement agencies allowed the targeted capacity building of law enforcement in Mongolia through specialist training, improved inter-agency intelligence record-keeping and sharing, and the analysis of legislation improvements to holistically contribute to greater policing and prosecution of IWT in the future. Potential legislation changes, include suggested amendments for the ring-fencing of funds, a concept the government is strongly considering, will allow future hunting or poaching revenues to be channelled back into rural communities. Rural communities across Mongolia now have greater capacity to manage their natural landscape more sustainably as a result of project initiatives, and are aware of the devastating impact that wildlife overexploitation can have on ecosystem services. In the long-term poverty is alleviated through healthier ecosystems, supporting rural communities livelihoods, especially those that rear livestock. Greater management of hunting, and enforcement of poaching, supported through greater community stewardship of natural resources will allow wildlife populations to recover.</p>
<p>Outcome: An increase in law enforcement capacity results in an increase in arrests and convictions of wildlife criminals. This in turn leads to reduced poaching. Recommended amendments to legislation address gaps. Trainers in each of Mongolia's provinces are able to conduct community workshops in the sustainable use of natural resources, reducing poverty and supporting conservation. The severe decline of Mongolia's endangered species from wildlife trade can begin to be reversed.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. By January 2018, levels of household consumption, and market availability of wildlife products decreased from 2015 baseline levels. 2. By March 2016, the 4 relevant government agencies following the same standard data collection protocol. 3. By March 2018 MET are formally considering the projects recommended amendments to Mongolia's IWT legal framework, including aligning the legal framework with Mongolia's IUCN Red List. 4. By March 2018 MET are formally considering the projects recommendation to make legally 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The rapid survey results reported that household consumption of wildlife products decreased, including a 26.5% decrease in the number of species used (34 to 25) and a 55.8% decrease in product types used. Wildlife available to households decreased by 20.1% from the baseline. Market availability decreased 17.4% (Annex 4.3b). 2. The 4 relevant government agencies submitted data into the IWT database from 2015-2017 following the standard data entry protocol, under Environmental database of MET (Annex 4.4a). 3. The project recommendation on amendment to Mongolia's IWT legal framework was sent to MET in March 2018. MET formally considered the project recommendations including aligning the legal framework with Mongolia's IUCN Red List (Annex 4.5). 4. The project recommendations sent to MET in March 2018 and MET expressed that formally considering the project recommendation including to make legally feasible, and implement, the ring-fencing of funds from hunting fines and permits for community conservation efforts (Annex 4.5). 5. The rapid survey revealed that public support for legal action against

	<p>feasible, and implement, the ring-fencing of funds from hunting fines and permits for community conservation efforts.</p> <p>5. By January 2018, the level of public support for conservation in Mongolia increased by 10%.</p> <p>6. By March 2018, 21 trainers in the sustainable use of natural resources are trained and equipped with training materials, to operate in each of Mongolia's 21 provinces</p> <p>7. Between May 2016 and September 2016, 100% of relevant border agency staff in Mongolia trained in advanced recognition techniques of IWT products and data management.</p> <p>8. By December 2015, a National Illegal Wildlife Trade Committee is operating within priority regions of Mongolia.</p> <p>9. By January 2018, the number of wildlife crime perpetrators arrested and successfully prosecuted increased by 50%.</p> <p>10. By March 2016, public confidence in Mongolia's legal system, with regards to wildlife crime prevention, will have increased by 5% from baseline Year 1 levels.</p>	<p>hunting increased considerably. 75.8% of respondents were resolute to preventing illegal hunting activity on site and 71.1% would report hunting to the relevant legal authorities. The study concludes that overall, public support for wildlife conservation has significantly increased (Annex 4.3b).</p> <p>6. On 15-16th of March 2018, 21 trainers from 21 aimags were trained and equipped with training materials. MET reported that the capacity of the relevant staff was sufficiently enhanced to enable the training and equipping of other staff in sustainable natural resource use at the local level (Annex 4.6).</p> <p>7. From September to December 2018, 114 law enforcement officers from government agencies (including NPA, GASI and CGA) were trained as trainers in IWT product recognition and the IWT mobile application. Each agency is now equipped with internally trained staff within each region to enable staff training to increase to 100%. Furthermore, the prepared digital (e.g. video training) and physical training materials (e.g. handbooks) provided to each agency and trainer will enable their incorporation into online and on-site trainings systems, promoting their national scaling (Annex 4.7).</p> <p>8. The National Illegal Wildlife Trade Committee was established in December 2016 (Annex 4.8). The later date of establishment was a result of the delayed commencement of household surveys (due to extreme weather and subsequent partner change). Data collected through household surveys was required to input into the formation of the National IWT Committee.</p> <p>9. The number of perpetrators arrested due to wildlife crimes and offences increased by 59.8% in 2017 compared to 2015. The total number of wildlife crimes and offences was 117 in 2017, 69 in 2016, and 70 in 2015 (Annex 4.4f).</p> <p>10. The result of the Rapid Survey indicates that public confidence in Mongolia's legal system with regards to wildlife crime prevention only marginally increased (0.2%). However, 33.8% and 35.6% of respondents answered that within the last year and last 5 years, respectively, wildlife related legislation has been improved/enhanced (Annex 4.3b).</p>
<p>Output 1. Current status of Illegal Wildlife Trade in Mongolia is defined as accurately as possible using proven and comparable methods.</p>	<p>1.1 By October 2016 nationwide statistics on wildlife hunting, trade, and product use are established based on 4000 household and 1100 market surveys. Baseline = 0 completed surveys</p>	<p>1.1 In June and July 2016, 4010 households from 13 aimags (39 soums) and 5 districts of Ulaanbaatar were completed; 650 market surveys were completed across 9 aimags (Annex 4.3a).</p> <p>1.2 Comparative analysis of the 2006 survey data indicating trends in IWT conducted for 100% of species outlined in the 2006 report. This information is currently compiled and accessible in the Silent Steppe II</p>

	<p>1.2 By November 2016 comparative analysis of 2006 survey data indicating trends in IWT conducted for 100% of species outlined in 2006 report. Baseline = no trend established.</p>	<p>report (Annex 4.3a).</p>
<p>Activity 1.1 Household surveys; replicate 2006 nationwide survey to determine wildlife take, use and trade in each of Mongolia's 21 provinces, with a total of 4000 household surveys.</p>		<p>Household survey - 4010 households from 13 aimags (39 soums) and 5 districts of Ulaanbaatar.</p> <p>13 representative aimags were selected to reduce sample replication (from 21 aimags in total). These aimags were selected for: 1) high human population density; 2) large wildlife trade markets; 3) wildlife abundance and habitat; 4) proximity to international borders with frequent use (train stations, border posts); and 5) economic impact and industry development.</p>
<p>Activity 1.2 Market Survey; replicate 2006 market surveys at know wildlife trade centres and shops throughout Ulaanbaatar, 1100 surveys to be conducted.</p>		<p>Market survey – 650 market surveys have been completed across 9 aimags.</p> <p>The completed 650 surveys were reduced from the planned 1100 surveys due to 4 provinces being removed to reduce replication of the surveys in areas with repeated or similar characteristics according to the study's sample selection criteria.</p>
<p>Activity 1.3 Wildlife trade report produced indicating current status of wildlife trade in Mongolia and a comparative analysis with Wingard and Zahler (2006).</p>		<p>1.3 The wildlife trade report was produced indicating the current status of wildlife trade in Mongolia based on the household and market survey, and comparative analysis. The results are compiled in the Silent Steppe II report.</p>
<p>Output 2. Effective, well-trained border and enforcement staff team.</p>	<p>2.1 The number of training days provided to Mongolian border agency staff during the project period. Baseline = 0</p> <p>2.2 The number of training days provided to police during the project period. Baseline = 0</p> <p>2.3 Five training workshops conducted for regional level multi-agency inspection teams</p> <p>2.4 Newly developed database to record and disseminate cases of attempted IWT to relevant government departments.</p> <p>2.5 Number of recorded cases on the database. Baseline = 0</p>	<p>2.1 The number of training days provided to CGA = 2 (Annex 4.7c).</p> <p>2.2 The number of training days provided to NPA = 2 (Annex 4.7c).</p> <p>2.3 Five training workshops conducted for regional level multi-agency inspection teams.</p> <p>2.4 The IWT database at IRIMHE has been established to record and disseminate IWT cases (crimes and offences) – www.eic.mn/iwt (Annex 4.4d).</p> <p>2.5 The number of recorded IWT related crimes and offences on the database = 362 (records from 2015-2017) (as of April 23rd 2018) (Annex 4.4f).</p>
<p>Activity 2.1 Collate information; all existing training materials for law enforcement agencies highlight gaps or areas which need improving. ZSL already has many of these materials for work on the CITES report but needs to develop a better</p>		<p>Compilation and collection of existing training materials available in Mongolia was conducted with the materials used as a basis to improve existing content and generate new content to address identified gaps.</p>

understanding of what exists already.	
Activity 2.2 Workshop held with police and border agencies to determine specifically the training needs regarding identify illegal products. Many are not obvious as they can be transported over the border fresh or dried. The Police Department has already expressed to ZSL staff the need for such training.	Workshops have been held on 12th December 2016, 16th March and 11th April 2017 with taxonomic experts from the National University of Mongolia, Mongolian Academy of Science, and allocated trainers from key stakeholder organisations including MET, NPA, GASI and CGA (Annex 4.7c).
Activity 2.3 Training material. Produce training materials, sample products and data collection and storage methods working with the police, border agency and MET.	The following training materials (Annex 4.7a) are produced, published and distributed, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • guidebook of 'Illegally Traded Wildlife in Mongolia' (98 commonly traded species and related legal documentation) • training manual on IWT identification (including 22 of the most traded species and a guideline on species and product identification) • DVD with IWT expert training video lectures • IWT database data entry protocol • Sorgog application user guide
Activity 2.4 Deliver Training. Deliver five training workshops with law enforcement agencies in Ulaanbaatar and at the road and rail border town of Zamyn Uud in Year 2 and five training workshops scheduled in year 3 in key landscapes based on results of the household based surveys. The training will be focussed on detection and data management.	The following training of trainers (Annex 4.7c) workshop was organised for staff from law enforcement agencies including representatives from all aimags of Mongolia. Training was conducted in Ulaanbaatar and included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Police Agency – IWT identification (2 days) • Customs General Administration – IWT identification and use of Sorgog mobile application (2 days) • General Agency for Specialized Investigation - IWT identification and use of Sorgog mobile application (1 day) • MET specialists, representatives from Customs General Administration, National Police Agency, General Agency for Specialized Investigation – IWT database data entry and use of Sorgog mobile application (1 day) • General Agency for Specialized Investigation – IWT database data entry training (1 day)
Activity 2.5 Training assessments conducted before and after training to assess participant uptake; training will be adapted and repeated if uptake is not >90% for each participant.	Individual participant uptake was not less than 90%. The summary of the training assessments is reported in Annex 4.7d.
Activity 2.6 National IWT Committee created to complement the existing task forces in the Eastern Steppes which have proven to be very effective in law enforcement.	National IWT Committee (created as per year 2 technical change request in place of regional multi-agency taskforce) (Annex 4.8), including members from MET, NPA, GASI, CGA, NUM, MAS and ZSL created in Ulaanbaatar. The committee met regularly and provided their comments on IWT training materials and on the establishment of the IWT database. In March 2018 in Ulaanbaatar the committee raised awareness of IWT related laws and investigated IWT product

		across souvenir shops and major marketplaces (Annex 4.8c).
Output 3. Recommendations for legal amendments submitted, facilitating an increase in IWT crime convictions.	3.1 A formal set of recommended legal amendments to Mongolia's IWT framework has been submitted to MET	3.1 A formal set of recommended legal amendments to Mongolia's IWT framework has been submitted to MET and a letter from MET has been received formally acknowledging their receipt (Annex 4.5b).
Activity 3.1 Review all Mongolian legislation relating to wildlife trade and hunting and recent changes since updates in 2011.		All Mongolian legislation relating to wildlife trade and hunting and recent changes since updates in 2011 has been reviewed and compiled in the SSII report (Annex 4.3a).
Activity 3.2 Log frame; develop a model to fully demonstrate how the legal framework relates to convictions and a reduction in crime. Highlight gaps in the framework in order to provide target areas for legislative amendments.		Chapter 4 of the Silent Steppe II Report highlights gaps in Mongolia's legislative framework's ability to effectively mitigate IWT. The Legal Atlas online platform (planned online release in 2018) provides an interactive overview of this legal framework, the relevant hunting laws, and corresponding gaps (Annex 4.3a).
Activity 3.3 Legislation; Recommendations submitted to MET to effect amendments to; the Law On Fauna; the Law On The Control And Prohibition of Animal And Plant Derived Products; the Law On Payment Of Natural Resource Use; the Law On Environment; Law On Regulating International Trade Of Endangered Wildlife And Plants And Derivatives.		ZSL sent the recommendations (Annex 4.5a) on the specific amendments on the basis of the legal review. MET is currently considering these recommendations, with related amendments currently being drafted into related laws through an MET working group (Annex 4.5b).
Activity 3.4 Wildlife hotline: Improve crime reporting mechanisms, finalise a formal agreement with MobiCom to introduce a free reporting hotline to police headquarters in Ulaanbaatar from where local authorities can be contacted to mobilise existing local response teams.		After project commencement, WWF Mongolia established an IWT hotline (its development was not known publically prior to its release). Through ZSL-WWF dialogue it was decided to work collaboratively to promote the existing Wildlife Crime Hotline. ZSL agreed to support and promote it through the MobiCom campaign.
Activity 3.5 Fines; Recommendations submitted to ministry of justice and MET to establish fines that offset market incentives and can be changed easily to reflect changes in market prices and demand. Use recently established species ecological values to determine baseline starting point for fines.		ZSL has submitted legal recommendations (Annex 4.5a) for the ring-fencing of fines, with MET formally accepting the recommendations for consideration (Annex 4.5b).
Activity 3.6 Reporting crime incentives increased. Recommendations submitted to MET to introduce guidelines to reporting wildlife crime that includes reporter anonymity and increased financial incentives. These changes will be involved in the legislation amendments and promoted through the MobiCom campaign and TV appearances.		Currently, in the law of Environment, reporter anonymity and increased financial incentives is stated, however, enforcement of this act is not successful on the ground. ZSL has submitted legal recommendations to aid legislative improvements to improve Mongolia's criminal justice system's capacity to combat IWT, and is advising on methods to improve reporter anonymity. Previous meetings have been held with the MET, including prosecutors and judges to discuss IWT crime. This was organised by WWF on June 26 th 2016.
Activity 3.7 Information campaign; a four tier approach. Establish a text message campaign through MobiCom phone users, a media approach through newspapers, TV and radio can all be achieved by paying for airtime or space in papers. Public information is commonly disseminated this way as even the most rural communities often have a simple power source for radio and TV, MobiCom is the only provider with signal coverage in every town and village throughout Mongolia.		As a result of the MoU with MobiCom, the largest telecom and media provider in Mongolia, eight IWT related text messages have been delivered monthly to approximately 937,166 to 1,020,509 Mobicom users aged from 18-60, from June 2017 to March 2018. The text content included messages: calling for the public to stop purchasing wildlife products due to the rapid decline of wildlife in Mongolia; adherence to laws and regulations; information on fines and penalties for illegal hunting of marmots, and fish; and the advertising of the existing IWT

		<p>hotline (Annex 4.9a).</p> <p>In addition to these text messages, a short animated video (Annex 4.9b) on IWT was recorded in English and Mongolian and distributed through the media channels of Mobicom, ZSL's social media stream, and on the displays inside local public transport buses.</p>
<p>Activity 3.8 Recommendations submitted to MET for payment for resource use; through local administrative offices establish payment mechanisms to Local Protected Areas. LPA are being established throughout Mongolia in a drive to reach a target of area under protection. LPAs are managed by community groups or NGOs overseen by the local government administrative unit but are expected to fund themselves at present. Many are struggling to do this.</p>		<p>ZSL has submitted legal recommendations for the ring-fencing of fines, with MET formally accepting the recommendations for consideration (Annex 4.5b). These recommendations, under formal review, have the potential to secure LPAs if accepted. As discussed in the narrative, the Mongolian government is already in the process of drafting ZSL led legislative changes to reflect law on Natural Plant and law on Fauna with IUCN, demonstrating their commitment to improving legislation.</p>
<p>Output 4. A qualified trainer in the sustainable use of natural resources is present in every province to provide community training workshops.</p>	<p>4.1 Average scores of trainers in post training assessment increase a by minimum of 50% relative to pre-training assessments.</p> <p>4.2 100% of trainers self-report a high level of understanding and confidence with the IWT mobile application post-training, and are able to complete the example mobile application tasks assigned as part of the post-training assessment.</p>	<p>4.1 Average trainers score in post training assessment increased by 45% relative to pre-training assessments. The pre-training assessment average score was 53.5 and post training assessment average score was 98.5 (Annex 4.6d).</p> <p>4.2 100% of trainers self-reported a high level of understanding and confidence with the IWT mobile application post-training (Annex 4.6)d.</p>
<p>Activity 4.1 Development of a 'training of trainers' curriculum and materials (package)</p>		<p>Community training manual and CD were included in the training package (Annex 4.6b). The training manual (Annex 4.6b) covered topics on sustainable natural resource management and community engagement. The training curriculum covered: legal knowledge of community's opportunities; community rights; and responsibilities and duties for natural resource usage. The trainers were taught how to train, which included the participatory approach.</p>
<p>Activity 4.2 Conduct a 'training of trainers' workshop, including usage of the IWT application, and post-training assessment; and hand over community training packages to all attendees.</p>		<p>Training of trainers workshop held on March 15th and 16th 2018. 21 officers from the Environment Department of 21 aimags (province) of Mongolia (Annex 4.6c) trained as community trainers. Community training packages were distributed to attendees, and are available to duplicate for dissemination to other environment officers or community members trained by original trainers.</p>
<p>Activity 4.3 Submit and hand over the 'training of trainers' curriculum and materials to MET for reuse and scaling up.</p>		<p>Community training curriculum and package provided to MET. MET officially confirmed that the trained trainers will be delivering on-going training to soum (subdivision of aimag) officers (Annex 4.6d).</p>

Annex 3 IWT Contacts

To assist us with future evaluation work and feedback on your report, please provide details for the main project contacts below. Please add new sections to the table if you are able to provide contact information for more people than there are sections below.

Ref No	IWT017
Project Title	Tackling Illegal Wildlife Trade in Mongolia through Improved Law Enforcement
Project Leader Details	
Name	Gitanjali Bhattacharya
Role within IWT Project	Project Leader
Address	
Phone	
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Partner 1	
Name	Gombobaatar Sundev
Organisation	Steppe Forward NGO
Role within IWT Project	Technical Advisor
Address	
Fax/Skype	
Email	
Partner 2	
Name	Tsogtbaatar.B
Organisation	National Police Agency of Mongolia
Role within IWT Project	Representative of NPA in the National IWT Committee
Address	
Fax/Skype	
Email	

Partner 3	
Name	Tserendash.D
Organisation	General Administration Special Investigation (GASI)
Role within IWT Project	Representative of GASI in the National IWT Committee
Address	
Fax/Skype	
Email	

Annex 4

Checklist for submission

	Check
Is the report less than 10MB? If so, please email to IWT-Fund@ltsi.co.uk putting the project number in the subject line.	
Is your report more than 10MB? If so, please discuss with IWT-Fund@ltsi.co.uk about the best way to deliver the report, putting the project number in the subject line.	X
Have you included means of verification? You need not submit every project document, but the main outputs and a selection of the others would strengthen the report.	X
Do you have hard copies of material you want to submit with the report? If so, please make this clear in the covering email and ensure all material is marked with the project number.	
Have you involved your partners in preparation of the report and named the main contributors	X
Have you completed the Project Expenditure table fully?	X
Do not include claim forms or other communications with this report.	