

## Illegal Wildlife Trade: Half Year Report

<b>Project Ref No</b>	IVYIWT
<b>Project Title</b>	Disrupting Ivory Trafficking Conduits with Coordinated Law Enforcement in Malawi
<b>Country(ies)</b>	Zambia; Malawi
<b>Lead Organisation</b>	IFAW
<b>Collaborator(s)</b>	Mike Labuschagne & Johnny Vaughan (Lilongwe Wildlife Trust)
<b>Project Leader</b>	<i>Jason Bell</i>
<b>Report date and number (eg HYR1)</b>	<i>26 October 2016; HYR1</i>
<b>Project website</b>	

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

Progress for this period (April to September 2016) has been extremely successful, as can be confirmed by the following:

#### Output 1

Indicator 1:

Male and female arrests leading to convictions for elephant poaching and/or unlawful possession and/or trade of ivory rise from 14 (50% of cases reported end in prosecution) as recorded in 2014 to at least 21 (75% of cases reported end in prosecution) by end 2016 and to at least 25 (90% of cases reported end in prosecution) by end 2017.

- *Since the establishment of the WCIU, operations have been undertaken with investigations taking place on a case-by-case basis, leading to arrests and subsequent convictions. Over 30 suspects have been arrested and charged with wildlife related crime. Already over 60% (18) of these suspects have been found guilty and handed down sentences that are generally appropriate and enough to deter this type of criminal behaviour.*

Indicator 2:

100% of all reported cases of elephant related crimes committed by men and women are recorded in the Department of National Parks and Wildlife Database (from baseline of 53% in 2014) by end 2017.

- *Database has been established and all elephant related crimes are being inputted database.*

Indicator 3:

100% of all reported cases of elephant related crimes committed by men and women are recorded in the Department of National Parks and Wildlife Database sent to CITES ETIS database (from baseline of 66% in 2014) by end 2017.

- *Database has been established and all elephant related crimes are being inputted database. Currently follow up's are being done with DNPW being the responsible party for updating the CITES/ETIS database.*

Indicator 4:

Number of MRA Customs-led and reported ivory interceptions and confiscations at border crossing points rise from zero in 2015 to at least 20% of all reported ivory trafficking cases in by end 2017.

- *MRA not engaged at this point in time.*

Indicator 5:

Number of Department of National Parks and Wildlife officers dedicated to investigations increases from one in 2015 to 8 by end 2016 and remains stable at 8 until close of project in March 2018.

- *First training of DNPW officers has been completed with 8 officers trained.*

Indicator 6:

Number of recruited, trained and established Community Enforcement Network officers in Malawi increases from 0 in 2015 to 30 by end 2016 and remains stable at 30 until close of project in March 2018.

- *Following the engagement of CENs and completion of community surveys (including the development of baseline questions and data tools), the selection and establishment of two CEN Networks are now complete, with the recruitment of 30 CEN Members split between both protected areas (Kasungu National Park and Vwasa Marsh Wildlife Reserve) – to this end, two CEN training/sensitisation workshops were conducted.*

Indicator 7:

The percentage of recruited CEN officers who are women is at least 50% of overall number of CEN officers recruited to the project by end 2016 and retained through to project close in 2018.

- *Currently sitting at 50% women recruited – efforts are being made to improve this percentage, however, priority is being placed on good members and not gender.*

Indicator 8:

Number of custodial sentences for elephant related crimes in Malawi increases from 2 (4% of total sentences passed) in 2014 to 13 (25% of total sentences passed) by end 2016 and 25 (50% of total sentences passed) by end 2017.

- *Already exceeded in 2016. Current number stands at 41 arrests, 6 pending court cases and 28 custodial sentences. This percentage exceeds the 50% set out as a target for end 2017.*

Indicator 9:

Number of sentences whereby maximum fines were levied rises from 1 (2% of cases reported) in 2014 to 25 (50% of cases reported) by end 2016 and to 50 (100% of cases reported) by end 2017

- *On track of reaching the 50% by end 2016 with the following statistics to date for number of convictions exceeding a 12 year sentence – 1; 7 year sentence – 1; 5 year sentence – 7; and 1-3 year sentence – 19. Also important to note that we are seeing no option of fines allocated to ivory poaching and trafficking cases which is a much better situation than a maximum fine. No option of a fine is occurring in almost all our cases at moment.*

Indicator 10:

Percentage of local women and men around Kasungu National Park and Vwaza Marsh Wildlife Reserve who perceive the protected area and elephants as “part of Malawi’s heritage and to be protected at all costs” is more than 90% by end 2017.

- *This indicator will be relevant at year end when survey is completed.*

Indicator 11:

Percentage of local women and men living around Kasungu National Park and Vwaza Marsh Wildlife Reserve who perceive that the “wildlife resources in their areas are good as they bring the community income and other benefits” is at least 90% by end 2017.

- *This indicator will be relevant at year end when survey is completed.*

Indicator 12:

Percentage of local women and men living around protected areas who perceive the need for government to “improve law enforcement” to stop elephant poaching, to decrease from 80% in 2014 to 50% by end 2016 and 25% by end 2017.

- *This indicator will be relevant at year end when survey is completed.*

Indicator 13:

Percentage of male and female community members around protected areas who perceive the need for government to “provide harsher penalties for poachers” to stop elephant poaching, to decrease from 85% in 2014 to 50% or lower by end 2016 and to 25% or lower by end 2017.

- *This indicator will be relevant at year end when survey is completed.*

Indicator 14:

Number of elephants in Kasungu National Park stabilizes at 60 in 2016 and increases by 5-8 % during 2017 to reach a population of ca. 65 by project close in March 2018.

- *On track, since the establishment of the training of both park security and the Intelligence and Investigation Unit within Malawi there have been no incidents of elephant mortality due to poaching within Kasungu National Park. Current population of elephant is estimated at 54 individuals up from 47 in January 2016.*

Indicator 15:

The implementation of the first regional workshop for male and female wildlife crime investigators working in Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania and Zambia.

- *Commencing 30 September 2016 – update will be included in annual report.*

Indicator 16:

Average male and female household income for households supporting a CEN officer increases by £ (Malawian Kwacha ) per month for the duration of the project as compared to an average rural household cash wage in Malawi of £(MK) as per latest World Bank GNI for Malawi in 2014.

- *Payments have started and indicator 16 is on track with those 30 households as indicated in Indicator 17 receiving £ per month for their participation as CEN officers.*

Indicator 17:

60 households have at least one member who will receive regular monthly income from participation in a CEN. Baseline is 0.

- *30 households equating to the 30 CENS recruited. We have achieved 50% of the indicator goal, and are on track to reach 60 households (i.e. 100% of the goal) by project termination in 2018.*

Indicator 18:

The total amount of revenue generated by DNPW annually from tourism gate receipts rises to exceed MK(baseline figure from 2009) by end 2016 and grows an additional % per year by project end (March 2018).

- *This information will only be made available by DNPW at the end of the year as part of the annual report.*

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## **Output 2**

Indicator 1

Two new Community Enforcement Networks (CENs) established and operational around Kasungu National Park and Vwaza Marsh Wildlife Reserve in 2016, 2017 and 2018 with 30 dedicated local men and women with honorary wildlife officer status. (Baseline 2015 = 0).

- *Completed with 30 CENs being established and operational.*

Indicator 2

Wildlife crime investigation training provided to the selectively recruited CEN members. 2 weeks of training provided to CEN officers in 2016 (baseline 2015 = 0)

- *On track with two trainings completed.*

Indicator 3

Monthly wildlife crime data and reports submitted by CEN members to DNPW/LWT for use by WCIU. A total of 360 reports submitted in 2016 and 360 reports submitted in 2017 (Baseline 2015 = 0)

- *The project has adopted SMS based technology over the initial paper based format to report incidents of wildlife crime. These electronic incident reports from the CEN are on track more than one message from most of the CEN members a month being sent to DNPW/LWT for use by the WCIU.*

Indicator 4

Number of elephants illegally killed in protected areas with adjacent CENs. A total of no more than 3 elephants illegally killed in Kasungu National Park and Vwaza Marsh Wildlife Reserve in 2016 and 0 elephants illegally killed in these protected areas by end 2017. (Baseline 2015 = 3).

- *Kasungu National Park the current population of elephant is estimated at 52 individuals up from 47 in January 2016 with no mortalities occurring as a result of poaching.*
- *Since April 2 elephant mortalities have been recorded in Vwaza Marsh with carcasses confirmed. These killings were recorded prior to the CENs being set up.*

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

Due to delays with internal processes, as well as South African legal frameworks, Mike Labuschagne, who is indicated as the Project Lead, is currently assuming this role in a full-time, fixed-term contractual capacity. Processes are underway to bring him on board as a Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) staff member. Discussions with LTS have been initiated by IFAW to notify them of this and we are currently reviewing the formal change request documentation sent by LTS.

This has no direct impact on the project activities or the timeline for deliverables.

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

Discussed with LTS: Yes/No

Formal change request submitted: Yes/No

Received confirmation of change acceptance Yes/No

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

Yes  No  Estimated underspend: £

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

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

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

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

Please send your **completed report by email** to Joanne Gordon at [IWT-Fund@ltsi.co.uk](mailto:IWT-Fund@ltsi.co.uk). The report should be between 2-3 pages maximum. **Please state your project reference number in the header of your email message eg Subject: 001 IWT Half Year Report**