

Illegal Wildlife Trade: Half Year Report

(due 31 October)

Project Ref No	IWT030
Project Title	Combating Illegal Ivory Trade: Training Film to Aid Enforcement Officers
Country(ies)	Filming and interviews have been completed in Vietnam, Thailand, Hong Kong, Dubai, Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Malawi, Botswana, South Africa and the U.K.
Lead Organisation	Environmental Investigation Agency (UK) Limited
Collaborator(s)	Activities were carried out with support of the CITES Secretariat which hosted an event where the film was shown and a range of organisations (see below) that participated in interviews for the film.
Project Leader	Mary Rice
Report date and number (eg HYR1)	271016 HYR1
Project website	No project website currently but a dedicated and protected platform is being planned once the final package with translations is finalised.

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).

Filming completed

All filming for this project has now been completed. Filming covered enforcement activities along the ivory trade chain including source countries in eastern and southern Africa (Malawi, South Africa, Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania), transit countries (Dubai, Belgium, U.K.), and significant consumer countries (Hong Kong, Vietnam and Thailand).

Nearly 50 interviewees and enforcement practitioners have been included in the film. Topics filmed and discussed ranged from the use of financial investigations, training techniques for canine units, to successful prosecutions. The interviewees work in a diverse set of departments and organisations including NGOs, inter-governmental organisations, CITES Management Authorities, and state prosecutors.

The film has successfully captured a wide range of current best practice in enforcement; the eventual dissemination of the film will significantly improve awareness of these techniques.

Film structure finalised

The film has been structured as a 30 minute introduction that will provide a broad overview of the entire trade chain, with more in-depth modules linked in. This will all be packaged together using an interactive menu, and eventually translated into several languages. Seventeen modules have been produced and these cover some of the more technical practices such as DNA sampling and wildlife crime scene forensics.

A final list of the seventeen modules and the relevant chapters in the main film is provided in Annex 1.

Stakeholders engaged

The main film and an example of one of the modules was screened at a side event at the CITES CoP17 in Johannesburg. This was a closed side event, part-hosted by the CITES Secretariat, for a range of stakeholders including participants in the film and also for enforcement practitioners for who the film is being designed. Following the screening, the feedback was overwhelmingly positive with many practitioners and trainers asking if they could have copies of the film; they have since been added to the distribution list. Two additional and significant outcomes from the screening were:

- The director of the RhODIS programme (<http://rhodis.co.za/>) has given copies of their own training film on collecting forensic samples and has agreed for this to be included as a module.
- The Assistant Director for Conservation Management, Zambia has requested copies of the film to assist their training programme. Three hundred new recruits are scheduled to be trained by the Zambian authorities in January next year; this will provide an excellent opportunity to test the training film's relevance and applicability.

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

The final package, including translations, was originally scheduled for completion before this year's CITES CoP and to be distributed at a side event. However, following feedback on the first draft of the film from stakeholders and enforcement practitioners at the CITES Standing Committee in January 2016, gaps in the film's content were identified that needed to be addressed. A final round of filming then took place between January and July, delaying the final editing process.

Whilst this has caused some delays, the filming that was completed following the feedback at CITES Standing Committee has significantly improved the film's content. This included community engagement and successful prosecutions; both are core components of any illegal wildlife trade strategy.

The final English version of the training film will be completed by the end of 2016, with translated versions available from the end of Q1 in 2017. Distribution and an assessment of the film's impacts will then follow. A side event showcasing the completed training package, and soliciting feedback on the film's impacts, is also likely to be scheduled for next year's CITES Standing Committee in December.

This delay will not have any budgetary impacts.

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

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

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?

No

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. 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**