



Illegal Wildlife Trade (IWT) Challenge Fund Final Report

To be completed with reference to the “Writing a Darwin Report” guidance:
(<http://www.darwininitiative.org.uk/resources-for-projects/reporting-forms>). It is expected that this report will be a **maximum** of 20 pages in length, excluding annexes.

IWT Challenge Fund Project Information

Project reference	IWT031
Project title	Combatting IWT in Cameroon through improved law enforcement and community empowerment.
Country(ies)	Cameroon
Contract holder institution	Zoological Society of London
Partner institution(s)	Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife (MINFOF) Cameroon, University College London,
Total IWT grant value	£ 372482
Start/end dates of project	01/4/2016 - 31/3/2018
Project leader’s name	Paul De Ornellas
Project website/blog/social media	http://www.zsl.org/conservation/regions/africa/dja-conservation-complex
Report author(s) and date	David Olson, Andrew Fowler, Sophie Grange-Chamfray, Oliver Fankem, Madeleine Bata, Paul De Ornellas, Chris Ransom, May 30 2018

1. Project Summary

Illegal wildlife trade (IWT) in Central Africa undermines the rule of law, nurtures corruption and hinders development. It also threatens the region’s wildlife: elephant populations have declined by 62% since 2005 [1] and increasing numbers of pangolins are trafficked to Asian markets (e.g. 2,340 kg pangolin scales originating from Cameroon were seized in Hong Kong in June 2014). The southern Dja landscape in Cameroon, centred on the town of Djoum, is an IWT hub for locally sourced wildlife and a transit route for trafficked wildlife from Central African Republic (CAR), Congo and Gabon [2, 3]. Purportedly, the Djoum region presently has the highest volume of ivory being transported in all of Africa. Trafficking is often led by local elites and outside agents, including high level government officials, who exploit poorer community members, co-opted into poaching for their tracking/hunting abilities and for transporting illegal wildlife products. Local people accrue little of the benefits, see their natural resources depleted, livelihoods jeopardised and face compromised security and feel disempowered to affect change. Land managers, both state and the private sector, lack the resources and tools to protect areas with populations of threatened species. Law enforcement agents lack capacity to gather information, collect evidence, and build robust cases. Low pay and morale means they are vulnerable to corruption and

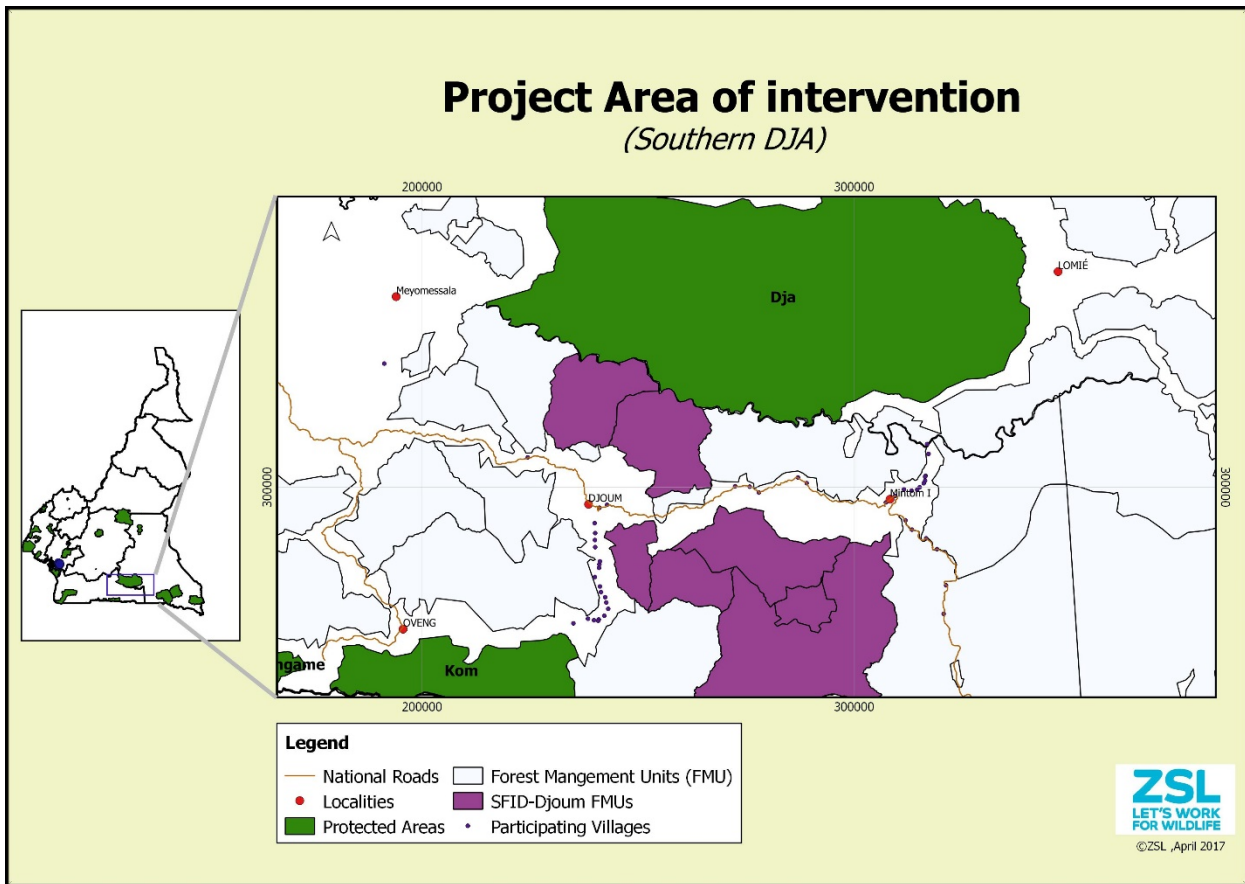
intimidation. Prosecutors and judges demonstrate limited awareness or ability to apply relevant laws and potentially target those lower down the chain, ignoring those overseeing the illicit trade.

Cameroon is a signatory to CITES and the London and Kasane Declarations, as well as being a member of COMIFAC, a sub-regional group which has committed to address IWT and reduce poaching. However, support is urgently needed to help Cameroon meet these commitments and avoid IWT that is severely depleting endangered wildlife populations, maintaining a culture of criminal impunity and corruption, and leaving local people in a cycle of poverty and natural resource depletion.

Reducing the illegal trade in wildlife in Central Africa requires a sustained effort on many fronts. This IWT Cameroon project aimed to disrupt the illegal wildlife trade in the trafficking hotspot around Djoum in southern Cameroon, south of the Dja Biosphere Reserve (DBR) and along a key transport corridor from Gabon. Local communities are the eyes of the forest. They know who is poaching and transporting illegal wildlife and they are often engaged as hunters by force or for profit. We worked with local communities around the border of the Dja Reserve to help them gain more control and ownership of the natural resources they rely on and build livelihood resilience to better enable them to reject the incentives to get involved in wildlife crime. Through the establishment of Village Savings and Loan Associations in communities we have introduced a mechanism through which members can save money and take loans to pay for things that previously had been out of their reach or only achievable if money was found elsewhere, potentially through support for wildlife crime. The VSLAs have also provided a platform through which we have been able to engage communities in other activities to tackle wildlife crime. We have established community surveillance networks (CSNs) that provide a means for local people to anonymously provide tips on illegal wildlife activities. We also worked with University College of London's Extreme Citizen Science (ExCiteS) program to work with communities to bring together knowledge of and map their local resources in a participatory way, gathering key data with handheld digital devices with icons for ease of use by people with low literacy levels. The project also explored enhancing the value of non-timber and non-wildlife forest products — in this case, essential oils from rainforest trees for the fragrance industry — so as to provide alternative livelihoods to commercial wildlife exploitation. We have supported wildlife law enforcement patrols within the Dja Faunal Reserve and within adjacent forestry concessions. We provided logistic and materiel support and emphasized the 'SMART Approach' in patrols, whereby field data gathered on handheld devices is used as a decision support tool for adaptive management of protected areas. The approach enables protected area managers to assess poaching risks, monitor wildlife and efficiently direct rangers to respond accordingly. It also provides a transparent tool for assessing the effectiveness of protection efforts, team performance and tracking progress. The project also worked with local wildlife law enforcement and judiciary personnel, providing training in the management and storage of seized ivory and pangolin scales, the roles of different wildlife enforcement agencies, the judicial procedures in relation to wildlife crime cases, and how to handle and utilize intelligence on wildlife crime. Within the last few months, two major ivory seizures have occurred, tens of poachers arrested, thousands of snares gathered, and hundreds of firearms and poached animals seized. The project is shining a spotlight on this wildlife crime hotspot and making it more difficult for traffickers to operate there.

References

1. Maisels F, Strindberg S, Blake S, Wittemyer G, Hart J, et al. (2013) Devastating Decline of Forest Elephants in Central Africa. *PLoS ONE* 8(3): e59469.
2. CITES CoP16 Doc. 53.2.2
3. Underwood FM, Burn RW, Milliken T (2013) Dissecting the Illegal Ivory Trade: An Analysis of Ivory Seizures Data. *PLoS ONE* 8(10): e76539. doi:10.1371/ journal.pone.0076539



2. Project Partnerships

The project was designed in collaboration with two primary project partners, the Ministry of Forests and Wildlife (MINFOF) Conservation Services (CS) of the Dja Biosphere Reserve and the University College London's Extreme Citizen Science group (ExCiteS). The project had the full support of MINFOF at the central level and was based on the need expressed by MINFOF for continued external support in combating IWT. Over the course of the project, we continued to develop our relationships with the Courts of First Instance in the project zone and developed further relationships with enforcement agencies, such as customs, police and gendarmes to ensure effective implementation and maximum impact of the project. We identified a new partner with whom to work on NTFP value chains. Key to the success of our work was the engagement and involvement of community groups around the southern sector of the Dja Faunal (Biosphere) Reserve (as part of a larger initiative funded by other donors, including the Darwin Initiative, which enables us to work with communities around the whole protected area). To this end, ZSL's social team spent considerable time consulting and building relationships with the communities, utilising Free Prior Informed Consent (PFIC) processes. MINFOF is the partner on the site-based protection efforts and we have seen a positive change in their adaptive decision-making informed by SMART patrol data. We also worked with logging concession operators in areas adjacent to the DBR on efforts to mitigate impacts on wildlife from logging. Partnerships in the course of this project evolved as described below:

Government Agencies

ZSL has MoUs with the Government of Cameroon (Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife-MINFOF) both at central level and with the Conservation Service (CS) of the DBR. In Southern Dja, ZSL supported the DBR CS as the agency responsible for managing the Dja Faunal Reserve primarily on site-based protection using the SMART-based patrolling approach and capacity-building for wildlife law enforcement. We liaised with MINFOF in the follow-up of IWT cases in relevant courts. We trained and supported actors across different

government agencies, such as enforcement agents (customs, police, gendarmerie) and Ministry of Justice (prosecutors and courthouse staff) in the implementation of laws relating to wildlife crime. CS teams in the South Sector of the DBR have made two major ivory seizures in the last six months. This team received training from ZSL on several aspects of IWT interdiction, including intelligence-handling, tactical operations, evidence handling, human rights, and supporting cases. ZSL has an ongoing relationship in protected area management and wildlife law enforcement that will continue into the future. MINFOF helped prepare relevant reports, including SMART-based patrol reports and training reports.

Communities

ZSL has worked to empower communities and actively engage them in monitoring and management of natural resources. Community surveillance networks (CSN) and Extreme Citizen Science (ExCiteS) mechanisms have been used to enable them to monitor and report concerns regarding impacts of IWT, natural resource management and enforcement activity. Recent ivory seizures are associated with intelligence provided by local communities. Communities were and still are engaged in non-timber forest product (NTFP) value chain development and establishing village savings and loan associations (VSLAs). Through these approaches we built trust with communities and ensured support for efforts to tackle IWT. Our engagement of these communities continues past the end of the project.

Academic Institutions

The UCL Extreme Citizen Science group (UCL-ExCiteS) continues to work with ZSL's social team to implement activities to engage and empower local forest communities in monitoring and reporting on resource use, wildlife crime and law enforcement action. Participating communities continue to report wildlife crime and natural resource data. This activity will be ongoing as it is the focus of a PhD project of a candidate from UCL. UCL partners helped prepare this report and the supplementary document report on their work.

Private Sector

During this project, ZSL worked with SFID-Djoum, a company of Groupe Rougier who managed forestry concessions in the southern Dja peripheries. They benefited from improved capacity to protect their forests, and improved relations with other stakeholders. SFID wildlife protection teams were trained and supported to implement an effective adaptive management approach to site-based wildlife protection using Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool (SMART)-based wildlife management approaches in their concessions. ZSL also facilitated positive collaboration between SFID and DBR CS in the southern sector in order to maximise SMART capacity. After ZSL initially coordinated a joint SMART patrol by SFID Djoum and the Conservation Service of DBR (Southern Antenna) the SFID configurable data model was downloaded into the DBR PDA. This formed the basis for planning further joint patrols in SFID concessions. Unfortunately, towards the end of 2017 SFID-Djoum's parent company, the Rougier Group, found itself in financial difficulties due to challenges with their operations in Central Africa and made the decision to initially put on hold and recently to close their operations in Cameroon and Central African Republic. As a result our work with SFID-Djoum has ceased but we are positioning our team to work with the new concession holders with the backing of the sector's MINFOF Forestry Post. We have however continued to work within the concessions alongside the MINFOF agents to ensure a continued level of surveillance in these forests which border Gabon.

NGOs

ZSL established a partnership with the NGO Tropical Forests and Rural Development to assist with the valorisation of non-timber forest products (NTFPs) in the project area. The input of this local partner was crucial as local experts with over 10 years of experience in developing NTFP value addition chains in Cameroon. Key aspects of their work included identification of existing institutions and associations who could be part of value-addition chains in the target communities; training and forming structures and associations with financial links to VSLAs in order to collect and transform NTFPs; and linking markets and

buyers directly to the associations to ensure better and more efficient linkages between the supply and demand. Our partners helped prepare the relevant supplementary document reports.

Media

We partnered with community radios to run interactive community radio programmes as a means of raising awareness of communities bordering the DBR in order to reduce the pressures being exerted from illegal hunting and wildlife trade. These programmes were viewed favourably by communities as many local people participated either with text messages or phone calls suggested they supported changing behaviour with regards to poaching. We also worked with national media houses, such as CRTV (national TV), IUCN Environmental Radio and the communication department in Ministry of Wildlife (MINFOF), in order to broadcast conservation messages and create public awareness on conservation issues.

3. Project Achievements

3.1 Outputs

Output 1: Communities empowered and actively engaged in monitoring and management of natural resources, incentivised through reinforced local livelihoods

Villages engaged were chosen based on their proximity to the Dja Faunal Reserve (Dja Biosphere Reserve [DBR] encompasses the Dja Faunal Reserve and surrounding areas) and known wildlife trafficking routes, as well as the known and estimated involvement of their communities in hunting/poaching activities. Ten communities in the Southern Sector of the Dja were engaged around DBR (Indicator 1). These villages are Bi, Mbouma, Yen, Ze and Mbomela (Bantu communities), and Bosso, Akoneteye, Adjab, Ando'o and Odoumou (Baka communities). Prior to the establishment of activities in these villages, consultation meetings (at least five per village) were held regarding the Village Savings and Loans Associations (VSLA), the Community Surveillance Network (CSN), and the Extreme Citizen Science (ExCiteS) program. Free, prior, and informed consent (FPIC) has been processed with each participating community.

Community Surveillance Networks and ExCiteS (Indicator 1.1, 1.2) –Community surveillance networks (CSN) were established in 10 communities, as planned. CSNs provide phone numbers to call to enable community members to report illegal wildlife crime incidents. Participants go through a Free Prior Informed Consent (FPIC) prior to initiation of a CSN in a community. The CSN offers a way to report incidents and intelligence in an anonymous way. Over 40 IWT-related incidents were reported by community members (Indicator 1.1). Seven local and indigenous forest communities are actively reporting using the ExCiteS platform wildlife crime and monitoring species movements in the South and East regions of Cameroon, encircling the DBR. Through a collaborative and locally-driven process, communities were consulted, invited to co-design reporting software, trained, and supported in order to reach a stage of independent data gathering. Each village software project is unique, the design, content, and use of which being decided by community members themselves, promoting the integration of traditional ecological knowledge, and empowering local people to have ownership over the technology and their forest. At the time of writing, 503 records have been submitted, along with 434 photo and audio files (Indicator 1.1; Annex 4, Doc 1, 2). This equates to an average of 12 records a week, demonstrating not only that communities are motivated to be involved, but also that such communities can be valuable collaborators in data collection for conservation action. Whilst law enforcement action in response to reports on the ground has been the greatest bottleneck and challenge to achieving an increase in arrests and prosecutions (Indicator 1.2) we have had two significant incidents where ivory has been siezed and arrests made as a result of intelligence from community sources (see Output 2 for further information). We have however had communities described diverse additional benefits of this work including reduced number of traffickers, increased interaction with animals, and a greater sense of empowerment and optimism over the future of the forest. The accumulated data forms a rich database visualised on a map interface,

enabling future work in advocacy and conservation planning. Important collaborators were identified and MINFOF agents, ecoguards and Police Officials were briefed and involved in ongoing discussions.

VSLA (Indicator 2.1, 2.2, 2.3) – VSLAs offer community groups a mechanism to save and manage funds in a way that provides livelihood opportunities and provides a buffer in times of need. Over time, they are a powerful forum for engaging communities in conservation awareness and actions to diminish IWT. Prior consultation visits were made in eight villages to assess the financial and savings methods used by villagers, and then to present the VSLA’s concept to communities. This was followed by the holding of two trainings in six selected villages (Bii, Ze, Yen, Bosso, Akonetye and Mbouma) on the five initial modules on VSLAs. An exchange sharing trip was organised between new VSLA groups from Djoum and established groups of Dizangue (Lake Ossa Wildlife Reserve) where ZSL have established more than 20 VSLAs previously. Twelve people (six men, six women) participated. This particular training session highlighted the role of different community members within the group. Four additional villages were then consulted using the same process as the one used for the first villages. These four villages are Ando’o, Adjab, Odoumou (Baka villages) and Mbomela (Bantu village) and bring the total number of VSLAs to 10 (Indicator 2.1). Within the first six VSLA groups, five completed the first annual saving cycle and have restarted with a new one. The total number of members trained and participating in the ten groups is 250 with 108 men and 142 women (56.8% women) (Indicator 2.2). The updated savings for the 1st cycle with the new groups is 2,370,750 CFA with 772,500 CFA generating 10% interest to be redistributed at the end of the cycle to all the members (Indicator 2.3; Table 1).

Table 1: VSLA finances of selected villages around the Dja Biosphere Reserve since January 2017

Village	Savings	Solidarity	Loans	Men	Women	Total members
Mbouma	279000	45550	125000	10	7	17
Yen	722000	102950	445000	23	27	50
Bosso	116750	17550	5000	5	10	15
Ze	720000	218000	-	14	25	39
Bi	377000	14400	197500	11	19	30
Akonetye	18500	300	-	9	7	16
Andoo	113800	24200	-	11	15	26
Adjab	8200	700	-	9	7	16
Mbomela	8500	9800	-	8	11	19
Odoumou	7000	4700	-	8	14	22
Total	2370750	438150	772500	108	142	250

Non-Timber Forest Products (Indicator 3.1, 3.2) – The first six villages in which VSLAs were implemented were the ones chosen to implement the NTFP value chain enhancement (Annex 4, Doc 3, 4). A decision was made to focus on these 6 communities rather than expanding to the initially anticipated 10 communities due to the delay in the start of this work and the amount of time it has taken to develop this work in these first 6 communities. An initial scoping study highlighted that there was a high potential for profitable NTFPs in those villages, including wild bush mango, moabi, djansang and mbalaka. Training sessions were set up with a local NGO Tropical Forest and Rural Development to improve NTFP value chains. Group structure training has been completed in all six villages with trainings taking at least two days per village. The group’s structure was based on the established VSLAs. A total of five missions/training sessions took place to achieve the objectives of the NTFP value chain enhancement. The cumulative number of participants was 437 (240 men and 197 women; Indicator 3.1). The training topics were: (1) diagnostic and group structuring (February 2017); (2) administration/finance management training (mid-April 2017); (3) storage and processing (1st processing mechanisms, May 2017) that focused on three main products chosen by the members. Those products were djansang (*Ricinodendron*

heudelotti), moabi (*Baillonella toxisperma*), and wild bush mango (*Irvingia gabonensis*). Before the last training session on group sales, an experience sharing trip was organised in June between resource persons of the groups and the women from Eastern Dja groups who had experience in NTFP value chain enhancement. Prior to the group sales, a market access mechanism training was organised for the resource persons to be able to be effective in the market and find wholesalers. The local buying price of the djansang was 1,000 CFA, so that the people who wait for the group sales gain more than people who sold before. Group sales were organised in December 2017. Total profit from these sales was fcfa 94,800 (Indicator 3.2), a modest amount but more than money being made previously.

ZSL continues to work with the communities to engage their interest in NTFP as alternative income generation. Through the exchange and market visits, ZSL communities have been introduced to a wider market for their products and have learned that through these larger markets, working as a group rather than through individual sales they can sell more product as well as get a better price per kilo. These benefits have been communicated to other members of the communities who have now expressed a higher interest in taking part in the activity. In Yen, the community expressed appreciation for the project as they have now learned how to properly collect and conserve NTFP products (the nuts from djansang and wild bush mango), which as they put these methods into practice will increase the amount of product that can be sold at a higher price. Through the trainings received by ZSL partner Tropical Forests, communities such as ZE and Mbi, have also undertaken the processing of the raw nuts into oils, the communities have expressed happiness with this additional capacity as it allows them to diversify and increase their income generation methods

Table 2: Quantity produced vs quantity sold during group sales

Villages	Collected quantities	Consumed quality	Quantity sold to intermediate	Quantity sold during group sales	Unit price cfa	Total profit cfa
Akonetye	3.5	3.5	0	0		
Mbouma	29	17	9	3		
ZE	100	9	40	51		
Mbi	26	11	1	14		
Yen	270	50	224	6		
Bosso	15	2	8	5		
Total	443,5	92,5	282	79		

Well-being and Perception (Indicator 1.3, 2.4, 3.3) – Well-being and perception indicators were assessed through focus groups and KAP (knowledge, attitude, practices) surveys. These surveys cover issues relating to natural resource use, livelihood situations, income patterns, and attitudes and knowledge of natural resources, wildlife, and conservation. Two such surveys (baseline and follow-up) were carried out (Activity 1.2; Indicator 1.3, 3.3; Annex 4, Doc 5, 6). Fifteen focus groups were surveyed in 6 villages for a total of 117 participants. A total of 128 (67 males and 61 female) were interviewed. The second survey (based on the same model as the baseline survey) was conducted in November 2017 to assess the impact of ZSL’s activities on the well-being and the KAP. Twelve focus groups were surveyed in 6 villages with a total of 117 participants (64 men, 53 women). The KAP survey involved 188 people (105 men and 83 women). The results show slight changes in well-being and attitude indicators from Yr 1 to Yr 2 that is from 9.54 to 12.53/20 for well-being and from 12.62 to 12.01/20 for attitudes. We intend to continue to monitor these beyond the life-time of the grant to determine if these changes are significant and , if we see a continued decline in attitude scores, that we understand this and are able to address it by adapting our programme of work appropriately.

Awareness-Raising Platforms (Indicators 4.1, 4.2, 4.3) – Six multi-stakeholder platforms were held in Abong-Mbang, Sangmelima and Djoum (Indicator 4.1) with the aim of (1) building common strategies to efficiently fight against IWT and associated trade, (2) raising awareness on current issues related to wildlife crime, (3) strengthening communication strategies that better involve local communities, and (4) discussing the impact of socio-economic activities implemented on conservation related issues (see Supp Doc 19 as an example). The platform meetings involved the community members, the administration in charge of forest and wildlife (MINFOF), the civil authorities, the judicial authorities, local NGOs, and defence forces (Indicator 4.2; Annex 4 Doc 7)).

Output 2: Land managers (Conservation Service and timber company staff) have increased capacity to effectively protect wildlife.

Ministry of Forests and Wildlife (MINFOF) – Over the last two years, this grant has significantly strengthened the SMART-based approach to wildlife management after the initial setup (field visit to review the site-based protection efforts, systems and the available resources) in the northern sector to full implementation in all sectors of the park with special emphasis to the southern sector under this grant which is notorious as one of the hotspots for ivory trafficking in all of Africa (Annex 4, Doc 8-19).

Regular SMART-based patrols are now being carried out by the DBR ecoguards in an adaptive fashion with regular planning (targets, objectives, briefing and debriefing etc) based on previous patrol data. These patrols continue to be successfully executed (Indicator 1.2, Annex 4, Doc 8). We were able to purchase 25 uniforms, 6 backpacks, two tents, four headlamps, two SAT phone devices, four sleeping mat, 24 pairs of batteries for GPS and tarpaulins. A reinforced anti-poaching vehicle for the rapid response team was also purchased. This vehicle was provided with a driver, maintenance, and fuel. This vehicle and the rapid response squad led by the head of the anti-poaching unit carried out last December one of the most important IWT operation that led to the seizures of 216 ivory tusk and other elephant's parts. Another major seizure of over 100 tusks was carried out by the same team within the last month (Indicator 1.4). *[NB. On 3/7/18 Pekassa and Mvomo, the 2 defendants in the Djoum ivory seizure case from December 2017 were formally sentenced to 6 months imprisonment (although time is already served) and a 67,000,000 FCFA fine. They must pay 3.6 million FCFA immediately otherwise they remain behind bars for a further 2 years. Whilst 6 months imprisonment is a disappointing sentence, the fine is significant and sends out a strong message to those involved in wildlife crime. We will continue to work with the authorities and our partners in the diplomatic missions to push for more significant prison sentences in the future].*

The SMART data model continues to be improved and updated accordingly, recently pangolins and grey parrots were included in the model based on their up-listing by CITES (Annex 4, Doc 9, 12-14). Over the last two years, following SMART setup and technical support, refresher training and remote support have been ongoing to ensure all ecoguards are capable of effectively patrolling according to agreed protocols. This has been going well, though patrols slowed down following the nationwide MINFOF staff redeployment in September 2017 during which over 90% of DBR ecoguards were transferred to other protected areas in Cameroon (Indicator 1.2). We were able to react promptly with the newcomers and successfully updated the DBR SMART system (to include new names and references) as well as organising a training session on data collection, map reading, compass, and GPS use. A total of 37 training days were carried out (Indicator 1.1). These training days were split as follows: 6 days (13th to 18th June) of data collection training for 28 rangers; 12 days (26th March-7th April) of patrolling and surveillance training by Retarius (a field tactical skills trainer) for 15 people (Annex 4, Doc 16, 17); 6 days (29th-30th November 2016; 16th-17th December 2016, 16th and 19th January 2017; Annex 4, Doc 14) for SMART planning and reporting training; 4 days (6th-9th of October 2017) patrol basic tools for 46 DBR newly appointed ecoguards; another 5 days advanced SMART training sessions for senior DBR staff (19th-23rd February 2018; Annex 4, Doc 11), and a 4 days QGIS/SMART training from 21st-24th February 2018 in Djoum (Indicator 1.1, Annex 4, Doc 10),

ZSL ensures patrols are carried out based on initial agreed plan (targets, areas to cover, number of days, etc. These ecoguards over the last two years have carried out 58 foot patrol covering 4480 km and spending 372 days within the Southern sector of the Dja Reserve, therefore extending the park coverage to up to 93% (patrol cover is based on the proportion of 25 km² grid cells through which a patrol passed at least once) to date. We have achieved an average of 16 patrol days per month, less than our 20 day target but still significantly higher than the situation at the start of the project when no patrols were taking place (Indicator 1.2). In the Southern Sector, the number of people encountered and arrested dropped from 19 (year 1) to 4 (year 2) after a series of direct confrontation between rangers and poaching gangs. The number of firearms seized dropped from 8 (year 1) to 4 (year 2). No fresh carcasses were found during the last 2 years (Indicator 1.3)). To date, 132 ecoguards have been equipped, trained and are capable of carrying out SMART-based anti-poaching patrols, with minimal supervision required. Heads of Sectors are confidently evaluating patrol data, cleaning data, and producing useful reports. In addition, this project has set the pace and other projects have come to continue supporting the fight against IWT in the Southern Sector.

Despite the challenge of bringing together DBR senior staff at a single site, five evaluation meetings (November 2016, January 2017, April 2017; September 2017, January 2018, Annex 4, Doc 11, 16) have been organised to discuss patrol performance and approaches and adapt patrol strategies, if necessary (Activity 2.4). Monthly visits are organised in as many DBR sectors as possible for troubleshooting, technical support, and updates, and to confirm ecoguards are motivated and patrolling in the field. The ZSL SMART expert continues weekly calls to each Head of Sector to ensure things are progressing according to SMART standards. The sequence of SMART implementation as agreed with the DBR CS has reached a good level with targeted patrols gathering meaningful data in timely reports that inform management. Due to uplisting by CITES of pangolins and grey parrots, the SMART model was reviewed and updated accordingly (Annex 4, Doc 9).

Logging Companies – An evaluation of the state of wildlife management in SFID-Djourn's logging concessions was completed and their wildlife team, consisting of a chief and four team members, were trained on the SMART-based approach to wildlife management, with technical support provided as their teams became active in the concessions (Indicator 2.1, Activity 2.1, Doc 13). SFID-Djourn wildlife teams previously patrolled with GPS only so the project facilitated and trained them to use PDA CEDAR CT4 (hand held data collection devices), with a three-day training refresher on data collection being provided in September 2016 to five people (the Coordinator of Management Unit, the wildlife team chief and three team members) (Indicator 2.1). This included a practical exercise in the forest and an introduction on SMART queries. We reviewed the data model, how to setup the PDAs, how to export the configurable data model from computer to the PDA, how to import the data from the device to the computer and visualize them on a map. Prior to the closure of the company earlier this year, four people are patrolling an average of at least 20 days per month (at least four days a week) and are now experienced with the data model (Indicator 2.2). We discussed with the logging companies the utility of dividing concessions into a grid with cells of 25 km² (standardized with the DBR monitoring approach) in order to better track wildlife, patrol efficiency, and IWT activity throughout entire concessions. Thus, we divided their FMUs into a grid of 145 blocks and 101 (70%) were patrolled during the grant period.

During April 2017 a mission at SFID-Djourn logging concessions, the renewal of the MoU between SFID-Djourn and MINFOF's DBR Southern Antenna was agreed with a view them conducting monthly anti-poaching missions inside their forests. Under Cameroon forestry law, only the forestry administration has the mandate to conduct anti-poaching missions. MINFOF and SFID-Djourn wildlife teams have seized 9 firearms, 24 ammunitions, 155 pieces/entire of bushmeat, 14 cartridges, 225 snares cables and six arrests have been made (Indicator 2.3, 2.4).

Unfortunately, for financial reasons the SFID-Djourn operation was closed down in early 2018 and these activities have since ceased pending information on which company will take over the management of this concession.

Output 3: Enforcement agents, prosecutors and court house staff trained and supported in the implementation of laws relating to wildlife crime.

During the project, a total of 139 law enforcement agents received training and ongoing support in respect of tackling IWT issues (Indicator 3.1, Annex 4, Doc 20). The training was prepared and organized in collaboration with MINFOF and other government agencies, this is in addition to a judicial workshop held in September 2016 for court staff and judiciary. Training for law enforcement officers was held as follows:

Table 3: Training courses under Output 3

Date	Place	Agency/ies	Training type	# personnel trained
Sep 2016	Somalomo	MINFOF	Intelligence gathering and patrol tactics	16
Jan 2017	Lomie	MINFOF	Basic Law Enforcement Techniques	25
March 2017	Yaoundé & Douala	CAAT – Police, Douanes & Gendarmes of the Cellule Aeroportuaire Anti-Trafics	IWT Awareness and Methods and Basic Law Enforcement Techniques	24
May 2017	Somalomo	MINFOF	Intelligence gathering and patrol tactics	12
May 2017	Yaoundé & Douala	CAAT – Police, Douanes & Gendarmes of the Cellule Aeroportuaire Anti-Trafics	Practical Enforcement of IWT trafficking	24
Oct 2017	Somalomo	MINFOF	Basic Law Enforcement Techniques	12
Mar 2018	Djourn	MINFOF	Basic Law Enforcement Techniques	17
TOTAL				130*

*the total number reflects the fact that some officers have received multiple training inputs and, therefore, the actual 'number of participants' would be slightly higher

The training for law enforcement agents represents 3872 training hours, or a total of 484 training days for all officers. In real terms, MINFOF received 26 training days, and the multi-agency CAAT unit comprised of police, customs and gendarmes received 6 training days. Later training courses benefitted from feedback and lessons learnt from prior courses (Indicator 3.1). Training programmes and the contents and feedback were evaluated and evidenced by training presentations, post-training reports, and student feedback and evaluation, where available (Indicator 3.1). Successful operations and seizures of

contraband, as well as arrests, by trained teams subsequent to the training demonstrate effectiveness of the training program.

The credible, law enforcement-focused training has been effective, in the long-term for MINFOF and in the short-term for CAAT officials. In August 2017, some members of the Yaoundé airport-based CAAT team, as a result of IWT-centric training, were responsible for detaining a passenger at the airport and seizing a small quantity (c. 5 kg) of cut ivory and a small amount of pangolin scales which he was attempting to remove from the country (Indicator 3.2). It was as a result of this seizure that political influence came to bear, with anecdotal intelligence suggesting that the arrested individual was closely linked to influential Cameroonian politicians, and, as a result, the CAAT team at Yaoundé were suspended, allegedly because of intimidated corrupt actions during this seizure.

The MINFOF agents who have benefitted from the proactive support and training have been instrumental and responsible for some major disruption to southern Cameroonian organised criminal networks, directly as a result of the type of training and guidance provided. In December 2017, the Djoum-based MINFOF team, using methodology and skills taught during training, instigated an operation resulting in the seizure of over 400 kg of ivory (Indicator 3.2, 3.3). This operation ensured the arrest of a corrupt military officer and a known poaching facilitator. Notwithstanding attempts at being bribed, and threatened, the same MINFOF team, outside of the project calendar, but nonetheless important to note, made a further seizure of almost 200 kg of ivory in May 2018, arresting a major middleman in the process. Both cases are sub judice as they continue through the courts (Indicator 3.2, 3.3).

ZSL Law enforcement advisor continues to provide support for case follow-up and communicates progress of court cases and incidents of wildlife crime (Indicator 3.3, Activity 3.5). The recent ivory seizure cases in Djoum continue to be supported by the ZSL wildlife law enforcement team and progress in cases is communicated to a range of conservation partners, including diplomatic missions and bilateral entities who have influence within the government to lobby for appropriate prosecution of the cases.

3.2 Outcome

Outcome: Reduced poaching of elephants and other trafficked species in the southern Dja landscape of Cameroon by empowering local communities, reinforcing livelihoods, improved wildlife protection and application of laws relating to wildlife crime in a hotspot for illegal wildlife trade in central Africa – leads to poverty reduction, improved governance and security.

The project has made significant progress in achieving its desired outcome, having put in place many of the foundations necessary to reduce poaching of elephants and other trafficked species in the southern Dja landscape of Cameroon. We were perhaps overly ambitious with what might be achieved in a 2 year project with regards to some of the indicators (particularly prosecutions) due to the time in which it takes for some of the processes in Cameroon. However the project has achieved three of four indicator targets (all but the increase in prosecutions, Outcome Indicator 2, however we have seen one significant prosecution as a result of this project (see output section for details) that were assumed to drive a reduction in poaching within the target region. A reduced number of field incidents / encounters from ecoguard patrol records (Outcome Indicator 4) and an increase in arrests (thus, more effective enforcement, Outcome Indicator 2) suggest there is a trend in diminishing poaching activity within the project implementation area. Evidence for the level of Outcome Indicator achievement, or where full achievement was challenging, is presented below for each indicator:

Outcome Indicator 1. Communities report improved sense of empowerment in local decision making regarding wildlife crime and a reduction in the negative impacts of IWT affecting them from baseline levels (established by month 6) by end year 2.

ZSL has now been engaged with communities in the southern Dja for two years. While, as is usual for economic and social change projects, the socio-economic indicators of well-being do not show significant change between the first and second data collection sets. However, communities have reported anecdotally the positive effects of the VSLA and NTFP activities implemented. For example the chief of the community of Bi was able to establish birth certificates for his children, an achievement otherwise unimaginable. Further, the VSLAs have now formed a basis for the establishment of associations and opportunities for discussions on issues that were previously left overlooked. For instance, the president of the VSLA in Ze has said that the people of their village have been able to form their very first association. This association has brought community members together, and they have said that they feel more united and are able to discuss important issues of the village and are learning about the wildlife laws, their user rights in forests and the importance of sustainable management of forest resources.

In addition to the benefits of the economic activities in empowering the communities, there have been significant advances in the communities in their sense of engagement and comprehension regarding wildlife crime and the negative impacts of IWT. Platforms have provided a forum for communities, often under-represented in decision making, to meet with other stakeholders such as government officials, police, MINFOF representatives. These meetings have informed communities of the importance of protecting wildlife and more actively reporting poaching and other wildlife crimes that occur in their surroundings. The populations of the villages Mbouma and Mboumela, have reported that they now more actively protect the elephants so that they can continue to benefit from their assistance in the production of Moabi – a nut collected for its oil – (the elephants play a role in the germination of the Moabi tree through their digestive processes) in their forest. Other communities have understood, through sensitisation by ZSL, that continued poaching will lead to the extinction of elephants and they must protect them so that their children will also have a chance to experience them in the future.

The addition of the ExCiteS project in communities has encouraged community members to take the reporting of poaching, poaching camps and illegal trafficking of animals into their own hands. The anonymity of the project ensures that community members feel more confident about reporting instances of poaching as well as documenting sightings of live animals in the forest. For community members, the opportunity to take ownership of documenting animal related activities in their communities, both illegal and legal, imbues the community with a sense of power that they have never before experienced, and has encouraged them to take an active role in reporting. The Baka community of Bosso village have reported feeling more useful in society and have become more involved in the fight against poaching through reporting on events related to hunting in their community. The communities have also requested the ability to use the system to collect additional information on wildlife and other resources without the prompting of the project team. This we see as a big step in the ownership of the project by the communities. Additionally, communities continue to report to ZSL through the community surveillance network (CSN), and have started to actively call the CSN phone when they are in the presence of poachers.

ZSL continues to work with MINFOF to increase response rates to reported incidents, however this continues to move forward at a slow pace. Issues of access to transport, the location of Ecoguards when reports come in as well as continued issues of lack of mobile phone network connectivity when reports are made by community members, hamper response rates. ZSL is in the process of forming and training a rapid response unit that will have more direct access to data received from both the ExCiteS and CSN networks.

Outcome Indicator 2 – Increase in arrests for wildlife trafficking offences and seizures of illegal wildlife products by at least 40% (<5 arrests in 2015 to date) by end year 2

Based upon ZSL internal records relating to trafficking offences (i.e. the unlawful movement of IWT product), the trajectory of arrest is shown in Table 4.

Table 4. IWT-related arrests within the project sphere

	April 2016 – March 2017	April 2017 – March 2018
Arrests for trafficking	3	8
Seizures of illegal wildlife products or trafficking related crime (excluding bushmeat seizures and SMART data)	4 (including 20 kilos of pangolin scales, and 4 firearms)	3 (including 460 kg of ivory, 1 kg of pangolin scales and 15 firearms)

This represents an increase of above 40% for both indicator categories. Obtaining baseline data for these metrics from prior to the project period proved to be unreliable so we only have the data from the two years of the project. In theory, arrests should increase as enforcement becomes more effective and then decrease, over time we assume, as poaching activity declines. We believe we are still in the phase in which arrests are increasing.

Outcome Indicator 3 - At least 40% increase in successful prosecutions of IWT cases with appropriate sentencing in accordance with Cameroonian law by end year 2.

This Outcome Indicator was not fully achieved. Based upon information recorded by ZSL through the MINFOF Cellule Juridique, the trajectory of prosecutions is presented in Table 5, with no measurable change. There was no significant difference from the baseline. Significant change in the number of prosecutions and successful prosecutions in the region will likely take considerable time to occur and only when wildlife time is viewed in a more serious fashion and cases are built and followed more professionally by law enforcement authorities, both things that ZSL is focused on influencing improvements. However, the number of prosecutions alone may not be an adequate indicator and in hindsight we recognise that perhaps the scale of the cases should be considered. The two prosecutions in Yr 2 are related to two big (for Cameroon) ivory seizures and high level traffickers in contrast to the less significant cases in Yr1 of the project. Corruption and complicity remains an ongoing challenge to successful prosecutions. This project has helped raise awareness among the judiciary and wildlife authorities about wildlife crime and the necessity of appropriate prosecution and sentencing. The project has also helped bring international attention to illegal wildlife trade within the area and made local authorities aware that the world is watching. *[N.B. On 3/7/18 the one of the ongoing cases from Yr 2 was concluded with the sentencing of two individuals for the ivory trafficking incident in December 2017 which comprised the largest ivory seizure in Cameroon].*

Table 5: Prosecutions in the project sphere of influence over the project period

	April 2016 – March 2017	April 2017 – March 2018
Successful Prosecutions	2	0
Significant cases still ongoing	2	2

Outcome Indicator 4. At least 40% decrease in incidents of poaching of elephants and other trafficked species in and around the southern Dja landscape by end year 2

In the Southern Sector, the number of people encountered and arrested dropped from 19 (year 1) to 4 (year 2) after a series of direct confrontation between rangers and poaching gangs, a decrease greater

than 40%. The number of firearms seized dropped from 8 (year 1) to 4 (year 2). No fresh carcasses were found during the last 2 years. These trends are encouraging. However, this specific indicator, poaching incidents (both documented and undocumented), remains a challenging indicator to monitor in a comprehensive and robust manner. Bushmeat hunting and IWT-related poaching continue in the region. However, anecdotal reports suggest that increased awareness and anti-poaching activities supported by this project, particularly increased patrolling, have helped shift commercial poaching towards other areas.

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

Impact: A significant reduction in illegal wildlife trade and its impact on elephants and other trafficked species, and poverty reduced in Cameroon

The project has helped diminish the illegal wildlife trade through providing a mechanism by which local communities could report wildlife crime (Outcome Indicator 1 – Communities Empowered), arrests and seizures of illegal wildlife are increased from baseline levels (Outcome Indicator 2; >40%) for the target region, and prosecutions have increased (Outcome Indicator 3; though less than 40%). Though poaching incidents appear to have been decreased in certain areas within the Dja Faunal Reserve (Outcome Indicator 4), due, perhaps, to increased patrols by ecoguards and more seizures being made in the broader area, it remains challenging to assign a percentage change in incidents in the Southern Dja landscape. One of the confounding factors is that Djoum, the major town in the southern Dja landscape, is a major regional hub for the transport of illegal wildlife parts, including ivory. Thus, a change in the number of seizures cannot necessarily be associated with a change in the number of poaching incidents in the local area. Taken together, this body of work does strongly suggest that this project has improved the situation for wildlife and people in the southern Dja landscape by helping to disrupt the local IWT networks and activities, by empowering local communities and providing them with additional livelihood opportunities, increasing patrolling of protected areas, and strengthening the Conservation Service in the landscape through training and substantive support.

4. Monitoring of assumptions

Assumption 1: Government continues to support international efforts to address IWT

MINFOF, Customs, Gendarmes, police, and the Judiciary have all attended workshops and continue to state support for efforts to stem IWT. The degree to which this is demonstrated by the actions of various sectors and individuals varies considerably, but the formal stance is clear government support for reducing IWT. Considering this formal stance, the reality is that, at a regional level, the extent to which authorities are implicated and/or corruptible is considerable. The current case (presently sub judice) involving a high ranking military official trafficking ivory, has been the subject of intense scrutiny and pressure from international entities, and yet the prima facie evidence that the officer was arrested *en flagrant delit*, committing what amounts to a felony, has failed to yield any charges against him. There appears to remain some nonchalance on the part of the government in this vein, which is a sentiment that saps frontline morale and has a wide effect on law enforcement on the ground. ZSL has been part of an NGO consortium to work with the British High Commission, European Union, UNESCO, US Embassy and other influential entities to exert pressure on the government to prosecute this case in an appropriate fashion.

Assumption 2: Empowerment of local communities contributes to reduced incidence of wildlife crime in SE Cameroon

Creation of VSLAs in target communities and development of associated activities such as enhancement of NTFPs value chains, are giving community members an alternative to improve their well-being thus may contribute to reduce the pressure on wildlife fauna. The new saving system has been highly appreciated by some communities' members and is being uptake by other villagers. Training sessions on NTFP value chains and a group sales, highlighted to the participants the importance to evolve together to benefit more from current activities. If people realise that they could gain more by just better managing

natural resources around them (NTFPs), then we assume that they will take part of protecting these resources, thereby protecting wildlife. Also, we assume that the participation of at least 50% of women will increase the impact of the change in behaviour because “women are more protective and they think more about tomorrow and the future generations” (Brouwer, M: Securing women’s rights is essential for forest preservation. Women’s rights, 2016). CSN/ExCiteS provides community members with secure methods for monitoring and reporting IWT information. They are well-informed of the program in advance and support and engagement is good so far. Direct participation in IWT by community members is not an activity generally discussed with outsiders. Attributing reduction in participating in IWT by community members is inherently challenging for this reason but anecdotally we see and hear evidence to support this assumption.

Assumption 3: Strengthening law enforcement processes leads to a reduction in incidence of wildlife crime

The concept of identifying needs and providing core skills training to MINFOF and other agencies is clearly beneficial. There is a direct link, confirmed by the officers themselves, to the credible training and support provided by ZSL, to both the seizures executed by the anti-trafficking team at Yaoundé (despite their subsequent suspension) and by the proactively-minded MINFOF agents at Djoum who made the two ivory seizures. The training provided to MINFOF agents in the management and presentation of documentary, physical and personal evidence was instrumental in ensuring a suitable level of proof was available to the judiciary in their most recent major seizure cases.

Assumption 4: Incentives offered through ExCites, VSLAs and improved NTFP value chains are sufficient to ensure long term community participation in efforts to fight IWT

Local communities are key contributors in the fight against IWT because they know who is involved in IWT and the patterns of wildlife crime. Community members need to perceive more benefit from non-IWT activities so as to dissuade them from participating in and supporting IWT. The additional income from ExCiteS, VSLAs and improved NTFP value chains should help motivate people not to engage in IWT and the anecdotal evidence we receive continues to support this assumption.

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

VSLAs and NTFPs are aimed at developing sustainable livelihoods within local communities affected by IWT and to give them an alternative to poaching. Enhanced incomes and savings of participating local communities and improved attitudes towards diminished activity in IWT in this project show positive trends in this regard. Much of our law enforcement work is aimed at strengthening the knowledge, processes, and effectiveness of law enforcement in securing evidence for cases, the judiciary for being familiar with wildlife laws and acting accordingly, and well-coordinated prosecution from arrests to appropriate sentencing. Cameroon is a signatory to the London declaration and the Kasane Statement and this project supports the following commitments:

- London Conference Declaration: X, XI, XII, XIII, XV, XVII, XIX, XX
- Kasane Statement: 9, 12, 13

6. Impact on species in focus

Our assumption is that by improving the quality and quantity of wildlife law enforcement inside and outside of the reserve, empowering communities to help manage their natural resources, and provide alternatives to local people, we will help make the Dja Biosphere Reserve and surrounding forestry management units refugia for threatened and exploited wildlife species. Species of particular concern are forest elephant, giant pangolin, gorilla, chimpanzee, leopard, arboreal primates, and larger antelope species, such as bongo and sitatunga. Although some wildlife monitoring has occurred within the region, in the past it has been relatively unstandardized and of questionable quality. ZSL has recently started to

standardize wildlife monitoring throughout the DBR landscape and we are now measuring wildlife population trends with more confidence in the near future. Direct attribution of activities of this project on the trajectory of focal species populations is difficult, at best, and would require an expanded research program with multiple controls and years of study to be able to assess attribution with statistical rigor. That being said, we are confident in our assumption that the actions focused on in this project are setting the foundation for improvements in the status of wildlife in the target region. We have observed ecoguards (supported by this project) conducting more active patrolling and carrying out more arrests, with a decline in encounters with and arrest of poachers within the patrolled zones (Output 2, Indicator 1.3, 1.4).

7. Project support to poverty alleviation

Local Baka and Bantu communities around the border of the Dja Biosphere Reserve are the direct beneficiaries of reduced IWT activity in the region. Though some individuals may have financial gain from being involved in IWT networks, the overall community will suffer from reduced and unpredictable resources and an increase in social ills and insecurity. The implementation of VSLAs contributes to developing a novel savings culture to traditional communities and facilitate access to small loans to members of communities with low income. The VSLAs provide a flexible way of accessing savings that is adapted to irregular incomes (Output 1, Indicator 2.3) and income savings of those participating have improved through this project. Reduction in poaching and IWT will directly help maintain more resilient natural ecosystems and faunas such that natural resources that local people depend upon for their survival and livelihoods will continue to be available, abundant, and reliable. IWT is rapidly destroying local vertebrate faunas that, when gone, will have profound impacts on forest regeneration, plant resources, and the availability of protein for local consumption.

To illustrate how the project has alleviated poverty within target communities, within the first six VSLA groups, five completed the first annual saving cycle and have restarted with a new one. The total number of members trained and participating in the ten groups is 250 with 108 men and 142 women (56.8% women) (Indicator 2.2). The updated savings for the 1st cycle with the new groups is 2,370,750 CFA with 772,500 CFA generating 10% interest to be redistributed at the end of the cycle to all the members (Indicator 2.3; Table 1). This is considerably greater income that was available to these communities annually prior to the initiation of the project.

8. Consideration of gender equality issues

All the created VSLA groups have started savings that can benefit families and both genders. The VSLAs count 152 members with 86 (56.6%) being women (Activity 1.6, 1.7). VSLA and NTFP projects are expected to benefit women and men in roughly equal proportions given this membership ratio (Activity 1.6, 1.11). The new approach to saving introduced through VSLAs has empowered women to manage their resources more independently and prudently than before, allowing them to plan ahead better, save for future investments, have a buffer for difficult times, and to improve their livelihoods and well-being. VSLAs and NTFPs are an exceptionally good way to target resources towards improving the lives of women in local communities in the conservation landscapes where we work as they give the women control, autonomy, and decision-making power over their own income and resources.

9. Lessons learnt

- The use of open source tools such as SMART, continuous training (because there is high turnover government personnel), supported by effective equipment procurement and follow-up systems promote accountability and transparency. This makes the staff at each level feel part of the

process. It is critical to follow up on funding and materiel delivery to ensure the right gear gets into the hands of the right people at the right time.

- The general slowness or lack of response of some wildlife authorities to intelligence tips from the communities causes a loss of motivation by participating community members. Therefore, the messaging of field teams to communities must be carefully considered and accurate, highlighting the importance of their contributions to higher-level interventions to reducing IWT.
- We have a confidential 'map' of trusted and less trusted individuals and organizations with whom we should continue to engage with or not, if we have a choice. It is critical to monitor such relationships and manage them well so as not to shut doors but also so as to have maximum impacts from interventions and investments.
- Careful consideration of where actions and investments can have the greatest impact is essential on a regular basis. Risks for our staff and partners associated with different interventions are also critical to evaluate as some of the IWT actors are dangerous and influential.
- Increased attention in a sector of the reserve or within a FMU has the effect of shifting poaching activity out of that area at least for a time, however without effective law enforcement across the region we are likely only shifting poaching elsewhere. For this reason we must, and are, taking a broader landscape approach to our work and implementing similar activities throughout the Dja Biosphere Reserve, neighboring forest concessions and beginning to work in neighboring protected areas
- Local communities, in general, have great interest in seeing IWT activity diminished or eradicated as they perceive its detrimental effects on their livelihoods, well-being, and security.
- Developing and supporting VSLAs in Baka versus Bantu communities is, in general, a more complicated and lengthy process for reasons associated with their social systems that we are still trying to fully understand.
- The provision of core policing skills is essential, especially to MINFOF agents who are sworn in as police judiciaire. There is little official training provided to them, and their concept of requirements for providing evidence 'beyond reasonable doubt' are often non-existent. Without basic skills, no progress will ever be made, and this should be a priority.
- Corruption, ineptitude, lackadaisical attitudes and nonchalance are elements which exist in law enforcement middle and upper-management. This attitude is responsible for stymying the benefits of training and support. Often, provision of ideas, skills, protocols and methods to ensure more professional and capable law enforcement agents go against the ulterior motives held by some senior officials. In rare instances (*cf* seizures of ivory in Djoum) when proactive and dedicated agents take the initiative, they are subjected to threats, disciplinary action (one MINFOF officer was threatened with disciplinary action for having the audacity to arrest and handcuff a senior military official) and difficult working conditions. Despite difficulties and obstacles, there exist many honourable, dedicated and professional law enforcement agents. The MINFOF officers who made the larger seizure in Djoum in December 2017 were subjected to offers of very substantial bribes which, in the interests of maintaining their integrity and moral code, refused.
- Monitoring and follow-up of IWT court cases is incredibly difficult. There is no central database or agency, and cases are inconsistently dealt with in regional court rooms. To attend each court hearing requires substantial personnel hours, logistics and finance, often to find that the case

would be adjourned. There is an evident tendency for cases (especially those which have been subject to corrupt influence) to be adjourned continuously over a period of months, if not years, and then to peter out quietly with no fanfare. The Cellule Juridique at MINFOF has no capacity to monitor all cases, and, therefore, selects only those matters which it deems a priority.

- Though corruption is rife and many government staff are demotivated, we can make significant achievements by investing in the right people over a long period of time as illustrated by the recent ivory seizures. These people need substantive and long-term support to ensure they remain motivated and do not feel at risk.

Challenges of implementing the grant.

The TRIDOM landscape is large and poorly served by public transport networks, meaning that all trips to implement field activities require considerable planning and investment of time and resources. Likewise, mobile phone networks are inconsistent, so extra provision needs to be made in the form of satellite phones or Garmin In Reach devices to ensure staff can remain in contact with the project office. Staff security in remote locations on bad roads is of concern, and this is exacerbated when staff come to be associated with law enforcement activities carried out by government agencies due to our close and collaborative working relationship.

Communities in the landscape are poor, with little produced above subsistence level. This fact leads to very high expectations being created as soon as any approach is made which offers the prospect of even modest benefits. Staff need to be carefully trained not to appear to make promises that cannot be fulfilled. Although the forested landscape includes several protected areas, including the WHS Dja Biosphere Reserve, and is home to a diverse fauna of large mammals including forest elephants, great apes and bongo, indications are that poaching is intense and that some areas of the TRIDOM are main transit routes for the Illegal Wildlife Trade from Gabon and the Republic of Congo. This creates huge pressure not only on the wildlife but on law enforcement agencies who ZSL supports and who are subject to intimidation and attempted bribery.

9.1 Monitoring and evaluation

For keeping track of progress and estimating impacts, we monitored indicators as outlined in the logframe. These were tracked using a variety of data and information sources, some generated directly by the project and some from external sources. The logframe identified each source of information and the frequency they needed to be monitored. Information used included that generated by the project (e.g. monthly and annual reports, attitudinal survey, household surveys, reports of training courses, minutes of focus groups, VSLA savings books on quarterly basis) and external sources (e.g. national reports to CITES, monitoring reports from NGOs, MINFOF based on the frequency of their dissemination, media reports, reports from police cases, court proceedings etc. to be collated and assessed on bi-annual basis). For this IWT effort, based on the logframe indicators, we monitored the following strong metrics and adaptively managed the project on the basis of progress and trends in each:

Direct action against poaching of wildlife

- Percent area of reserve covered by patrols on a regular basis
- Frequency and quality of SMART-based patrol reports being generated across the reserve
- Number of seizures of arms, ammunitions, snares, bushmeat, ivory, pangolin scales
- Number of arrests of poachers

Reducing support and engagement with IWT among local communities

- Number of communities and people adopting VSLA and NTFP projects
- Amount of savings, loans, income generated by alternative income generation schemes
- Number of community surveillance networks reports over time

- Attitudinal shifts from baseline of local people regarding wildlife and IWT

Strengthening law enforcement and judiciary to enforce wildlife laws and deter IWT actions

- Number of effectively prosecuted IWT cases
- Number of IWT law training participants (indirect)
- Gaining knowledge of the bigger picture of the IWT network within the region (actors, routes, networks, other details)

9.2 Actions taken in response to annual report reviews

The three major points in the annual report review were addressed:

- (1) The concerns regarding light sentencing and delays in judicial processes were viewed as valid and, while not within the control/scope of the project, it was thought to be helpful if these concerns were described in more detail. Throughout Cameroon, wildlife crime continues to be viewed as a less than serious offense by law enforcement authorities and the judiciary. There is also considerable corruption and interventions by influential, high-level, and powerful individuals in cases to make them go away or be processed in a minimal way. This is the reality. We are focusing on working with the judiciary in hotspot areas of wildlife crime. We find that awareness raising and shining a light on key cases is slowly making a difference.
- (2) *The VSLA scheme has the potential to be a significant agent for change and an assessment of the impact of this scheme would be of great value and interest as an observable output.* The VSLA scheme has been received with great success in the targeted communities, with end of project savings at fcfa 2,370,750. The savings have been used for anything from processing of birth certificates, establishment of small businesses, further investment in NTFP activities, to school fees, purchase of household needs and paying for medical costs. In addition to being an opportunity for the communities to save and increase their economic viability, they have become a platform from which ZSL has conducted sensitisation on wildlife laws, the importance of wildlife protection and in certain communities facilitated the establishment of ExCiteS and CSN networks. ZSL continues to use the VSLAs as the foundation for NTFP activities and income generating activities. While there have been stumbling blocks, low levels of education, internal community trust levels and difficulties in understanding the long-term benefits (especially in Baka communities) ZSL Cameroon has looked to the successes of the Darwin funded community engagement project in Lake Ossa (currently with 19 operational VSLAs in their 4th cycle), applying lessons learned and successful strategies from that project to overcome the hurdles posed by the communities in the Dja. A synopsis report has been included in the Annexes (Annex 4, Doc 21).
- (3) The reviewer thought that information on managing complex projects such as this is always of value to other practitioners and reflecting on this is also a useful end of project activity. The Lessons Learnt section details a number of lessons and rules of thumb that can guide the approach of future project managers.

10. Other comments on achievements not covered elsewhere

Our project methods were refined regularly as we adapted novel and effective ways to achieve outcomes despite real challenges presented by pervasive and high levels of corruption, large sums of IWT money co-opting potential partners, dangerous security situations presented by IWT organized crime cartels and networks, remote and difficult working conditions, and unpredictable governance of protected areas among others. We made real progress in some areas and are starting to see precursors of a sea change in attitudes and action throughout the landscape. There is no silver bullet in reducing IWT, one has to work

on many fronts at the same time and be nimble to jump on opportunities when they arise or back away from dead ends or dangerous activities when necessary. Project staff face many risks. ZSL has a duty of care to staff and partners and has done what it can to adequately mitigate risk through first aid training, conflict resolution and human rights training, providing adequate first aid and communications tools, FPIC processes, implementing safe transport policies, and employing responsible and secure approaches to IWT surveillance and law enforcement support activities.

Despite some personnel changes during the project period, the internal ZSL Law Enforcement capacity has grown, with a UK-based pan-African Law Enforcement Advisor, who is a former Scotland Yard detective with a background in complex investigations and intelligence gathering, and a Cameroon-based Law Enforcement officer who takes responsibility for day-to-day management of law enforcement and CWT (counter wildlife trafficking) activities. The capability of ZSL to provide in-house police and law enforcement training, as well as longer-term remote support and guidance, means that the effectiveness of our work and the sustainability of our relationships (both existing and new) with various law enforcement actors, has been substantially augmented.

This grant has enabled ZSL to secure significant additional funding for the landscape to scale up our efforts to tackle IWT in the region including €2 million from the EU's ECOFAC VI programme and \$300,000 from UNESCO, demonstrating the great value of the IWT Challenge Fund for leveraging additional funds.

11. Sustainability and legacy

Our community projects, such as VSLAs, NTFPS, and ExCiteS/CSN, are meant to empower the participating communities to take over the activities without outside support over time and our experience elsewhere in Cameroon demonstrate that this is achievable but unlikely within the time frame of a 2 year project. For this reason we are committed to maintain our support for these communities into the future and we have secured some funds to ensure this can continue. Within the protected area, the SMART reports are generated by DBR staff themselves who are gradually taking ownership of the approach to ensure sustainability and continuity in the process. Our SMART work in the DBR is now being heavily promoted in the other parts of the TRIDOM (logging concessions, Mengame Wildlife Sanctuary and Kom National Park) as well as in Deng Deng National Park, and we continue to lobby the Cameroon Forest Ministry to assign a focal point whose main role will be to oversee long-term use of the system. They have said this week that they will assign a focal point for ZSL's forestry and other work. ZSL consistently highlights the Dja IWT program in various fora in country, such as the conservation community meetings, meeting with EU and UNESCO partners, and in a range of workshops and meetings with different government and diplomatic entities. The funds have helped us leverage significant additional funds for the Dja for at least a further 4 years which will enable us to maintain the required support and ensure the legacy of the project.

12. IWT Challenge Fund Identity

In all ZSL communications about our conservation work around the Dja Biosphere Reserve we mention the IWT Challenge Fund and its UK Government sponsors as supporters of the work. We have presented and continue to share project results with the British High Commission here in Cameroon, who, subsequently, can share project achievements. It is a distinct part of a larger program of IWT-related work in the region. UK AID IWT Challenge Fund branding has been conveyed on all presentations to stakeholders, government partners, and conservation assemblies. Relevant logos are used in presentations, on reports, and on equipment. ZSL Africa has communicates project achievements through social media venues, such as Twitter.

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.

We have gone from 30% coverage (% patrol cover is based on the proportion of 25 km² grid cells through which a patrol passed at least once) to 93% coverage over the course of this grant. To date, 132 ecoguards have been equipped, trained and are capable of carrying SMART-based anti-poaching patrols with minimal supervision required. SMART patrols have been extended to all four sectors with head of sectors confidently evaluating patrol data, cleaning data, and producing useful reports. In addition, ZSL has created an IWT rapid response squad and is supporting river-based patrols along the DBR boundary, the Dja River, in order to improve the coverage and the mobility of the rangers. A river post on the southern boundary has been established to facilitate rapid response, act as a staging area for patrols, and function as a deterrent to poachers.

With 130 law enforcement agents from 4 different agencies receiving bespoke training direct from the ZSL Law Enforcement team, the impact is beginning to become evident. In December 2017, a small team of MINFOF officers based in Djoum, acquired intelligence indicating the movement of a huge amount of ivory. Implementing methods learnt during their training, they initiated an operation which ultimately led to the seizure of over 400kg of ivory, and three arrests, including a well-known ivory poaching facilitator, and a military official. The agents decried all attempts to bribe them and threats and stood their ground. The same team, in May 2018, again effected an intelligence-led operation against a major ivory trafficker, seizing almost 200kg of ivory. ZSL was instrumental in supporting these cases with investigative guidance and logistical support, assisting in safe re-location of the contraband to a secure location in the capital city.

[NB. On 3/7/18 Pekassa and Mvomo, the 2 defendants in the Djoum ivory seizure case from December 2017 were formally sentenced to 6 months imprisonment (although time is already served) and a 67,000,000 FCFA fine. They must pay 3.6 million FCFA immediately otherwise they remain behind bars for a further 2 years. Whilst 6 months imprisonment is a disappointing sentence, the fine is significant and sends out a strong message to those involved in wildlife crime. An additional significant result related to this incident is the engagement of diplomatic missions in this issue. We have established strong relationships with the British High Commission, US Embassy and EU delegation who have followed the case closely and continued to encourage the Cameroonian authorities. We see this as an invaluable group to help us fight IWT in Cameroon].

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				
Monitoring and Evaluation				

Others (see below)				
TOTAL				

Staff employed (Name and position)	Cost (£)
Simeon Eyebe (Community Coordinator)	
Christian Plowman (Law Enforcement Advisor)	
Fanny Djomkam (Community Conservation Officer)	
Benjamon Mounoumek Minge (Health Safety and Logistics Officer)	
Oliver Fankem (Research, Monitoring and Surveillance Coordinator)	
Mado Bata (Research, Monitoring and Surveillance Officer)	
Vicky Laure Fomete (Finance and Administration Manager)	
Ali Sabou (Driver)	
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 (£)
TOTAL	

Other items – description <i>Please provide a detailed breakdown for any single item over £1000</i>	Other items – cost (£)
Fuel and Vehicle maintenance	
Vehicle insurance & taxes	
Legal Consultant	
NTFP Value chain development trainers	
NTFP value chain training workshops	
DBR coordination costs	
Kit for DBR	
DBR conservation service mobilisation cost	
Community Surveillance Networks/VSLAs (Community meetings, outreach and incentives)	
Household surveys and associated costs	
Fieldwork travel and subsistence	

Training workshop for MINFOF agents and gendarmes on application of laws related to IWT and judiciary on prosecutions	
Communication (internet/phone) (30%)	
Materials to support community interventions (NFTP processing tools, VSLA resource materials etc.)	
Media programmes and print journalism costs	
Overheads	
TOTAL	

14.2 Additional funds or in-kind contributions secured

Source of funding for project lifetime	Total (£)
European Union (received August 2017)	
UNESCO (CAWFI) (2017 – 2019)	
Save the Elephants	
Rufford	
US Fish and Wildlife Service (final year of grant + 6 month extension)	
IUCN Save our Species	
Zoological Society of London (in-kind support to salaries)	
Segre Foundation (2017 – 2019)	
Ministère des Forêts et de la Faune de la République du Cameroun (MINFOF)	
US Fish and Wildlife Service (salary contribution for Law Enforcement)	
TOTAL	

Source of funding for additional work after project lifetime	Total (£)
European Union (2017 – 2021)	
UNESCO (2017 – 2019)	
Segre Foundation (2017 – 2019)	
Save the Elephants (2018)	
Zoological Society of London (in-kind support to salaries)	
TOTAL	

14.3 Value for Money

Procurement options for high quality, low cost field equipment, electronic devices, and other project items are limited within country, but we sought to get quality gear at modest prices wherever we could. Buying the cheapest field gear, for example, will increase replacement costs as the gear does not hold up well in the tough field conditions. ZSL and in-country partners have also established infrastructure and logistical support, meaning operating costs are kept to a minimum and the majority of the funds are channelled to activities on the ground. The project is working in an area in which ZSL and other partners have significant existing experience and engaged in complementary activities on site-based protection which means that targeted investment will have a significant impact. Support from the IWT challenge fund has acted as a catalyst for further action leveraging additional funds for broader-scale and longer-term

efforts to address IWT in the region. The focus of the project activities is the southeast region of Cameroon, but in disrupting trans-boundary trafficking networks, linked to a global trade the impact will be felt far beyond the region of direct intervention. The ongoing informal support from collaborators that has been in evidence throughout the project will help to ensure success over the project life and beyond. This project has delivered conservation and livelihood goals in an area currently under funded and under resourced by the Cameroon government, bridging a gap until these circumstances change. By investing in proven self-help financial services and sustainable enterprise models, we have helped ensure that communities can continue to benefit from the project long afterwards: >90% of VSLAs continue 5 years after establishment, and are replicated organically through a Village Agent model.

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
Impact: A significant reduction in illegal wildlife trade and its impact on elephants and other trafficked species, and poverty reduced in Cameroon			
<p>Outcome: Reduced poaching of elephants and other trafficked species in the southern Dja landscape of Cameroon by empowering local communities, reinforcing livelihoods, improved wildlife protection and application of laws relating to wildlife crime in a hotspot for illegal wildlife trade in central Africa – leads to poverty reduction, improved governance and security.</p>	<p>Indicator 1: Communities report improved sense of empowerment in local decision making regarding wildlife crime and a reduction in the negative impacts of IWT affecting them from baseline levels (established by month 6) by end year 2.</p> <p>Indicator 2: Increase in arrests for wildlife trafficking offences and seizures of illegal wildlife products by at least 40% (<5 arrests in 2015 to date) by end year 2.</p> <p>Indicator 3: At least 40% increase in successful prosecutions of IWT cases with appropriate sentencing in accordance with Cameroonian law by end year 2.</p> <p>Indicator 4: At least 40% decrease in incidents of poaching of elephants and other trafficked species in and around the southern Dja landscape by end year 2.</p>	<p>Workshop reports, Internal ZSL reports, Market information data, Household survey data on income and well being</p> <p>Community perception and well-being metrics (baselines established by month 6</p> <p>MINFOF and NGO reports, police statements on trafficking cases, MINFOF database on ivory stock and other seized products</p> <p>ETIS reports and Cameroon government reports to CITES</p>	<p>Government continues to support international efforts to address IWT</p> <p>Empowerment of local communities contributes to reduced incidence of wildlife crime in SE Cameroon</p> <p>Strengthening law enforcement processes leads to a reduction in incidence of wildlife crime</p>

<p>Outputs:</p> <p>1. Output 1: Communities empowered and actively engaged in monitoring and management of natural resources, incentivised through reinforced local livelihoods.</p>	<p>Indicator 1: At least 10 communities utilising mechanisms (CSNs, ExCiteS) to enable them to monitor and report concerns regarding impacts of IWT, natural resource management and enforcement activity by end yr 2.</p> <p>1.1. # incidents IWT related incidents reported by local communities by end yr 2 (from baseline determined at start of project).</p> <p>1.2. # arrests and prosecutions resulting from reports from local communities by end yr 2 (from baseline determined at start of project).</p> <p>1.3. Livelihood, 'well-being' and attitude metrics increase in participating communities by end yr 1 and 2 from baselines determined at the start of the project.</p> <p>Indicator 2. VSLAs established in at least 10 communities with participation of at least 15 people per VSLA of which at least 50% are women. VSLAs are self-sustaining, accruing savings for participants of at least 20,000cfa per annum (based on VSLA average elsewhere in Cameroon) and perceived as</p>	<p>Socioeconomic and attitude survey reports; ExCiteS database and reports; ZSL database on IWT crime reports; police case reports; court records.</p> <p>VSLA meeting reports; VSLA data sheets; attitudinal survey reports.</p> <p>Training schedules and attendance lists; monthly DBR SMART reports on patrol effort, team and individual performance targets, incidence of illegal activities and wildlife sign; police case reports.</p>	<p>Incentives offered through ExCites, VSLAs and improved NTFP value chains are sufficient to ensure long term community participation in efforts to fight IWT</p>
--	--	--	--

	<p>providing an incentive to participate in efforts to address IWT.</p> <p>2.1. # VSLAs established by end yr 1 and 2.</p> <p>2.2. # of community members participating in VSLAs by end year 1 and 2.</p> <p>2.3. Value of savings accrued by participants per annum.</p> <p>2.4. Perception survey metrics (defined in initial phase of project) demonstrate an increase in 'well-being' and attitudes towards IWT issues and law enforcement amongst VSLA members.</p> <p>Indicator 3. Improved value chains for NTFPs developed for producer groups in at least 10 communities leading to increased income by end yr 2 (from baseline determined at start of project) and perceived as providing an incentive to participate in efforts to address IWT.</p> <p>3.1. # NTFP producers trained in improved production techniques.</p> <p>3.2. Income from NTFPs by end yr 1 and 2 compared to baseline at start of project.</p>		
--	--	--	--

	<p>3.3. Perception survey metrics (defined in initial phase of project) demonstrate an increase in 'well-being' and attitudes towards IWT issues and law enforcement amongst community members involved in NTFP value chain.</p> <p>Indicator 4. Communities actively participating in stakeholder platform</p> <p>4.1 # of platform meetings held</p> <p>4.2 Stakeholder groups represented on platform</p> <p>4.3 Minutes of stakeholder meetings</p>		
<p>Output 2. Land managers (Conservation Service and timber company staff) have increased capacity to effectively protect wildlife.</p>	<p>Indicator 1. The DBR conservation service is supported and resourced to implement an effective adaptive management approach to site based protection (SMART approach) in the DBR.</p> <p>1.1. # days training provided to conservation service staff each year.</p> <p>1.2. # days of patrolling per month (target of 20 days/month).</p> <p>1.3. # incidents of poaching of trafficked species by end yr 2</p>	<p>Training schedules and attendance lists; monthly SMART reports from wildlife teams on patrol effort, team and individual performance targets, incidence of illegal activities and wildlife sign; police case reports.</p> <p>Training schedules and attendance lists; police case reports; prosecutor's statements; court records of proceedings and judgements; media reports.</p>	

	<p>(baseline determined at start of project).</p> <p>1.4. # of arrests for IWT related incidents (poaching, possession/transportation of products etc; baseline determined at start of project).</p> <p>Indicator 2 Timber company wildlife protection teams trained and supported to implement an effective adaptive management approach to site based wildlife protection (SMART approach) in timber concessions.</p> <p>2.1. # days training provided to timber company staff each year (baseline = 0).</p> <p>2.2. # days of patrolling per month (baseline = 0).</p> <p>2.3. # incidents of poaching of trafficked species by end yr 2 (baseline determined at start of project).</p> <p>2.4. # of arrests for IWT related incidents (poaching, possession/transportation of products etc; baseline determined at start of project).</p>		
--	---	--	--

<p>Output 3. Enforcement agents, prosecutors and court house staff trained and supported in the implementation of laws relating to wildlife crime.</p>	<p>Indicator 1. At least 16 MINFOF agents, 15 law enforcement officers (gendarmes/police) and 6 judicial agents, receive training in the proper application of wildlife laws tailored to their specific role.</p> <p>1.1. # of days training provided to enforcement agents each year (baseline = 0).</p> <p>1.2. # cases of IWT crimes that result in arrests by end yr 2 (baseline determined at start of project).</p> <p>1.3. # cases of IWT crimes that result in prosecutions by end yr 2 (baseline determined at start of project).</p>		
<p>Activity 1.1 Participatory consultation with potential villages to identify suitable and willing candidates for involvement in project.</p> <p>Activity 1.2 Socioeconomic and perception surveys to characterise livelihood metrics, develop relevant metrics of 'well-being' and attitudes towards IWT issues and law enforcement.</p> <p>Activity 1.3 Development, in consultation with communities, of ExCiteS data model, PDA icon interface and associated protocols, socialisation of project through community workshops/events, participatory mapping, and mechanism for ongoing communication and reporting between communities and project team established</p> <p>Activity 1.4 Implementation and ongoing support for ExCiteS implementation.</p> <p>Activity 1.5 ExCiteS information integrated into secure database with regular data collection, analysis, monitoring and reporting.</p> <p>Activity 1.6 Training sessions on VSLAs in participating communities.</p> <p>Activity 1.7 Establishment of VSLAs and regular (at least monthly) follow up visits to ensure functioning.</p> <p>Activity 1.8 Analysis of NTFP production in communities and identification of ways to enhance values (e.g. production, processing, storage techniques etc</p> <p>Activity 1.9 Training of NTFP producer groups on improved production and equitable market access mechanisms and implementation of NTFP value chain enhancement activities.</p>			

Activity 1.10 Ongoing support to communities for VSLA uptake and function, NTFP production enhancements and encourage communication for anonymously-reported IWT information via secure phone number.

Activity 1.11 Establish ToR for multi-stakeholder platform and hold regular (at least 6 monthly) meetings with all stakeholders.

Activity 2.1. Needs assessment for improved site based protection of southern sector of the DBR and SFID-Djoum timber concessions and SMART operationalization including; identification of equipment and other resource requirements, training needs, refinement of existing SMART data model and data collection sequence. Establishing implementation plans.

Activity 2.2 Equipment sourced, SMART training delivered to DBR senior management and eco-guards and SMART roll-out commenced.

Activity 2.3. Training on SMART implementation to timber company wildlife teams and roll-out commenced

Activity 2.4. Ongoing support by ZSL SMART technical advisor to DBR and timber companies, including monthly site visit, evaluation and review workshops every 6 months.

Activity 3.1 Training materials developed in consultation with relevant agencies. Materials tailored to knowledge and roles of each agency and participants.

Activity 3.2 Training courses delivered to enforcement agents, prosecutors and court house staff (3 per year).

Activity 3.3 Training assessments conducted before and after training to assess participant knowledge and understanding and obtain feedback. Information to be used to adapt future sessions and determine further training requirements.

Activity 3.4 Follow up training courses delivered based on evaluation and feedback.

Activity 3.5 ZSL Law enforcement advisor provides ongoing support for case follow up and communicating progress of court cases and incidents of wildlife crime.

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: A significant reduction in illegal wildlife trade and its impact on elephants and other trafficked species, and poverty reduced in Cameroon</p>		<p>The project’s support has brought about a dramatic increase in the coverage and professionalism of ecoguard patrols within the Dja Faunal Reserve and several of the adjacent forestry management units. This enhanced patrolling has resulted in more arrests of poachers and, we believe, an overall shifting of IWT activities away from the Reserve. Our engagement with communities has provided opportunities for income generation from non-timber forest products as an alternative to IWT activities. The VSLAs now provide a means for local people to save and manage funds, thus enhancing their quality of life.</p>
<p>Outcome: Reduced poaching of elephants and other trafficked species in the southern Dja landscape of Cameroon by empowering local communities, reinforcing livelihoods, improved wildlife protection and application of laws relating to wildlife crime in a hotspot for illegal wildlife trade in central Africa – leads to poverty reduction, improved governance and security.</p>	<p>Indicator 1: Communities report improved sense of empowerment in local decision making regarding wildlife crime and a reduction in the negative impacts of IWT affecting them from baseline levels (established by month 6) by end year 2.</p> <p>Indicator 2: Increase in arrests for wildlife trafficking offences and seizures of illegal wildlife products by at least 40 % (<5 arrests in 2015 to date) by end year 2.</p> <p>Indicator 3: At least 40% increase in successful prosecutions of IWT cases with appropriate sentencing in accordance with Cameroonian law by end year 2.</p> <p>Indicator 4: At least 40% decrease in incidents of poaching of elephants and other trafficked</p>	<p>Indicator 1. For the baseline survey, 128 people were interviewed (67 men and 61 women) in January 2017 (Annex 4, Doc 5, 6). The second survey took place in November 2017 and involved 188 people (105 men and 83 women). Also, 12 focus groups were held with 117 participants (64 males and 53 female). The total number of members trained and participating in the ten groups is 250 with 108 men and 142 women (56.8% women) (Activity 1.6). The updated savings for the 1st cycle with the new groups is 2,370,750 CFA with 772,500 CFA generating 10% interests to be redistributed at the end of the cycle to all the members (Table 1). A total of four training NTFP sessions have been organised with a cumulative number of participants of 437 (240 men and 197 women) (Annex 4, Doc 1, 2). At the end of the training sessions, a group sale was organised in each village. The only product available was the djansang (the bush mango and the moabi did not produce this season. Table 2 recaps the quantities produced this year. The local buying price of the djansang was 1,000 CFA, so that the people who wait for the grouped sales gain more than people who sold before (Activity 1.9). Six multi-stakeholder platforms were held in Abong-Mbang, Sangmelima and Djoum with the aims to build common strategies to efficiently fight against IWT and associated trade; raising awareness on current issues related to wildlife crime; strengthening communication strategies that better involve local communities and discuss the impact of socio-economic implemented activities on the</p>

	<p>species in and around the southern Dja landscape by end year 2.</p>	<p>conservation issues (Activity 1.11). The platform meetings involved the communities' members, the administration in charge of forest and wildlife (MINFOF), the civil authorities, the judiciary authorities, local NGOs and defence forces. The platforms took place every three months.</p> <p>Indicator 2. Based upon ZSL internal records relating to trafficking offences (i.e. the unlawful movement of IWT product), the trajectory of arrest is shown in Table 6. This represents an increase of above 40% for both indicator categories.</p> <p>Indicator 3. Based upon information recorded by ZSL through the MINFOF Cellule Juridique, the trajectory of prosecutions is presented in Table 5, with no measurable change.</p> <p>Indicator 4. Patrolling by ecoguards in the DBR in 2017 the number of people encountered and arrested dropped from 19 (year 1) to 4 (year 2) after a series of direct confrontation between rangers and poaching gangs, a decrease greater than 40%. The number of firearms seized dropped from 8 (year 1) to 4 (year 2). No fresh carcasses were found during the last 2 years. Bushmeat hunting and IWT-related poaching continue in the region. However, anecdotal reports suggest that increased awareness and anti-poaching activities supported by this project, particularly increased patrolling, have helped shift commercial poaching more towards other areas.</p>
<p>Output 1. Communities empowered and actively engaged in monitoring and management of natural resources, incentivised through reinforced local livelihoods.</p>	<p>Indicator 1. At least 10 communities utilising mechanisms (CSNs, ExCiteS) to enable them to monitor and report concerns regarding impacts of IWT, natural resource management and enforcement activity by end yr 2.</p> <p>1.1. # incidents IWT related incidents reported by local</p>	<p>Indicator 1.1 10 CSN communities (among which 7 involved ExCiteS) have been established with IWT information received on elephants, gorilla, chimpanzee, ivory, bushmeat, and poachers reported. Over 40 IWT incidents were reported by community members (Annex 4, Doc 1, 2).</p> <p>Indicator 1.2 A difficult indicator to track and number is likely low, however, the recent ivory seizures were catalysed by local informants from partner communities.</p>

	<p>communities by end yr 2 (from baseline determined at start of project).</p> <p>1.2. # arrests and prosecutions resulting from reports from local communities by end yr 2 (from baseline determined at start of project).</p> <p>1.3. Livelihood, 'well-being' and attitude metrics increase in participating communities by end yr 1 and 2 from baselines determined at the start of the project.</p> <p>Indicator 2. VSLAs established in at least 10 communities with participation of at least 15 people per VSLA of which at least 50% are women. VSLAs are self-sustaining, accruing savings for participants of at least 20,000cfa per annum (based on VSLA average elsewhere in Cameroon) and perceived as providing an incentive to participate in efforts to address IWT.</p> <p>2.1. # VSLAs established by end yr 1 and 2.</p> <p>2.2. # of community members participating in VSLAs by end year 1 and 2.</p>	<p>Indicator 1.3 There is a slight difference in variation of well-being and attitude indicators from Yr 1 to Yr 2 that is from 9.54 to 12.53/20 for well-being and from 12.62 to 12.01/20 for attitudes</p> <p>Indicator 2.1. 10 VSLAs established and functioning by end of yr 2 (Annex 4, community engagement reports)</p> <p>Indicator 2.2. 250 community members are participating in VSLAs within which 142 (57%) are women and 95 (43%) are from Baka communities</p> <p>Indicator 2.3. 2,370,750 CFA saved since Yr 1 and still ongoing. The average saving per member is around 15,400 CFA and less for Baka communities.</p> <p>Indicator 2.4 Well-being and perception indicators baseline survey were assessed through focus groups and KAP (knowledge, attitude, practices) surveys in January 2017 (Annex 4, Doc 5, 6). Fifteen focus groups were surveyed in 6 villages for a total of 117 participants. A total of 128 (67 males and 61 female) were interviewed. The second survey (based on the same model as the baseline survey) was conducted in November 2017 to assess the impact of ZSL socio-economic activities on the well-being and the KAP. Twelve focus groups were surveyed in 6 villages with a total of 117 participants (64 men, 53 women). The KAP survey involved 188 people (105 men and 83 women). There is a slight difference in variation of well-being and attitude indicators from Yr 1 to Yr 2 that is from 9.54 to 12.53/20 for well-being and from 12.62 to 12.01/20 for attitudes</p> <p>Indicator 3.1 136; 140; 149 and 12 producers assisted respectively to the 4 training sessions on NTFP value chain enhancement</p> <p>Indicator 3.2 94,800 CFA of good quality djansang sold (instead of 79,000 CFA for the same quantity in Year 1) by producers from 5 communities by the end of Yr 2</p>
--	--	--

	<p>2.3. Value of savings accrued by participants per annum.</p> <p>2.4. Perception survey metrics (defined in initial phase of project) demonstrate an increase in 'well-being' and attitudes towards IWT issues and law enforcement amongst VSLA members.</p> <p>Indicator 3. Improved value chains for NTFPs developed for producer groups in at least 10 communities leading to increased income by end yr 2 (from baseline determined at start of project) and perceived as providing an incentive to participate in efforts to address IWT.</p> <p>3.1. # NTFP producers trained in improved production techniques.</p> <p>3.2. Income from NTFPs by end yr 1 and 2 compared to baseline at start of project.</p> <p>3.3. Perception survey metrics (defined in initial phase of project) demonstrate an increase in 'well-being' and attitudes towards IWT issues and law enforcement amongst community members involved in NTFP value chain.</p>	<p>Indicator 3.3 Well-being and perception indicators baseline survey were assessed through focus groups and KAP (knowledge, attitude, practices) surveys in January 2017. Fifteen focus groups were surveyed in 6 villages for a total of 117 participants. A total of 128 (67 males and 61 female) were interviewed. The second survey (based on the same model as the baseline survey) was conducted in November 2017 to assess the impact of ZSL socio-economic activities on the well-being and the KAP. Twelve focus groups were surveyed in 6 villages with a total of 117 participants (64 men, 53 women). The KAP survey involved 188 people (105 men and 83 women). There is a slight difference in variation of well-being and attitude indicators from Yr 1 to Yr 2 that is from 9.54 to 12.53/20 for well-being and from 12.62 to 12.01/20 for attitudes</p> <p>Indicator 4.1 Six multi-stakeholders platforms held within the project period.</p> <p>Indicator 4.2 The different stakeholders were: civil authorities, MINFOF (authorities in charge of forest and wildlife), judiciary authorities, defence forces, local NGO, private sector and communities</p> <p>Indicator 4.3 Multi-stakeholder platform mission reports</p>
--	--	--

	<p>Indicator 4. Communities actively participating in stakeholder platform</p> <p>4.1 # of platform meetings held 4.2 Stakeholder groups represented on platform 4.3 Minutes of stakeholder meetings</p>	
<p>Activity 1.1 Participatory consultation with potential villages to identify suitable and willing candidates for involvement in project.</p>		<p>Ten communities were identified to be partners of the project after consultation meetings and the completion of Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC). These communities are Bi, Ze, Mbouma, Mbomela and Yen which are Bantu villages, and Bosso, Akonetye, Adjab, Ando'o and Odoumou which are Baka villages. Important contacts were established with communities, local law enforcement agents (particularly within MINFOF), NGOs, and forest concessions. An average of 4 meetings per community were held to attain baseline information and gauge attitudes to forest resource use, local wildlife, and poaching and to gain an understanding of local relationships and power dynamics. At least two meetings were held for each community for the establishment of VSLAs as well as training on NTFPs and sensitizations on the CSNs and ExCiteS (Annex 4, Doc 1-6).</p>
<p>Activity 1.2. Socioeconomic and perception surveys to characterise livelihood metrics, develop relevant metrics of 'well-being' and attitudes towards IWT issues and law enforcement.</p>		<p>Well-being and perception indicators baseline survey were assessed through focus groups and KAP (knowledge, attitude, practices) surveys in January 2017. Fifteen focus groups were surveyed in 6 villages for a total of 117 participants. A total of 128 (67 males and 61 female) were interviewed. The second survey (based on the same model as the baseline survey) was conducted in November 2017 to assess the impact of ZSL socio-economic activities on the well-being and the KAP. Twelve focus groups were surveyed in 6 villages with a total of 117 participants (64 men, 53 women). The KAP survey involved 188 people (105 men and 83 women) (Annex 4, Doc 5, 6).</p>
<p>Activity 1.3. Development, in consultation with communities, of ExCiteS data model, PDA icon interface and associated protocols, socialisation of</p>		<p>Preliminary visits to villages were carried out to gauge the concerns and interests villagers have towards forest resources, wildlife, conservation</p>

<p>project through community workshops/events, participatory mapping, and mechanism for ongoing communication and reporting between communities and project team established</p>	<p>regulations, and poachers. Eight villages were selected based on how strategic their locations are with regards to trafficking routes, as well as community characteristics. From here, the FPIC process continued leading to the utilisation of Sapelli. The ExCiteS data model has been introduced in 8 communities around the DBR using FPIC. 5 communities (2 indigenous and 3 Bantu) completed an FPIC form, indicating a good understanding of the project and consent to participate. A community protocol was established in 4/5 communities and a greater understanding by community members on how to engage with the Sapelli interface and successfully make reports. There is satisfaction and commitment to the project by community members as a result of being consulted and engaged in decision-making processes. At least 5 meetings were held in each village (Annex 4, Doc 5, 6).</p>
<p>Activity 1.4. Implementation and ongoing support for ExCiteS implementation</p>	<p>There is successful data transmission in 4/5 communities as evidenced by reports received both on receiver phones and GeoKey online server village (Annex 4, Doc 1, 2). Community-specific Sapelli projects were created for two communities, with icon ideas collated for all the five communities. Important collaborators were identified and some actors noted – MINFOF agents, Eco-guards and Police Officials were briefed and involved in ongoing discussions. Seven local and indigenous forest communities are actively reporting wildlife crime and monitoring species movements in the South and East regions of Cameroon, encircling the Dja Biosphere Reserve. At the time of writing, 503 records have been submitted, along with 434 photo and audio files. This equates to an average of 12 records a week, demonstrating not only that communities are motivated to be involved, but also that such communities can be valuable collaborators in data collection for conservation action. Whilst law enforcement action on the ground has been the greatest bottleneck, communities have described diverse outcomes including reduced number of traffickers, increased interaction with animals, and a great sense of empowerment and optimism over the future of the forest. The accumulated data forms a rich database visualised on a map interface, enabling future work in advocacy and conservation planning.</p>

<p>Activity 1.5. ExCiteS information integrated into secure database with regular data collection, analysis, monitoring and reporting</p>	<p>Sapelli has been tested in 7 villages, Sapelli data were received both on receiver phones (at ZSL) and GeoKey, where analysis, monitoring and reporting were made.</p>
<p>Activity 1.6. Training sessions on VSLAs in participating communities.</p>	<p>Prior consultation visits were made in 11 villages to assess the financial and savings methods used by villagers, and then to present the VSLA's concept to communities. This was followed by the holding of 2 trainings in 6 selected villages (Bii, Ze, Yen, Bosso, Akonetye, Mbouma) on the 5 initial modules <i>Guidelines of procedures of the VSLAs</i>. A third training was conducted from 14th-18th February as exchange sharing trip between new VSLA groups from Djoum and former groups of Dizangue (Lake Ossa Wildlife Reserve). A total of 12 people (6 men, 6 women) were part of this trip. This particular training session highlighted the role of the community agents within the group. A total of 152 persons (66 men, 86 women) are members of these VSLAs. To complete the project objectives, 4 new communities were identified based on the same criteria as the first partner villages, consulted, assessed and trained on the five first modules. These communities are Adjab, Ando'o, Odoumou, and Mbomela. They started with the savings immediately after the trainings. With these additional four groups, the updated number of VSLA participants is 250 (142 women, 56.8%). Five from the first six groups complete the first cycle and restarted with a new cycle. A total of 2,370,750 CFA was saved with 772,500 CFA generating 10% interests</p>
<p>Activity 1.7 Establishment of VSLAs and regular (at least monthly) follow up visits to ensure functioning.</p>	<p>Ten VSLAs established and functioning by end of yr 2. Regular communication with the established VSLAs occurred at the villages at least bimonthly and by phone at least monthly, the monthly village visits were occurring towards the end of the project.</p>
<p>Activity 1.8. Analysis of NTFP production in communities and identification of ways to enhance values (e.g. production, processing, storage techniques etc).</p>	<p>Scoping field trips enabled us to identify NTFPs varieties available in our 6 partner villages (Annex 4, Doc 3, 4). These are mostly used for subsistence purposes. Awareness has been raised in increasing the income through strengthening the ability of target communities to sell their NTFPs at fair prices in order to reduce villager's likelihood to assist poachers into the forest (particularly in Baka villages). Participating village groups were aware of the potential income from NTFP when improved storage and processing methods are applied. From this study, there is a high potential</p>

	for NTFPs in the villages concerned, including wild mango (3645 KG), moabi (3050 KG), djansang (196.5 L), balaka (743 KG). The most collected NTFP and an important source of income for these communities is wild mango (average annual income of CFAF 3,555,800)
<p>Activity 1.9. Training of NTFP producer groups on improved production and equitable market access mechanisms and implementation of NTFP value chain</p>	<p>Six producer groups in 6 selected villages around DBR are currently engaged in trainings to improve NTFP value chain in partnership with Tropical Forest and Rural Development (Annex 4, Doc 3, 4). The training program is based on 4 modules including group structuring (held in February 2017), admin/financial management (April 2017), storage and processing (May 2017), and market access mechanism (December 2017). An experience sharing trip was organised in June with women groups from Kabilone (Eastern Dja) involved since many years in NTFP production and transformation. All the trainings were completed and the group sales organised in December 2017. For the group sales, the djansang was the only product available (bush mango and moabi did not fruit well this year). Among the 443.5 l produced, only 79 l were sold in the group sales to the amount of 94,800 CFA (instead of 79,000 CFA as sold to the local buyers). This makes an additional benefit of 15,800 CFA for the producers involved in the group sales.</p>
<p>Activity 1.10. Ongoing support to communities for VSLA uptake and function, NTFP production enhancements and encourage communication for anonymously-reported IWT information via secure phone number.</p>	<p>Training sessions on NTFP production started in 2017 with an assessment of local production in the 6 villages through VSLA groups. All the 4 training modules were covered. VSLAs follow-ups are ongoing. First share outs were organised and the new cycle was relaunched. A local community agent was trained to uptake the follow-up in some villages. NTFP producers organised themselves for the next harvesting season to get more products. Income Generating Activities (IGA) linked to NTFP were assessed to identify new markets to enhance the value chain. Anonymous IWT reports are now being channelled via secured phone numbers using our CSNs contact. The mechanism has been strengthened by the provision of phones, and radios to make target communities more active in IWT reporting.</p>
<p>Activity 1.11. Establish ToR for multi-stakeholder platform and hold regular (at least 6 monthly) meetings with all stakeholders</p>	<p>6 multi-stakeholder platforms were held in Abong-Mbang, Sangmelima and Djoum with the aim to build common strategies to efficiently fight against IWT and associated trade; raise awareness on current issues</p>

	<p>related to wildlife crime; and strengthen communication strategies that better involve local communities and discuss the impact of socio-economic implemented activities on the conservation issues (Activity 1.11). The platform meetings involved the communities' members, the administration in charge of forest and wildlife (MINFOF), the civil authorities, the judiciary authorities, local NGOs and defence forces.</p>
<p>Output 2. Land managers (Conservation Service and timber company staff) have increased capacity to effectively protect wildlife.</p>	<p>Indicator 1. The DBR conservation service is supported and resourced to implement an effective adaptive management approach to site based protection (SMART approach) in the DBR.</p> <p>1.1. # days training provided to conservation service staff each year.</p> <p>1.2. # days of patrolling per month (target of 20 days/month).</p> <p>1.3. # incidents of poaching of trafficked species by end yr 2 (baseline determined at start of project).</p> <p>1.4. # of arrests for IWT related incidents (poaching, possession / transportation of products etc; baseline determined at start of project).</p> <p>Indicator 2. Timber company wildlife protection teams trained and supported to implement an effective adaptive management approach to site based wildlife protection (SMART approach) in timber concessions.</p> <p>Over the last two years, this grant has significantly strengthened the SMART-based approach to wildlife management after the initial setup (field visit to review the site-based protection efforts, systems and the available resources) in the northern sector to full implementation in all sectors of the park with special emphasis to the southern sector which is notorious as one of the hotspots for ivory trafficking in all of Africa (Annex 4, Doc 7-18). Indicator 1.1 is supported by a total of 37 training days being carried out. These training days were split as follows: 6 days (13th to 18th June) of data collection training for 28 rangers; 12 days (26th March-7th April) of patrolling and surveillance training by Retarius (a field tactical skills trainer) for 15 people; 6 days (29th-30th November 2016; 16th-17th December 2016, 16th and 19th January 2017) for SMART planning and reporting training; 4 days (6th-9th of October 2017) patrol basic tools for 46 DBR newly appointed ecoguards; Another 5 days advanced SMART training sessions for senior DBR staff (19th-23rd February,2018), and a 4 days QGIS/SMART training from 21st-24th February 2018 in Djoum. Regular SMART-based patrols are now being carried out by the Dja Reserve ecoguards in an adaptive fashion with regular planning (targets, objectives, briefing and debriefing etc) based on previous patrols data. The average number of patrol days per month in the southern sector over the two years of the grant is 16 days/months. (Indicator 1.2). The number of incidents of poaching of trafficked species proved to be challenging to measure in a confident way, but we assume that the decrease in arrests and anecdotal reports of poaching activity shifting elsewhere suggest a positive impact on diminishment of poaching activity (Indicator 1.3). One of the most important IWT operation that led to the seizures of 216 ivory tusk and other elephant's parts. Another major seizure of over 100 tusks was carried out by the same team within the last month. In the Southern</p>

	<p>2.1. # days training provided to timber company staff each year (baseline = 0).</p> <p>2.2. # days of patrolling per month (baseline = 0).</p> <p>2.3. # incidents of poaching of trafficked species by end yr 2 (baseline determined at start of project).</p> <p>2.4. # of arrests for IWT related incidents (poaching, possession /transportation of products etc; baseline determined at start of project).</p>	<p>Sector of the DBR, the number of people encountered and arrested dropped from 19 (year 1) to 4 (year 2) after a series of direct confrontation between rangers and poaching gangs. Seemingly, the number of firearms seized dropped from 8 (year 1) to 4 (year 2). No fresh carcass was found over the last 2 years. (Indicator 1.4) During this grant reporting period the DBR CS rangers were able to apprehend total of 31 poachers in the southern sector</p> <p>An evaluation of the state of wildlife management in SFID-Djoum’s logging concessions was completed and their wildlife team, consisting of a chief and four team members, were trained on the SMART-based approach for wildlife management, with technical support provided as their teams became active in the concessions. SFID-Djoum wildlife teams previously patrolled with GPS only. Now they use PDA CEDAR CT4 (hand held data collection devices), with a three-day training refresher on data collection being provided in September 2016 to five people (the coordinator of management unit, the wildlife team chief and three team members) (Indicator 2.1). This included a practical exercise in the forest and an introduction on SMART queries. We reviewed the data model, how to setup the PDAs, how to export the configurable data model from computer to the PDA, how to import the data from the device to the computer and visualize them on a map. Four people are patrolling an average of at least 20 days per month (at least four days a week) and are now experienced with the data model. We discussed with the logging companies the utility of dividing concessions into a grid with cells of 25 km² (standardized with the Dja Biosphere Reserve monitoring approach) in order to better track wildlife, patrol efficiency, and IWT activity throughout entire concessions. Thus, we divided their FMUs into a grid of 145 blocks and 101 were patrolled during the grant period.</p> <p>In April 2017, during a five day mission in SFID-Djoum site, we upgraded SMART software to SMART 4.1.0 version, and trained the wildlife team chief on queries (Annex 4, Doc 12) (Indicator 2.1). During this April mission at SFID-Djoum logging concessions, we discussed the renewal of the MoU</p>
--	--	---

		<p>between SFID-Djoum and MINFOF’s DBR Southern Antenna for them to conduct monthly anti-poaching missions inside their forests. Four people are patrolling with an average of at least 20 days per month (at least 4 days a week) (Indicator 2.2). Under Cameroon forestry law, only the forestry administration has the mandate to conduct anti-poaching missions. These patrols (MINFOF and SFID-Djoum wildlife team members) have seized 9 firearms, 24 ammunitions, 155 pieces/entire of bushmeat, 14 cartridges, 225 snares cables and six arrests have been made (Annex 4, Doc 8, 9) (Indicator 2.3, 2.4).</p>
<p>Activity 2.1. Needs assessment for improved site based protection of southern sector of the DBR and SFID-Djoum timber concessions and SMART operationalization including; identification of equipment and other resource requirements, training needs, refinement of existing SMART data model and data collection sequence. Establishing implementation plans.</p>		<p>In 2015, a wildlife management assessment was conducted in SFID-Djoum logging concessions through another ZSL Cameroon project (Annex 4, Doc 12). At this time, SFID-Djoum already had a wildlife team – a chief and 4 members; The team had been trained and built capacities on SMART approach. By the end of the project, they were able to collect SMART-based wildlife and poaching data and produce reports. During a five day mission in SFID-Djoum site in April 2017 we upgraded SMART software to SMART 4.1.0 version, and trained the wildlife team chief on queries. During this April mission at SFID-Djoum logging concession, we discussed the renewal of the MoU between SFID-Djoum and MINFOF’s DBR Southern Antenna for them to conduct monthly anti-poaching missions inside their forests. Under Cameroon forestry law, only the forestry administration has the mandate to conduct anti-poaching missions. These patrols (MINFOF and SFID-Djoum wildlife team members) have seized 9 firearms, 24 ammunitions, 155 pieces/entire of bushmeat, 14 cartridges, 225 snares cables and six arrests have been made.</p>
<p>Activity 2.2. Equipment sourced, SMART training delivered to DBR senior management and eco-guards and SMART roll-out commenced.</p>		<p>We purchased 25 uniforms, 6 backpacks, two tents, four headlamps, two SAT phone devices, four sleeping mat, 24 pairs of batteries for GPS and tarpaulins. A reinforced anti-poaching vehicle for the rapid response team was also purchased. This vehicle was provided with a driver, maintenance, and fuel. Regular SMART-based patrols are now being carried out by the Dja Reserve ecoguards in an adaptive fashion with regular planning (targets, objectives, briefing and debriefing etc) based on previous patrol data. These patrols continue to be successfully executed. The SMART data model continues to be improved and updated accordingly, recently</p>

	<p>pangolins and grey parrots were included in the model based on their up-listing by CITES. Over the last two years, following SMART setup and technical support, refresher training and remote support have been ongoing to ensure all ecoguards are capable of effectively patrolling according to agreed protocols. This has been going well, though patrols slowed down following the nationwide MINFOF staff redeployment in September 2017 during which over 90% of DBR ecoguards were transferred to other protected areas in Cameroon. We were able to react promptly with the newcomers and successfully updated the DBR SMART system (to include new names and references) as well as organising a training session on data collection, map reading, compass, and GPS use. A total of 37 training days were carried out (Annex 4, Doc 9-12). These training days were split as follows: 6 days (13th to 18th June) of data collection training for 28 rangers; 12 days (26th March-7th April) of patrolling and surveillance training by Retarius (a field tactical skills trainer) for 15 people (Annex 4, Doc 16, 17); 6 days (29th-30th November 2016; 16th-17th December 2016, 16th and 19th January 2017) for SMART planning and reporting training; 4 days (6th-9th of October 2017) patrol basic tools for 46 DBR newly appointed ecoguards; 5 days advanced SMART training sessions for senior DBR staff (19th-23rd February, 2018), and a 4 days QGIS/SMART training from 21st-24th February 2018 in Djoum (Annex 4, Doc 10).</p>
<p>Activity 2.3 Training on SMART implementation to timber company wildlife teams and roll-out commenced.</p>	<p>Two PDA CEDAR CT4 and a 3-day training refresh on data collection were provided in September 2016 to 5 people (the coordinator of management unit, the wildlife team chief and 3 members), including a practical exercise in the forest and an introduction on queries (Annex 4, Doc 13).. We reviewed the data model, how to setup the PDAs, how to export the configurable data model from computer to the PDA, how to import the data from the device to the computer and visualize them on a map. Four people are patrolling with an average of at least 20 days per month (at least 4 days a week) and becoming familiar with the data model. The trainings on queries and reporting are done with the new wildlife team chief. We divided the concessions into a grid with cells of 25 km² (as is done in the Dja Biosphere Reserve) in order to insure that they cover the</p>

	entire concessions and are able to compare trends across landscapes. We divided their FMUs in 145 blocks, 101 were covered during the grant period.
<p>Activity 2.4 Ongoing support by ZSL SMART technical advisor to DBR and timber companies, including monthly site visit, evaluation and review workshops every 6 months.</p>	<p>During year 2, 6 site visits to the SFID-Djoug concessions were done for the monitoring of the activities related to wildlife including SMART implementation, During these visits a quick evaluation was done and assistance provided to improve things, as necessary.</p>
<p>Output 3. Enforcement agents, prosecutors and court house staff trained and supported in the implementation of laws relating to wildlife crime</p>	<p>Indicator: At least 16 MINFOF agents, 15 law enforcement officers (gendarmes/police) and 6 judicial agents, receive training in the proper application of wildlife laws tailored to their specific role.</p> <p>3.1. # of days training provided to enforcement agents each year (baseline = 0).</p> <p>3.2. # cases of IWT crimes that result in arrests by end yr 2 (baseline determined at start of project).</p> <p>3.3. # cases of IWT crimes that result in prosecutions by end yr 2 (baseline determined at start of project).</p> <p>Judiciary officials received IWT legal input during a workshop in September 2016. Subsequently, 106 MINFOF agents based in the DBR, and 48 customs, police, and gendarmerie officers based at Yaoundé and Douala airports have been provided with training in Basic Law Enforcement Techniques, intelligence gathering, patrol techniques and counter-trafficking skills.</p> <p>Indicator 3.1 A total of 32 training days have been provided, divided into 15 days between April 2016 and March 2017, and 17 days between April 2017 and March 2018. (Annex 4, Doc 20). This is an increase of 32 days from a baseline of zero.</p> <p>Indicator 3.2 Internal ZSL recording show that during the project period law enforcement agents from MINFOF and the airport based anti-trafficking teams made 10 arrests for IWT trafficking (the facilitation of movement of already poached IWT products) offences, up from 0 the year prior to project commencement, SMART data shows that MINFOF ecoguards arrested 36 poachers in this period, up from 6 the previous year</p> <p>Indicator 3.3 This is a difficult indicator to assess. Internal ZSL records, gleaned from MINFOF Cellule Juridique show that during the project period, there were 2 successful prosecutions for IWT or IWT-related crimes. A successful prosecution is deemed to be a court case which has resulted in a finding of guilty, or a judicial disposal following a guilty plea. There continue to be ongoing cases from 2017 and 2018, which have yet to reach any form of conclusion</p>

<p>Activity 3.1 Training materials developed in consultation with relevant agencies. Materials tailored to knowledge and roles of each agency and participants.</p>	<p>Training materials are bespoke for the relevant agency. ZSL has developed a generic Basic Law Enforcement Techniques training system. This is based upon consultation with MINFOF and judicial officials, particularly prosecutors and judges, who clearly indicated huge gaps in core policing knowledge when it comes to evidence presentation and acquisition. Training material for the airport based CAAT teams were developed alongside French police and gendarmerie colleagues. ZSL Law Enforcement Advisor is a qualified trainer and has 22 years of law enforcement experience, enabling the development of resource-appropriate and relevantly themed training subjects and content, suitable for the participants. The training takes into account in particular, the existing resources, environment and personnel levels of the agency being engaged.</p>
<p>Activity 3.2 Training courses delivered to enforcement agents, prosecutors and court house staff (3 per year).</p>	<p>Judiciary officials received IWT legal input during a workshop in September 2016. This focused on wildlife legislation and the importance of deterrent sentencing in IWT cases. Subsequently, 106 MINFOF agents based in the DBR, and 48 customs, police, and gendarmerie officers based at Yaoundé and Douala airports have been provided with training in Basic Law Enforcement Techniques, intelligence gathering, patrol techniques and counter-trafficking skills. These trainings have taken place throughout the project period over 7 training sessions, representing 3.5 training sessions per year. Support and guidance is provided on an ongoing basis to MINFOF Cellule Juridique.</p>
<p>Activity 3.3 Training assessments conducted before and after training to assess participant knowledge and understanding and obtain feedback. Information to be used to adapt future sessions and determine further training requirements.</p>	<p>An essential part of the training process is assessment and demonstration of current knowledge. This is gleaned through in-classroom questions and discussion. Following demonstrations of training elements, students are engaged in practical exercises to assess their learning, culminating in final examinations and exercises to demonstrate their learning progress. Participants complete feedback in the form of mind maps or questionnaires. The feedback from each training session is evaluated and if any changes to training are deemed necessary then they are implemented accordingly. Every training course has a dedicated online messaging group. This affords participants the opportunity to maintain</p>

	<p>contact with one another, and with the trainers, allowing them to ask questions, advice or provide ongoing feedback where necessary,</p>
<p>Activity 3.4 Follow up training courses delivered based on evaluation and feedback.</p>	<p>Follow up training is provided on an ongoing basis for participants who are deemed to have shown promise, for example in Basic Law Enforcement Techniques training, those who show elements of enthusiasm and dedication are selected to undertake intelligence and patrol tactics training.</p>
<p>Activity 3.5 ZSL Law enforcement advisor provides ongoing support for case follow up and communicating progress of court cases and incidents of wildlife crime</p>	<p>ZSLs UK based Law Enforcement Advisor, working closely with the in-country Law Enforcement officers is able to assess ongoing cases, and provide investigative and evidential suggestions or guidance. Unfortunately it is not incumbent upon the Cameroonian authorities to heed or acknowledge such advice. Progress of priority court cases is monitored in person by the in-country Law Enforcement Officer. It is necessary to prioritise cases by levels of seriousness and monitor only those which are deemed appropriate to do so due to the lack of centralised reporting of such cases (which is contrary to Cameroons CITES and INTERPOL obligations) and the logistical, financial and personnel implications for court case monitoring. At the project end, ZSL are currently following up 4 major prosecutions. 2, dating from 2017 involve the attempted murder of an ecoguard and the abduction and hostage taking of MINFOF agents. The remaining 2 cases relate to multi-kilo ivory seizures and organised crime groups, instigated by ZSL trained MINFOF agents in Djoum. All cases are currently ongoing. Post-training communications groups (via WhatsApp) provide an opportunity to ensure that any IWT related matters are brought to the attention of ZSL Law Enforcement Advisor, and a forum for advice and guidance to be shared. This allows fast-time involvement and critical support to be given. As an example, the December 2017 400+ kg seizure in Djoum was effected at around 02:00am. At 05:30am, the ZSL Law Enforcement Advisor was in a position to give rudimentary (but essential) investigative and evidential advice to the teams on the ground.</p>

Annex 3 IWT Contacts

Ref No	IWT031
Project Title	Combatting IWT in Cameroon through improved law enforcement and community empowerment.
Project Leader Details	
Name	Paul De Ornellas
Role within IWT Project	ZSL IWT Lead
Address	
Phone	
Fax/Skype	
Email	
Partner 1	
Name	David Olson
Organisation	Zoological Society of London - Cameroon
Role within IWT Project	Country Programme Manager
Address	
Fax/Skype	
Email	
Partner 2 etc.	
Name	Chris Ransom
Organisation	Zoological Society London
Role within IWT Project	Africa Programme Manager
Address	
Fax/Skype	
Email	

Annex 4 Onwards – supplementary material (optional but encouraged as evidence of project achievement)

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.	X
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.	
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.	