



Illegal Wildlife Trade (IWT) Challenge Fund Half Year Report

(due 31st October 2018)

Project reference:	IWT042
Project title:	Combatting global wildlife cybercrime: building on the success in China
Country(ies):	China, Viet Nam, Tanzania, Cameroon
Lead organisation:	TRAFFIC International
Collaborator(s):	Tencent, SF-Express, China CITES Management Authority, Criminal Science and Technology Department, Nanjing Forest Police College, Cameroon CITES Management Authority, DHL eCommerce, Viet Nam E-commerce Association (VECOM), Viet Nam Automobile Transport Association (VATA), The Tanzania Truck Owners Association (TATO)
Project leader:	<i>XU Ling</i>
Report date and number (e.g. HYR1):	2018 October 18, HYR2
Project website/blog/social media:	

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

1.1 & 1.2 Finished in Y1.

1.3 & 1.4 Monthly online monitoring surveys of the availability of illegal wildlife products on internet and social media platforms in CN have been conducted and the respective results were recorded for further analysis and for the use in the annual report. (ongoing)

1.5 & 1.6 VN has finished its second round one-off survey by the end of September and preparing the survey briefing. CM and TZ are planning to conduct the surveys by the end of October of 2018. (ongoing)

1.7 & 1.8 The report of analysis on the characteristics and combating techniques of wildlife cybercrime in China and Globally has been drafted and currently in internal review process. It is expected to be released by the end of 2018. (ongoing)

2.1 The online monitoring results in CN have been shared in a timely manner with managers of websites and social media platforms, as well as enforcement agencies for their follow-up. Some illegal advertisements have been removed by the websites and some social accounts were banned based on TRAFFIC's monitoring results. Further investigations are being undertaken by enforcement agencies. More results will be reported once the investigations conducted by the enforcement agencies are completed. (ongoing)

2.2 On 5-8 June, TRAFFIC facilitated the workshop to consolidate interagency collaboration

mechanism in combating wildlife crime linked to the internet and other platforms in China. More than 70 government representatives, including leading agencies and experts, participated the meeting. (finished)

2.2 On 26-27 June, TRAFFIC supported Nanjing Forest Police College to hold an enforcement capacity building training. Over 80 front-line forest police from 21 provinces attended the training aiming to improve their abilities on combating illegal wildlife trade by using internet and logistics channels. (finished)

2.3 An international training event for the custom officials from six Asian and three African countries on combating endangered species trafficking is under preparation, jointly with the China Customs. This event is expected to take place in December in Beijing, China. More than 40 custom officials are planning to attend the event. (ongoing)

2.4 TRAFFIC staff attended WCO RILO AP meeting held in Solo, Indonesia from 4-6 September and gave a presentation on Combating Wildlife Cybercrime in China to share experience from China. (finished)

2.4 The project proposed to support Chinese law enforcement officials to participate CITES COP18 in May 2019 and share the best practices from China in combating wildlife cybercrime.

3.1 & 3.2 The SOP draft has been shared with experts, government and company partners. And it was discussed in a workshop in March 2018. (finished)

3.3 The Chinese version SOP is under internal review and is expected to be finalized and translated by the end of November of 2018 and shared widely with partners. (ongoing)

3.4 finished in Y1.

3.5 & 3.6 It is expected to collaborate jointly with Tencent and other internet companies in China to organize an international training event with a study tour in China supported by CITES MA in March 2019. Internet companies from VN, CM, TZ and other countries will be invited. (ongoing)

3.7 It is planned to support internet company alliance, especially BAT to attend CITES COP18 in May, 2019 to share China's best practices in combating wildlife cybercrime. (ongoing)

4.1-4.3 & 4.5 finished in Y1.

4.4 The Chinese version SOP is under internal review and is expected to be finalized and translated by the end of November, and shared widely with partners. (ongoing)

4.6 & 4.7 An international training event for logistic companies from CN, VN, CM, TZ and other countries is planned to be held in 2019. (ongoing)

4.8 It is planned to support courier/logistic companies to attend CITES COP18 in May, 2019 and share China's best practices in combating wildlife cybercrime through delivery channels. (ongoing)

Beyond (more to be reported in the final technical report):

- TRAFFIC facilitated members of China's Internet Alliance against Wildlife Cybercrime including Baidu, Alibaba, Qyer, Kuaishou, 58 and Zhuanzuan to lead a pledge of "Projecting wild orchids, Rejecting unsustainable trade" in Shenzhen China in July 2018.
- China's internet companies are taking their own initiatives in combating illegal wildlife trade online, such as the updated public reporting system from Tencent, pop-up messages of protecting endangered species from Taobao App from Alibaba etc.

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

As China's government has been gone through institutional reformation, some of our activities, such as the international training events for law enforcement agencies, internet and logistic companies are moving slower than expected.

The institutional reform has been completed in central government level, the project activities are expected to move forward and it is believed that they can still be delivered within the project duration.

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

Discussed with LTS: Yes/No N

Formal change request submitted: Yes/No N

Received confirmation of change acceptance Yes/No N

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

Yes No Estimated underspend: £

3b. If yes, then you need to consider your project budget needs carefully. Please remember that any funds agreed for this financial year are only available to the project in this financial year.

If you anticipate a significant underspend because of justifiable changes within the project, please submit a rebudget Change Request as soon as possible. There is no guarantee that Defra will agree a rebudget, so please ensure you have enough time to make appropriate changes if necessary.

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

No, not at this point.

If you were asked to provide a response to this year's annual report review with your next half year report, please attach your response to this document. Additionally, if you were funded under R4 and asked to provide further information by your first half year report, please attach your response as a separate document.

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

Please send your **completed report by email** to Victoria Pinion at IWT-Fund@itsi.co.uk. The report should be between 2-3 pages maximum. **Please state your project reference number in the header of your email message e.g. Subject: IWT001 Half Year Report.**