



## Illegal Wildlife Trade (IWT) Challenge Fund Half Year Report

(due 31<sup>st</sup> October 2018)

<b>Project reference:</b>	IWT 047
<b>Project title:</b>	Developing Investigation and Prosecution Capacity to Save Angola's Elephants
<b>Country(ies):</b>	Angola
<b>Lead organisation:</b>	Stop Ivory
<b>Collaborator(s):</b>	INBAC, EIA
<b>Project leader:</b>	<i>John Stephenson</i>
<b>Report date and number (e.g. HYR1):</b>	31 <sup>st</sup> October 2018, (HYR2)
<b>Project website/blog/social media:</b>	<a href="http://www.stopivory.org">www.stopivory.org</a> or <a href="http://www.elephantprotectioninitiative.org">www.elephantprotectioninitiative.org</a>

### 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).

Progress between April to Sept 30<sup>th</sup> 2018:

#### 1. Strengthen the criminal justice system for wildlife crime

- Activity 1.2 and 1.3: In country planning meetings with Angolan government and meetings with stakeholders including the UK Embassy and UNDP took place during May (18<sup>th</sup> -22<sup>nd</sup>). General updates on progress and discussions of next steps for the project deliverables to the Angolan Government have been regular via email and letters as well as a WhatsApp group for Stop Ivory in Angola which includes H.E. the Minister of Environment and the Director of INBAC. In the surrounds of Activity 1.1's roundtable, further meetings with government and relevant stakeholders in Angola also took place in September (4<sup>th</sup> -7<sup>th</sup>). This included Stop Ivory participating in Stakeholders Coordination Meeting.
- Angolan lawyer Maria do Rosário Bom Jesus Lima has been contracted as of the 20<sup>th</sup> of August 2018. She will be working on activities 1.2 and 1.3 with Professor Lyman of IELP to ensure continuity of delivery. Furthermore, an Angolan Prosecutor focal point, Dra. Eduarda Rodrigues Neto, Procuradora da República has been allocated by the government to assist with the development and delivery of these tasks and ensure Angolan ownership.
- The content of activities 1.2 and 1.3 will alter slightly in scope to best fit the needs of Angola at this point in time (see section 2a for details). The timeframe and budgets will remain as planned.

## **2. Investigate, analyse and take action to reduce domestic and trans-boundary ivory trade.**

- The resulting report from activities 2.1 and 2.2 was translated into Portuguese and delivered by hand to the Angolan government in compliance with the sensitive nature of the reports during meetings in Stop Ivory trip to Luanda in May.
- Activity 2.3: We have been in regular contact with EIA (emails, teleconference calls and face to face meetings) and have been informed that they are on track for delivery of the activity. Given the nature of this undercover investigation, we will not be privy to findings until the activity is completed.
- Poaching prosecution data: access to a summary of the poaching prosecutions in Angola by the Head of the Environmental Crime Unit has been given. There is no centralised database as of yet for these data. We also have been given access to the national IWT inventory database (Stockpile Management System), which includes data on ivory pieces and other seized items.

### **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.**

During meetings in the week of the 4<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> September which included the roundtable on Activity 1.1, the Legislative Review in Angola and a stakeholder's coordination meeting it became apparent that:

- A. There are significant gaps in legislation and penal code required for effective prosecutorial practice pertaining to wildlife crime;
- B. Several essential legislations for wildlife prosecutions (protected areas, environmental crime, CITES legislation and penal code) exist only in draft, and;
- C. Under the Wildlife Crime Programme within Angola's National Development Plan there are two other externally funded projects in development for future implementation which can support prosecutorial training.

Given these recent findings on the current context of prosecutorial practice in Angola and the imminent and systemic change brought by the development and implementation of new legislations, it is sensible to reconsider the scope of activities 1.2, 1.3 and 1.4 given the rapidly changing legal landscape. Moreover, to create a handbook of best practice and provide training for prosecutors and judiciary using incomplete and soon to be out of date legislation and would be impractical, and not align with the intended longevity and capacity building nature of DEFRA IWT CF supported materials. Alterations to activities have been informed through discussions with the international legal expert Professor Erica Lyman, (IELP) current legal consultant on the legal programme in Angola on activity 1.1. Official sign off has been given during a meeting with the Minister of Environment and the Head of INBAC after the findings of the legislative roundtable (6<sup>th</sup> of September).

To summarise, the scope of activities in the project proposal will alter to fit more closely with what is feasible and required on the ground, and support longer term capacity building of DEFRA IWT CF supported activities. The outputs and timeframe of activities will remain the same. Activities 1.2, 1.3 and 1.4 shift focus slightly to sensitisation and awareness of IWT and wildlife crimes and in Angola. These components were already included in the application and activities but would be expanded upon. Activity 1.2 will instead be titled "Options for Wildlife Crime Prosecution" will be valuable interim material for prosecutors and judiciary and act as precursor to a Handbook which can be developed when legislations are in force. The project

manager has spoken with LTS who have advised it is not necessary for a change request to be submitted.

Lessons learned: Being adaptable to the situation at hand in country is key.

**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

Formal change request submitted: No

Received confirmation of change acceptance Yes/No

**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?**

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@ltsi.co.uk](mailto:IWT-Fund@ltsi.co.uk). The report should be between 2-3 pages maximum. **Please state your project reference number in the header of your email message e.g. Subject: IWT001 Half Year Report.**