



Illegal Wildlife Trade (IWT) Challenge Fund Half Year Report

(due 31st October 2018)

Project reference: IWT 056

Project title: Strengthening Enforcement against the Illegal Pangolin Trade in Uganda

Country(ies): Uganda

Lead organisation: Environmental Investigation Agency (UK) Ltd

Collaborator(s): Natural Resource Conservation Network (NRCN)

Project leader: Julian Newman

Report date and number: HYR1

Project website/blog/social media: <https://eia-international.org/our-work/wildlife/pangolins/> (we will credit Defra on the website when our grant agreement with one of the other match funders is finalized)

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).

The following report covers the period from 01 July to 30 September 2018. There was a slight delay to the commencement of recruitment on the project following a delay of final confirmation of the grant award on 3rd August 2018.

EIA has just recruited the Principle Campaigner who should be in post in the first week of December 2018. We are in the process of identifying a suitable candidate for the Principle Field Operative. The delay will incur a significant underspend on salary and EIA will submit a financial change request once the Principle Campaigner is in post and a review of budgetary needs has been conducted. NRCN are also in the process of recruiting a Wildlife Valuation Expert and will also face a corresponding underspend in salary.

Despite this, the following progress has been made against activities timetabled for Year 1 Quarter 2 (July – September 2018):

EIA has collated information on over 178 pangolin seizure incidents across range (excluding Uganda) and consumer states. Some of this open source data was shared with the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) as part of a West and Central Africa Transnational Organised Crime Threat Assessment. It was also shared with KPMG who ran a visualisation exercise in partnership with the Royal United Services Institute on Illegal Wildlife Trade. The updating of interactive maps based on this data is ongoing with World Pangolin Day in February 2019 a future landmark. EIA will be sharing this open source information with National Geographic to assist with an upcoming pangolin article at the end of 2018.

As part of ongoing activity under EIA's other campaigns, field research into the role of Vietnamese and Chinese wildlife crime networks operating between Africa and Asia and within Asia, has identified individuals involved in multi-species trade, including pangolins. Information

on one individual of interest was shared with Chinese authorities in a confidential dossier in July 2018. Information on several Vietnamese individuals of interest were provided to Vietnamese authorities in April 2018, prior to commencement of the DEFRA project but in the absence of any response and action, information was published in the EIA report Hydra in September 2018 and was circulated to the media. Also, in the July – September 2018 period, EIA has submitted reports on 14 individuals involved in pangolin trade to Thomson Reuters World Check.

NRCN has gathered information on over 100 pangolin poaching and trafficking incidents, of which 18 involve Chinese citizens, in and through Uganda. Information on f these incidents was collated in the reporting period. As part of NRCN’s core ongoing activity, field research to follow up on 6 incidents has been conducted and the suspects are being prosecuted.

Proposed amendments to Uganda’s wildlife regulations to incorporate the CITES Appendix I provisions for pangolins has commenced with two stakeholder consultation engagements, one with Uganda wildlife authority and the second with a select of judicial personnel on the possible amendments. The Valuation expert will lead on the process.

Preparation of judicial guidelines will primarily fall under the responsibility of the Wildlife Valuation Expert, and we anticipate this will be initiated in Quarter 3 (October – December 2018).

Awareness materials targeted towards Ugandan law enforcement agencies regarding pangolin trade and the CITES Appendix I listing are under preparation in liaison with wildlife crime law enforcement at the criminal investigation unit and are anticipated for rolled out in Quarter 3.

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.

A scoping and M&E trip allowing face-to-face planning between partners and a joint briefing of law enforcement based on analysis of existing information on pangolin may be delayed from Quarter 3 until the beginning of Quarter 4. In the interim, as soon as the Principle Campaigner is in post their first task will be to liaise with NRCN long distance over the preparation of a shared M&E plan.

The EIA Senior Crime Analyst is already consolidating and analysing available information and will liaise long-distance with NRCN over the systems and processes for sharing information and conducting joint analysis, in preparation for the face-to-face meetings.

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
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Formal change request submitted:	No
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Received confirmation of change acceptance	No
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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: ££ [REDACTED]

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.

The original budget had been prepared anticipating notice of a decision from DEFRA in May 2018, which would allow sufficient time to recruit new personnel to start from 01 July 2018. Confirmation of award of the grant was received on 03 August 2018 and recruitment commenced shortly thereafter. EIA has consulted with LTS and will submit a Change Request to propose and extension to the end date of the project by the end of November 2018.

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

Please find attached a revised logframe reflecting capacity building in the outputs and indicators as per the request of DEFRA.

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. 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.**