



Illegal Wildlife Trade (IWT) Challenge Fund Half Year Report (due 31st October 2018)

Project reference:	IWT057 (App 437)
Project title	Building capacity to reduce illegal trade of shark products in Indonesia.
Country(ies):	Indonesia
Lead organisation:	Cefas
Collaborator(s):	Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries (MMAF), Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), University of Salford (UoS)
Project leader:	Joanna Murray
Report date and number:	21/10/2018 (HYR1)
Project website/blog/social media:	<i>Social media</i> – @cefasgovuk <i>Blog</i> - https://marinescience.blog.gov.uk/

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).

Our project started in July 2018. The following report covers progress on activities identified in the log framework between July and the end of September 2018. A traffic light system indicates where the activity is complete (green), ongoing (orange) or yet to be started (red).

1.1. *Desk-based study on collation of current knowledge, political and legal frameworks, and data on elasmobranch trade.*

Within the first three months of project inception, a 40-page operational reference document consolidating resources and information on the shark and ray trade in Indonesia was produced. The document includes an overview of Indonesian elasmobranch fisheries and areas of geographical importance, products traded, current management and conservation actions and obligations, and currently available methods for identifying shark species. The document provides a reference guide for existing and future project team members and a baseline document for the PhD student to build upon in activity 1.2 which will be published as a peer-reviewed article.

1.2. *Ph. D student to compile global overview on elasmobranch trade and current trade regulations adopted by other nations.*

The studentship advert, drafted by the supervisory team (UoS, Cefas) was advertised on social media (Image a) during the 5th International Marine Conservation Congress in Sarawak (June 2018). Eligible applications were evaluated and Skype interviews were held during August. The position was awarded to an Indonesian national who will begin studies in the UK in January 2019. On the 28th August the supervisory team met in Liverpool to outline the topics for publication which will form the chapters of the PhD. The student will formally begin studies during the January intake and will complete the overview of elasmobranch trade during the first 3 months of study (Jan-March 2019).



1.3. Key stakeholders identified and contacted regarding involvement of project and workshops.

A database of key stakeholders (experts in visual fin ID, DNA technology, shark trade and shark conservation, government officials, NGOs, academics) was created, initially based on the core teams established networks, followed by a “snowball” approach where primary contacts recommended additional contacts. Over 50 individuals have been contacted with a briefing note about the project and were invited to a follow up Skype call for further discussion and knowledge sharing. This activity is important for ensuring we build upon existing successful initiatives and engage with practitioners already tackling these issues in other parts of the world. Feedback to date has been very positive. To maintain stakeholder engagement, we have created quarterly corkboards as part of our communication strategy, to provide regular updates on the projects progress. The first corkboard was circulated in September 2018 (Image b).

- 1.4. Design of core stakeholder workshop and regional focus groups;
- 1.5. Letter of invitation and agendas circulated to workshop and focus group attendees;
- 1.6. Workshop hosted by MMAF in Jakarta for core stakeholders.

Appointment of a part time WCS staff member whose role is to coordinate workshop and training activities was delayed until October 2018. However, core project team members have continued to design and arrange the inception workshop which is planned for the 13th and 14th November 2018. Over 30 stakeholders from government departments, NGOs and universities have been invited to take part in this two-day event. It is designed to establish the priorities of those working on managing shark and ray trade in Indonesia and understand what keys interventions are required. It will be delivered through a combination of presentations, demonstrations and group working. Regional focus groups are scheduled to take place in January 2019 and will be designed using the results of the stakeholder workshop, as well as two scoping visits to exports hubs in Denpasar and Serang by the project team in November.

1.7. Production of consultation document from workshop and focus group minutes.

Planned for quarter 3 following the core stakeholder workshop and regional focus groups.

1.8. Gather existing learning resources from key partners on elasmobranch identification methods

Existing identification resources were gathered as part of the desk-based study. These included; species identification guides (e.g. identification of pelagic sharks and rays of the Western Indian Ocean, FAO, 2014); visual fin identification guides (e.g. Abercrombie et al, 2017 and Marshall and Barone, 2016); the Manta Trusts gill raker identification guide; computer application iSharkFin, and molecular approaches (e.g. Abercrombie et al., 2018; MinION). Authors of these guides were contacted and engaged with as part of activity 1.3 and will continue to be involved in the design of training workshops during year 2.

5. Project management

Cefas follows ISO9001 project management structure. As part of this commitment, we have implemented fortnightly project management and budgeting meetings between project lead and Cefas PM and have regular partner communication via email and Whats’app. This ensures that

all elements of the project are under control and discussions take place at an early stage when issues arise. The projects collaboration agreement is still under discussion but we anticipate agreement before the end of quarter two, with signing at the Inception workshop a target. Our project will be included in the UK's list of announcements to be shared during the "Our Oceans Conference" in Bali and briefing notes have been provided by the UK team.

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.

There have been no notable problems during the first three months of the project. There have been two staff changes which have been discussed with LTS and change request forms submitted and accepted. These changes have been effectively managed by thorough hand over processes.

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: Yes

Received confirmation of change acceptance Yes

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

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.**