



Illegal Wildlife Trade (IWT) Challenge Fund Half Year Report

(due 31st October 2018)

Project reference:	IWT058:
Project title:	Securing Africa's ivory: Developing gold-standard stockpile management systems
Country(ies):	Uganda, Ethiopia, Malawi.
Lead organisation:	Stop Ivory
Collaborator(s):	EWCA Ethiopia, UWA Uganda, DNWP Malawi
Project leader:	<i>John Stephenson</i>
Report date and number (e.g. HYR1):	<i>31st October 2018, (HYR1) August 2018-September 2018</i>
Project website/blog/social media:	www.elephantprotectioninitiative.org www.stopivory.org

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 project start on the 1st August 2018 to the 30th September 2018 on Output 1: the Development of the two complementary tools for improving storeroom security and management 1) Guidelines for Ivory Storerooms to gold award standards, relevant to conditions typically found in EPI countries, 2) Template Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for Storeroom management and chain of custody (CoC) from point of seizure to decentralised and centralised storerooms.

To date we have:

- Developed a terms of reference for the consultant who will provide the technical expertise to develop the documents. These have been disseminated and we are reviewing candidates, with the aim for them to commence in November 2018.
- Developed a draft framework for the Guidelines and Standards to be developed into the full document.
- Commenced to regroup existing documentation for reference.
- Commenced consultations with participating country wildlife departments and supporting NGOs including RSPCA, LSPCA, Born Free Foundation, AWF.

- Verifying that we have accurate baseline data on current stockpiles held by the 3 partner countries. Malawi and Uganda inventory data is up to date, so the baseline for these two countries is established.

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.

The Ethiopian Government is currently undergoing a structural reform launched by the new Prime Minister. EWCA (Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority) with whom we are working has been moved from the Ministry of Culture and Tourism to within the newly formed COMMISSION OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTRY AND CLIMATE CHANGE.

EWCA are awaiting an appointment of the new commissioner and then formal appointment of the head of EWCA. We hope this does not impact or delay the project. The fieldwork phase (which consists of a stockroom assessment within Uganda Malawi and Ethiopia) is not due to start until April 2019. In the meantime, the technical development of the documents, which we anticipate EWCA representatives to be involved in, will commence as planned and hope they are able to participate.

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

Formal change request submitted: Yes/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?

Nothing to note at this stage. We are getting a lot of interest in developing the tool!

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.**