Applicant: **Bajracharya, Siddhartha Bajra**
Organisation: **National Trust for Nature Conservation**
Funding Sought: **£346,276.00**

IWTR7S2\1039

Mainstreaming traditional hunting communities of western Nepal in tiger conservation

The Banke-Bardia complex holds the second largest population of endangered Royal Bengal Tiger in Nepal. Poaching and illegal trade of tiger and its body parts, hunting of prey species for meat and livelihood, and retaliatory killings are major threats to tiger conservation. The project aims to reduce the threats to tigers through nature-based livelihood support programmes to ~800 targeted households involved in hunting, capacitating frontline staff and strengthen wildlife enforcement together with increasing conservation awareness among local communities.

Section 1 - Contact Details

PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

Title	Dr
Name	Siddhartha Bajra
Surname	Bajracharya
Organisation	National Trust for Nature Conservation
Website (Work)	www.ntnc.org.np
Tel (Work)	█████████
Email (Personal)	██████████████
Address	███████
	███████
	████
	████
	████

GMS ORGANISATION

Type	Organisation
Name	National Trust for Nature Conservation
Phone (Mobile)	███████
Email (Work)	██████████████
Website (Work)	███████
Address	███████
	████
	████
	████

Section 2 - Title, Dates & Budget Summary

Q3. Project title:

Mainstreaming traditional hunting communities of western Nepal in tiger conservation

What was your Stage 1 reference number? e.g. IWTR7S1\100123

IWTR7S1\1234

Q4. Country(ies)

Which eligible country(ies) will your project be working in? Where there are more than 4 countries that your project will be working in, please add more boxes using the selection option below.

Country 1	Nepal	Country 2	*No Response*
Country 3	*No Response*	Country 4	*No Response*

Do you require more fields?

◉ No

Q5. Project dates

Start date:	End date:	Duration (e.g. 2 years, 3 months):
15 April 2021	15 March 2024	2 years, 11 months

Q6. Budget summary

Year:	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	Total request
Amount:	£134,301.00	£144,748.00	£67,227.00	£ 346,276.00

Q6a. Do you have proposed matched funding arrangements?

◉ Yes

What matched funding arrangements are proposed?

National Trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC) will allocate its field staff, office space, vehicles and other facilities from its field station located in Bardia National Park.

Q6b. Proposed (confirmed and unconfirmed) matched funding as % of total Project cost (total cost is the IWT Challenge Fund request plus other funding required to run the project). ▮

Section 3 - Project Summary & Objectives

Q7. Summary of project

Please provide a brief summary of your project, its aims, and the key activities you plan on undertaking. Please note that if you are successful, this wording may be used by Defra in communications e.g. as a short description of the project on GOV.UK.

Please write this summary for a non-technical audience.

The Banke-Bardia complex holds the second largest population of endangered Royal Bengal Tiger in Nepal. Poaching and illegal trade of tiger and its body parts, hunting of prey species for meat and livelihood, and retaliatory killings are major threats to tiger conservation. The project aims to reduce the threats to tigers through nature-based livelihood support programmes to ~800 targeted households involved in hunting, capacitating frontline staff and strengthen wildlife enforcement together with increasing conservation awareness among local communities.

Q8. What will be the Outcome of the project?

This should be an action orientated statement e.g. training provided to the judiciary results in increased successful prosecutions of poaching.

This should be the same as the Outcome statement in the logframe uploaded at Question 34.

Hunting communities generating income from alternative livelihood, capacitated frontline staff on wildlife enforcement and increased conservation awareness results in reduced community's dependency on bush meat hunting and tiger poaching.

Q9. Which of the four key IWT Challenge Fund objectives will your project address?

Please tick all that apply.

- ☑ Developing sustainable livelihoods to benefit people affected by IWT
- ☑ Strengthening law enforcement

Q10. Which of the commitments made in the London Conference Declarations, the Kasane Statement and/or the Hanoi Conference does this project support?

Please provide the number(s) of the relevant commitments and some brief information on how your project will contribute to them. There is no need to include the text from the relevant commitment.

Action A - Eradicating markets
The project will effectively tackle supply of IWT by interventions focusing on reducing poaching and traditional hunting; and awareness programs will contribute to reduce supply chain. Enhanced law enforcement, specially by capacity building of frontline staff and directly engaging local youths in anti-poaching will help reduce the complex's position as a source of IWT.

Action C – Strengthening law enforcement
The project will conduct trainings to the frontline park staff to bridge the skill and knowledge gap in wildlife law enforcement focusing on anti-poaching operations, handling of wildlife crime cases, identification of illegal wildlife products, investigation techniques and legal procedures. Local youths will be trained in anti-poaching patrolling operations and criminal apprehension procedures. Mobilization of Rapid Response Teams (RRT) in poaching and human wildlife conflict (HEC) prone areas will greatly support in rapid on-site operations to investigate reported incidents and apprehend criminals. Nepal is both transit and source country, it necessitates to achieve wider coordination among the communities, and law enforcement agencies to control IWT. In this view, project will organize regular coordination meetings among the stakeholders. Similarly, IWT database will support towards increasing law enforcement effectiveness and

reach to IWT involved families.

Action D – Sustainable livelihood
The project will work with people involved in the supply side to eliminate their dependence in poaching by providing support for sustainable livelihood. Deriving sustainable livelihood through this project will release them from their dependence on illicit means of earning and contribute to reducing their poverty.

Q11. Global Goals for Sustainable Development (SDGs)

Please detail how your project will contribute to the Global Goals for Sustainable Development (SDGs).

Goal 1:
The emergence of recent IWT is pronounced in project's targeted areas which are primarily inhabited by the poor and traditional hunting communities. These communities are deprived of income generating opportunities and hence lagging behind the overall socio-economic indicators. The project interventions are targeted to minimize the poverty in these vulnerable and poor communities whose source of subsistence are hunting and/or illegal wildlife trade and those who are struggling with the growing human-wildlife conflict scenario.

Goal 5:
To encourage gender equality on conservation and income generation, local women and girls will be encouraged to participate and to derive the benefit from livelihood support programmes and develop their skills and behavior to lead conservation awareness campaign and anti-poaching operations.

Goal 10:
All the livelihood support programs envisioned by this project are targeted to reduce the vulnerability of poor and socio-economically deprived (so called untouchable castes) communities. Project outcomes will contribute to sustained income growth in these communities and create opportunities to improve access to health, education and increased living standard.

Goal 12:
Nature based tourism and income generation activities are identified as the major program to enhance local livelihoods. This will result in reduced unsustainable consumption of wildlife and forest resources, while promoting sustainable nature-based livelihood.

Goal 15:
The project will directly contribute to the survival of endangered tiger and other flagship species along the western Terai landscape of Nepal through its support to combat poaching and IWT, and enhanced local capacity to pursue sustainable livelihood.

Section 4 - Lead Organisation Summary

Q12. Lead organisation summary

Has your organisation been awarded an IWT Challenge Fund or Darwin Initiative award before (for the purposes of this question, being a partner does not count)?

⊙ No

If no, please provide the below information on the lead organisation.

What year was your organisation established/ incorporated/ registered?	01 January 1982
What is the legal status of your organisation?	⊙ Other (if selected, please explain below)
Other explained	NTNC is an autonomous and not for profit organization established by the Legislative Act of Nepal to conserve and manage natural heritage.
How is your organisation currently funded?	NTNC is sustained from its diverse funding sources. In the three mountain protected areas, it collects revenues from tourism entry-fees. NTNC is also managing a national zoo in Nepal which is sustained from the entry fees. NTNC's programmes in the lowland protected areas to support the government, funding mainly comes from national and international donor agencies such as U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, USAID, Zoological Society of London, WWF, Foundations, Zoos and collaboration with different research agencies, conservation partners and universities.

Describe briefly the aims, activities and achievements of your organisation. Large organisations please note that this should describe your unit or department.

Aims	NTNC aims to conserve, manage and promote nature in all its diversity that cultivates innovation, and enhance social equity and quality of life.
Activities	NTNC supports the Government of Nepal in ex-situ and in-situ conservation endeavours. NTNC manages three protected areas (PA), zoos, and has conservation programmes in tiger-bearing PAs. Thematic interventions include species conservation, PAs and ecosystems, climate actions, conservation economy and research and knowledge management with gender and governance as cross-cutting themes.

Achievements	NTNC is recognized globally for its innovative Integrated Conservation and Development Programme (ICDP): the model that has substantially improved conservation and livelihoods of communities including women, and marginalised vulnerable groups. NTNC has been successful in addressing conservation issues and priorities and became a centre of wildlife research and monitoring.

Provide details of 3 contracts/projects previously undertaken by the lead organisation that demonstrate your credibility as an organisation and provide track record relevant to the project proposed.

These contacts should have been held in the last 5 years and be of a similar size to the grant requested in your IWT Challenge Fund application.

Contract/Project 1 Title	Hariyo Ban Program
Contract Value/Project budget (include currency)	██████████████████████ ██████
Duration (e.g. 2 years 3 months)	10 years (August 2011 – December 2016 (1st Phase) and 2nd Phase will continue until 2021)
Role of organisation in project	Consortium Partner with key role in biodiversity conservation
Brief summary of the aims, objectives and outcomes of the project	The Hariyo Ban Program is a United States Agency for International Development (USAID) funded consortium initiative with the overall goal to reduce adverse impacts of climate change and threats to biodiversity in Nepal through management of critical ecosystems, wildlife conservation, building climate resilience and engaging local communities. Outcomes of the project has been in tacking priority threats: overharvesting of forest resources; human-wildlife conflict; poaching and illegal trade of wildlife; uncontrolled fire; poorly designed infrastructure development; and wildlife disease.
Client/independent reference contact details (Name, e-mail)	Dr.Ghana Shyam Gurung Country Representative WWF Nepal ████████████ █████████████████

Contract/Project 2 Title	Using science-based technology to estimate the population of wild Asian elephants and address conservation challenges of human-elephant conflict in western Nepal

Contract Value/Project budget (include currency)	US $ ▇▇▇▇ Funded by US Fish and Wildlife Services, Asian Elephant Conservation Fund
Duration (e.g. 2 years, 3 months)	2 years (2019 to 2020)
Role of organisation in project	NTNC is the sole applicant and implementing agency. The project is being implemented in Banke-Bardia complex in western terai, Nepal.
Brief summary of the aims, objectives and outcomes of the project	Overall goal of the project is to assess population attributes of wild elephants in western Nepal and promote human-elephant co-existence (HECx). The main objectives of the project are (i) estimation of wild elephant population in the western terai region of Nepal using non-invasive methods, (ii) assess spatio-temporal movement of wild elephant using radio-telemetry for early warning to the communities, and (iii) minimize the negative impacts of human on elephant by strengthening capacity of Rapid Response Teams. Outcomes of the project are robust estimation of wild elephant population and strengthened HECx.
Client/independent reference contact details (Name, e-mail)	Cory Brown ▇▇▇▇▇▇▇▇ Programme Officer US Fish and Wildlife Services Asian Elephant Conservation Fund

Contract/Project 3 Title	Strengthening Regional Cooperation of Wildlife Protection in Asia
Contract Value/Project budget (include currency)	US ▇▇▇▇
Duration (e.g. 2 years, 3 months)	5 years (2011 – 2016)
Role of organisation in project	Secretarial support in capacity of Project Coordination Unit in day-to-day coordination of various project components in technical and fiduciary aspects.

Brief summary of the aims, objectives and outcomes of the project.	The project was implemented in three tiger-range countries – Bangladesh, Bhutan and Nepal with the aim to address transnational wildlife trafficking, protection of transboundary habitats and management of transboundary human-wildlife conflict to improve or at least stabilize the population of significant wildlife in the participating countries through built capacity for addressing trans-boundary IWT and promoting wildlife conservation. Major outcomes are the development of a regional institution for combating IWT; knowledge products on wildlife crime and wildlife conservation; establishment of wildlife crime control institutions; pilot initiatives implemented to address trans-boundary wildlife issues; and habitat management contributing to tiger and prey conservation.
Client/independent reference contact details (Name, e-mail)	Natalia Johnson Senior Operation officer The World Bank ███████████████████████ ███████████████ █████████████

Have you provided the requested signed audited/independently examined accounts? If you select "yes" you will be able to upload these. Note that this is not required from Government Agencies.

⦿ Yes

Please attach the requested signed audited/independently examined accounts.

⬇ NTNC_Annual Report_2019	⬇ NTNC Annual Report 2018
📅 09/11/2020	📅 09/11/2020
🕐 07:17:48	🕐 07:17:47
📄 pdf 4.14 MB	📄 pdf 5.23 MB
⬇ Audited Financial Report_Office of the Auditor General_2018-19	⬇ Audited Financial Report_Office of the Auditor General_2017-18
📅 09/11/2020	📅 09/11/2020
🕐 06:52:10	🕐 06:52:10
📄 pdf 1.9 MB	📄 pdf 1.9 MB

Section 5 - Project Partners

Q13. Project partners

Please list all the partners involved (including the lead organisation) and explain their roles and responsibilities in the project. Describe the extent of their involvement at all stages, including project development.

This section should illustrate the capacity of partners to be involved in the project, and how local institutions, local communities, and technical specialists are involved as appropriate. Please provide Letters of Support for the lead organisation and each partner or explain why this has not been included.

N.B: There is a file upload button at the bottom of this page for the upload of a cover letter (if applicable) and all letters of support.

Lead Organisation name:	National Trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC)
Website address:	https://ntnc.org.np/
Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):	NTNC will bear overall responsibility of project planning, implementation, monitoring, financial management and reporting. Field implementation, monitoring and financial transaction will be largely carried out through its field station located in Bardia. It has a capacity to self-implement project activities in partnership with respective protected area authorities and local community-based organizations such as buffer zone user committees and women's groups. NTNC field team comprising 22 staffs of wildlife biologist, socio-economist, rangers, wildlife technicians, social mobilizers and supporting human resources. It has a well-equipped office set-up backed up with finance and administration units. The field team is always backed up by the senior management team and experts of NTNC central team located in Kathmandu. NTNC central office will be responsible to coordinate the planning, monitoring, financial management, reporting and monitoring. Overall, NTNC has a competent and dynamic team consisting wildlife biologists, GESI, monitoring and evaluation, procurement, human resource management, finance and safeguards for project management. The field station itself has a history of three decades involved in wildlife research and monitoring, and sustainable community development in western Terai.
Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation? (Note: this can be uploaded at the bottom of the page)	⦿ Yes
Have you provided a cover letter to address your Stage 1 feedback? (Note: this can be uploaded at the bottom of the page)	⦿ Yes

Do you have partners involved in the Project?

⊙ Yes

1. Partner Name:	Bardia National Park (BNP)
Website address:	https://www.bardianationalpark.gov.np/
Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):	Bardia National Park (BNP) is a government entity and bears the overall responsibility of protection and management of Bardia National Park and buffer zone. BNP currently has over 200 enforcement staffs with security posts spread throughout the park. The project will be implemented in coordination with the park. BNP will mobilize its frontline staffs involved in park security to conduct regular surveillance and information gathering. It will also facilitate and monitor the buffer zone-based institutions viz. buffer zone management committees, buffer zone community forest user groups, community based anti-poaching units and local cooperatives to implement project activities in coordination with the lead organization.
Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?	⊙ Yes

Do you have more than one partner involved in the Project?

⊙ Yes

2. Partner Name:	Banke National Park (BaNP)
Website address:	http://bankenationalpark.gov.np/
Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):	Banke National Park (BaNP) is a government entity with overall responsibility of protection and management of Banke National Park and buffer zone. BaNP currently has over 200 enforcement staffs with security posts spread throughout the park. The project will be implemented in overall coordination and support from the park. BaNP will mobilise its security posts and frontline staffs involved in park security to conduct regular surveillance and information gathering. It will also facilitate and monitor the buffer zone-based institutions viz. buffer zone management committees, buffer zone community forest user groups, community based anti-poaching units and local cooperatives to implement project activities in coordination with the lead organisation.
Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?	⊙ Yes

3. Partner Name:	Ujayalo Nepal Bardia
Website address:	http://ujyalonepalbardia.com/
Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):	Ujayalo Nepal is a non-governmental and not for profit organizition established in 2008 under the legal framework of Government of Nepal. Its main thrust is mainstreaming community on conservation, bridging the policy gap between community and local government and provides technical support. It has seven full time staff specialized on livelihood and community engagement. Ujayalo Nepal will accomplish social survey to identify the special needs for different social groups, and help implementation of community sensitization activities in collaboration with eco-teachers, local men and women.
Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?	⊙ Yes

4. Partner Name:	Tharu Women Upliftment Center (TWUC)
Website address:	http://www.twucbardiya.org.np/
Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):	Tharu Women Upliftment Center is a non- governmental, not for profit, grass-root level and service-oriented civil society organization established in 1990 by an effort of ethnic Tharu women of Bardia district. TWUC is working in western Terai among half million people focusing to ethnic and marginalised women. It is working in the field of women empowerment, environmental issues of disadvantaged, ethnic Tharu and other communities. TWUC has successfully implemented projects on improving livelihood of flood-affected people. Preparation and implementation of climate adaptation plans at local level, preparations for water-induced post-disaster recovery and climate change adaptation are currently ongoing projects of TWUC which are being funded by Government of Nepal and other organisations like USAID, Care Nepal and Plan International. TWUC expertise will be used in the project for the mobilisation of village women in nature-based livelihood activities. The center will implement activities under strengthening women cooperatives and community institutions.
Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?	⊙ Yes

5. Partner Name:	*No Response*

Website address:	*No Response*
Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):	*No Response*
Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?	○ Yes ○ No

6. Partner Name:	*No Response*
Website address:	*No Response*
Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):	*No Response*
Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?	○ Yes ○ No

If you require more space to enter details regarding Partners involved in the Project, please use the text field below.

No Response

Please provide a cover letter responding to feedback received at Stage 1 if applicable and a combined PDF of all letters of support.

⪻ Support Letters
📅 09/11/2020
🕒 08:01:09
📄 pdf 5.06 MB

Section 6 - Project Staff

Q14. Project staff

Please identify the core staff on this project, their role and what % of their time they will be working on the project. Further information on who should be classified as core staff can be found in the guidance.

Please provide 1 page CVs for these staff or a 1 page job description or Terms of Reference for roles yet to be filled. These should match the names and roles in the budget spreadsheet. If your team is larger than 12 people please review if they are core staff, or whether you can merge roles (e.g.

'admin and finance support') below, but provide a full table based on this template in the PDF of CVs you provide.

Name (First name, Surname)	Role	% time on project	1 page CV or job description attached?
Dr. Siddhartha Bajra Bajracharya	**Project Leader**	10	Checked
Dr. Naresh Subedi	Project Manager	20	Checked
Dr. Rabin Kadariya	Project Coordinator	80	Checked
Mr. Shyam Kumar Thapa	Monitoring and Evaluation Officer	20	Checked

Do you require more fields?

⊙ Yes

Name (First name, Surname)	Role	% time on project	1 page CV or job description attached?
Mr. Sujhav Pun	Programme Officer	50	Checked
Ms. Sikshya Adhikary Rana	GESI Officer	20	Checked
Mr. Ramji Babu Thapa	Operations Officer	20	Checked
Mr. Pradeshu Chaudhary	Community Mobilizer	100	Checked
No Response	*No Response*	*No Response*	Unchecked
No Response	*No Response*	*No Response*	Unchecked
No Response	*No Response*	*No Response*	Unchecked
No Response	*No Response*	*No Response*	Unchecked

Please provide 1 page CVs (or job description if yet to be recruited) for the project staff listed above as a combined PDF.

Ensure the file is named clearly, consistent with the named individual and role above.

⤓ Project Staff CV
🗓 08/11/2020
🕐 13:07:52
🗎 pdf 797.29 KB

Have you attached all project staff CVs?

⊙ Yes

Section 7 - Species & Project Statement

Q15. Species project is focusing on

Where there are more than 4 species that will benefit from the project's work, please add more fields using the selection option below.

Royal Bengal Tiger	Greater one-horned rhinoceros
Common leopard	Pangolins

Do you require more fields?

⊙ Yes

Gharial crocodile	Four-horned antelope
No Response	*No Response*
No Response	*No Response*
No Response	*No Response*

Q16. Problem the project is trying to address

What specific aspect(s) of the illegal trade in wildlife will your project address? Please describe the level of threat to the species concerned.

Please also explain which communities are affected by this issue, and how this aspect of the illegal trade in wildlife relates to poverty or efforts of people and/or states to alleviate poverty. Please cite the evidence you are using to support your assessment of the problem (references can be listed in your additional attached PDF document which can be uploaded at the bottom of the next page).

1. Illegal hunting and poaching: Banke-Bardia complex representing Bardia National Park and Banke National Park and their buffer zones in western Nepal provides a key habitat for tiger in Nepal. With current largest population of tiger, it also provides an extended habitat for tigers throughout the northern remote Siwalik Hills (Thapa and Kelly 2016). Thus, the complex has potential to hold increasing tiger population and acts as climate refugia.

However, the complex is also identified as hotspot for tiger poaching. DNA-analysis of six cases of seizures in recent past revealed it originated from this complex (Karmacharya et al. 2018). During this COVID-19 lockdown, a tiger was killed by poachers using hand-made snare (https://kathmandupost.com/province-no-5/2020/09/26/tiger-carcass-found-inside-bardiya-national-park). Two tiger skins were seized from BaNP periphery and twenty-seven tiger prey were also poached for bush meat (BaNP 2019) which may further be

accelerated due to socio-economic difficulty created by COVID-19 pandemic. It is estimated that over 20,000 youths working abroad (Middle East and India) have returned due to job loss in this complex and the unemployment situation may further fuel up poaching and hunting. Moreover, the recent release of jailed notorious poachers by the court has come as additional threat to tiger conservation in the complex (https://www.nepalitimes.com/banner/lax-laws-make-nepal-haven-for-tiger-poachers/). These recent seizures indicate re-emergence of poaching in the complex. If adequate measures are not taken to improve wildlife enforcement and local livelihood, the situation may further worsen and tiger conservation will be severely compromised. Therefore, it is pertinent to strengthen efforts to offset the economic impacts of COVID-19 in these communities and engage them on wildlife conservation together with strengthening wildlife enforcement.

2. Underlying poverty and geographical remoteness: Hunting, which was primarily for the purpose of bush-meat in the past, is now commercialised owing to growing road networks and highway markets (Bhattarai et al. 2016). It is associated with prevalent poverty, inadequate presence park authorities and geographical remoteness (Bhattarai et al. 2016). The entire area is inhabited by the poor communities representing indigenous minorities, and have always been left behind by the mainstream of development. Specially, during this pandemic, these communities are bearing increased hardship to support their livelihood. Therefore, the project intends to provide alternative livelihood to the people whose livelihood is dependent on bush-meat, forest resources and are affected by the IWT.

3. Retaliatory killing: In 2019 alone, 9 people lost their life from tiger attack in this complex (~10 human causalities per annum). Similarly, ~450 livestock get depredated by large carnivores annually and they hardly get compensation to these losses. In retaliation, the affected farmers sometimes kill tigers and other wildlife species through poisoning, snaring and gunshots (~2 tigers/leopard killing per annum). These wildlife parts are often smuggled into the black markets. If the measures to minimize human-wildlife conflict can be developed and mechanisms for compensations can be strengthened, the retaliatory killing of tiger and other wildlife will decrease significantly. At the same time, it will help check the entry of illegal traders in the villages.

Section 8 - Method, Beneficiaries & Exit Strategy

Q17. Methodology

Describe the methods and approach you will use to achieve your intended Outcome and Impact. Provide information on:

- How you have analysed historical and existing initiatives and are building on or taking work already done into account in project design (either by your organisation or others). Please cite evidence where appropriate.
- The rationale for carrying out this work and a justification of your proposed methodology.
- How you will undertake the work (materials and methods).
- How you will manage the work (roles and responsibilities, project management tools etc.).

Please make sure you read the Guidance Notes**, particularly Section 3, before answering this question.**

The project area is an important extended habitat/climate refugia for tiger (Thapa and Kelly 2016). There are ~3,135 households among which majority are disadvantaged poor ethnic minority who subsist on forest resource and hunting. NTNC's over 25 years experience of working with buffer zone communities, and experience gained while implementing IWT supported "Strengthening community anti-poaching and ecotourism in the western Terai complex" in partnership with ZSL will help to upscale conservation initiatives in the landscape.

This project will further strengthen community engagement and mainstream traditional hunters, IWT affected families and economically marginalized communities on conservation endeavours. This will help create favourable environment for tiger and human co-existence in the long run.

NTNC Bardia Conservation Programme (BCP) will work as the implementation unit and maintain coordination with both parks and other stakeholders. NTNC central office will provide technical and managerial support. The following are major activities and methodologies.

Output 1: Increased community stewardship in conservation through diversified alternative livelihood opportunities

Activities:
i) Baseline socio-economic survey: The project will conduct a socio-economic survey (semi-structured questionnaires survey and focus group discussions) to identify IWT vulnerable households to obtain disaggregated information on different socio-economic attributes.

ii) Homestay management support: This support involves material and technical supports to establish and operate homestays as per the standards of homestay operation guidelines of the government. Technical supports involve group formation, legalization and promotional activities. Fifty households will be selected by the community themselves giving, priority to women-led and IWT affected households.

iii) Capacity enhancement training on eco-tourism: Training manuals on homestay management and nature guiding will be prepared. There will be two events each of 5 days training on homestay management and two weeks nature guiding training, both on theoretical and practical sessions, and involving at least 25 participants. NTNC and BZUCs together will select the participants based on aptitude assessment of interested individuals.

iv) Support for predator-proof corral: Economic loss from livestock depredation by tiger and leopards occurs in ~450 households annually. Due to this, the poor farmers are compromising their livelihood and sometimes they involve in retaliatory killing of tiger and leopards. About 260 households suffering from repeated cases of livestock depredation from tiger and leopard will be partially supported to construct predator proof corals.

v) Promotion of high value cash crops: Support will be provided in collaboration with local governments for promotion of wildlife non-palatable cash crops like ginger, turmeric, lemon, lemon grass, broom grass, etc. to 130 households.

vi) Support to women cooperatives: Seed money will be provided to promote innovative nature-based livelihood ideas received from women led cooperatives (n=4). Backstopping support will be provided to execute the innovative ideas.

Output 2: Awareness of community towards IWT increased and hunting/poaching decreased

Activities:
i) Trainers Training (ToT) on IWT and community trainings: A training manual will be developed to conduct ToT on IWT and 20 participants will be trained and developed as IWT trainers. Subsequently, the trainers will conduct 100 community level trainings with 40 participants per session.

ii) Production of IWT booklet: A booklet (3,000 copies) explaining IWT and legal provisions on local language will be produced and distributed during the community trainings.

iii) School programs: Students of grades 8-10 from fifty schools (6000 students) will be sensitized on tiger conservation. This will add value to their curriculum and help produce conservation sensitive new generation.

Output 3: Enhanced capacity of frontline park staff to handle IWT

Activities:

i) Law enforcement training: NTNC has prepared a wildlife enforcement training manual and a three-day long law enforcement trainings (3 events with 30 participants in each) will be conducted to the park rangers and game scouts by professional trainers from NTNC, DNPWC and Nepal Police.

ii) Establishment of RRT: RRTs involving frontline staffs and members of community will be formed and institutionalized (2 in BaNP, 2 in BNP) in the high human-wildlife conflict areas to respond the incidents. This will help reduce retaliatory killings and improve human safety.

iii) IWT database: The project will help to establish IWT database in both national parks and equip them which will be managed by park authorities.

iv) Wildlife Crime Control Bureaus (WCCB) meetings: District level WCCB meetings (2 events a year) will be organized to maintain coordination among enforcement agencies and strengthen wildlife enforcement.

v) Regional workshop: A regional level workshop of provinces 5, 6 and 7 will be organized to share the IWT/project experiences, learning and knowledge among the key stakeholders and policy makers. About 50 participants are expected.

Q18. Beneficiaries

- **Who will benefit from the work outlined above, and in what ways?**
- **How will this contribute to sustainable development for the reduction of poverty?**
- **How many people are likely to benefit from this intervention e.g. number of households?**
- **How do you intend to monitor the benefits they accrue?**

If your project is working in an Upper Middle Income Country, please explain how benefits will be delivered to people living in poverty in Low and/or Low Middle Income countries.

Include, where possible, information on whether and how there are ways to support the most vulnerable communities, including women.

Demand reduction projects should clearly demonstrate their indirect links to poverty reduction, for example, by identifying impacts in the source countries for the products concerned.

The project will be implemented in the remote Siwalik Hills where marginalised poor ethnic minority are the major inhabitants. Overall economic indicators of this area are below the national average. Prevalent poverty and food insecurity are driving factors to poaching and IWT (Conney et al. 2016). Due to geographic remoteness, these marginalised communities and women lack income generating opportunities. This project will directly benefit members of these socio-economically deprived communities, and ensure maximum benefit to local girls and women through income generation and creation of local employment. Frontline park staffs of both the protected areas will benefit from law enforcement training. Likewise, the

project expects to build the capacity of economically deprived poor community to live a better life through nature based livelihood programmes so that they give up traditional hunting practices. The project is intended to indirectly benefit the entire population (3,135 households, population of 17,421 including 9762 women). More specifically, the project will directly benefit 800 households. Over 50% of benefit will be provided to local youths and girls. Similarly, 240 local women will benefit from livelihood opportunities. IWT awareness activities will directly benefit ~4,000 people and reach over 95% households. Over 60% of the local population will become familiar to the legal aspects of tiger and prey base poaching. Over 6000 students from 50 schools will be reached in conservation education sessions. Local youths (20) will be trained as IWT trainers and mobilised in 100 awareness campaigns reaching almost all households. Ninety frontline staff will benefit from law enforcement training. All the female rangers and game scouts, currently employed in the protected areas, will be prioritized for the training. With the formation of 4 RRTs, the project will engage over 150 local youths and frontline park staffs in regular patrolling and information gathering. At least 50% of the RRT members will be female.

Benefit monitoring strategy:

• Livelihood support programs (success indicator): Number of households of marginalized communities, girls, women and poor having access to alternative nature-based livelihood sources. Socio-economic status of the local households will be measured prior and after the project interventions through socio-economic survey.
• Behavior change (success indicator): Number of local communities participating in the campaign. Change in behavior will be measured following the structured questionnaire before and after the IWT awareness session.
• Poaching reduction (success indicator): Park databases on number and kind of anti-poaching operations conducted, number of poachers and smugglers arrested, periodic database of tiger and prey base monitoring.

During the project preparation, stakeholder consultation workshops were organized in the project area involving BZUCs, CBAPUs, local government representatives, indigenous communities representatives, farmers and women groups, community forest users, tourism entrepreneurs, nature guides, park and law enforcement authorities and partner organizations. In the workshop, project concept was presented by NTNC. The participants were divided into groups and they were asked to identify problems, strategies and activities to address the problems. Based on these, a logical framework was developed for the project incorporating socio-economic, gender, youth, vulnerability/marginality and IWT aspects.

Q19. Gender Equality

All applicants must consider whether and how their project will contribute to reducing inequality between persons of different gender. Explain how your project will collect sex disaggregated data and what impact your project will have in promoting gender equality.

Women have indirect involvement in wildlife poaching, such as preparing food for poaching team, drying bush meat, and transporting wildlife products. When male members of the community get arrested for legal prosecution, women must bear the additional burden of household management. The project aims to improve the food security and income opportunities of IWT affected women which will contribute in improving their current socio-economic condition. Capacitating women in skill-based entrepreneurships, promoting their education and providing specialized trainings have proven to contribute to uplifting their personal and social status. Majority of beneficiaries will include marginalized women, with attention to women of households where male members are facing jail time, fugitive from the law, or are affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The project will maintain gender equality in selecting beneficiaries following NTNC's gender equality and social inclusion (GESI) policy (https://ntnc.org.np/gesi-policy). Based on the project's logical framework, the GESI focal person for the project will carry out the designing,

implementation and monitoring of targeted activities. NTNC through USAID funded Hariyo Ban Programme has already developed leadership capacity of a few local girls and women as GESI champions in similar communities. The project will use the expertise of these champions to develop capacity of local women in the project area.

Local girls and women (240) will get opportunity to develop capacity on conservation, nature-based tourism, and alternative livelihood opportunities. This will increase women's access to project benefits and development mainstream. Sex disaggregated data will be used in the project's gender analysis to assess impacts on women. Achievement of the targets will improve the status of beneficiary women in regards to their income, living standard, access to resources and decision-making. Improved performance in these indicators is expected to support towards gender equality in these communities, or at least improve their social status.

Q20. Impact on species in focus

How will the species named in Question 15 benefit from the work outlined above? What do you expect the long-term impact on the species concerned to be?

Royal Bengal Tiger is an umbrella species of the sub-tropical ecosystems. Reduction in poaching threat to tiger thus will contribute to the conservation and protection of all the species listed in question 15. Banke-Bardia complex had already faced a severe decline of tiger population during the armed conflict. At present, the landscape holds 108 breeding tigers. A number of successful interventions both related to habitat management and community engagement contributed to the present viable tiger population. The project will support to increase the tiger population in the complex mainly because (i) poaching threats and retaliatory killing will be minimised as a result of livelihood opportunities, (ii) park security will be strengthened with increased capacity of frontline staff on IWT control, and (iii) increased community awareness on IWT control. Furthermore, the project will build the capacity of the poor and marginalised households to improve their livelihood. Deriving sustainable livelihood through this project will release traditional hunting communities from their dependence on hunting/poaching and contribute to reducing their poverty. The interventions are expected to flourish wildlife tourism and increase park revenue, institutionalize communities in tiger conservation; and behavioural change among people will contribute to the long-term survival of tiger and associated species.

Q21. Pathway to change

Please outline your project's expected pathway to change. This should be an overview of the overall project logic and outline how you expect your Outputs to contribute towards your overall Outcome and, longer term, your expected Impact.

Poaching and retaliatory killing of tiger and its prey species is linked with underlying poverty, low awareness and inadequate competency of frontline staff. The recent outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic has jeopardised the local economy which may further accelerate poaching and IWT. Therefore, the strategy of livelihoods diversification is important to provide opportunities to the poor households for sustaining their livelihood and motivate them to give up hunting, poaching and IWT. Frontline enforcement staffs are often forced to act upon poaching with inadequate skills and resources. This often weakens prosecution and inadequate responses against poaching. Enhanced competency of frontline staff can effectively handle crime cases, and adequately manage available information for wildlife crime control. Conservation education on IWT will sensitise and aware community people and local youth on the importance of conservation and help build positive attitude towards biodiversity conservation. The project's cumulative interventions on local livelihoods and law enforcement capacity together with awareness will bring behavioral changes in the community and hence, poaching and retaliatory killings of wildlife is minimised

and ultimately contribute to the national target of doubling the tiger population by 2022. Sustaining the efforts will help in maintaining healthy tiger and prey-base population beyond doubling the tigers.

Q22. Exit Strategy

State how the project will reach a stable and sustainable end point, and explain how the outcomes will be sustained, either through a continuation of activities, funding and support from other sources or because the activities will be mainstreamed in to "business as usual". Where individuals receive advanced training, for example, what will happen should that individual leave?

Nepal's tourism sector is expected to recover from late-2021, and meanwhile, project will prepare capacitated local human resources to sustainably benefit from tourism resurgence. Homestay tourism will be self-sustained with the tourism activities around Siwalik Hills. There are additional opportunities for the trained local men and women to get jobs in tourism industry elsewhere as a nature guides and hospitality services. Adoption of improved corrals, cash crops and improved goats will increase household income. These practices will be continued by the selected farmers and possibly be adopted by neighbours. Seed money supports to women groups will be mobilised as a revolving fund. The trained IWT trainer will mobilize local communities against IWT in coordination with local authorities. Local municipalities will be involved in the project and necessary fund and opportunities for the scaling up and replication can be accomplished. Law enforcement training packages and RRTs will ultimately feed to the institutional memory of the PAs. Recipients of training programs and those involved in anti-poaching will provide data to the database and strengthen capacity of the parks, and transfer capacity to newcomers and sustain the initiatives. NTNC will collaborate with the PAs to generate future funding to sustain the project results.

If necessary, please provide supporting documentation e.g. maps, diagrams, references etc., as a single PDF using the file upload below:

⊻ Additional Materials
⊞ 09/11/2020
🕘 04:24:08
🗎 pdf 470.87 KB

Section 9 - Funding and Budget

Q23. Budget

Please complete the appropriate Excel spreadsheet, which provides the Budget for this application. Some of the questions earlier and below refer to the information in this spreadsheet.

Note that there are different budget templates for grant requests under £100,000 and over £100,000.

- Budget form for projects under £100,000
- Budget form for projects over £100,000

Please refer to the Finance for Darwin/IWT Guidance **for more information.**

N.B: Please state all costs by financial year (1 April to 31 March) and in GBP. The IWT Challenge Fund cannot agree any increase in grants once awarded.

Please upload your completed IWT Budget Form Excel spreadsheet using the field below.

⤓ <u>Budget</u>
🗓 08/11/2020
🕐 13:15:42
▯ xlsx 67.9 KB

Q24. Funding

Q24a. Is this a new initiative or a development of existing work (funded through any source)?

◉ New Initiative

Please provide details:

This project is a new initiative; however, some project activities are developed following the success of previous community engagement program in the other areas of Nepal. NTNC collaborated with Zoological Society of London (ZSL) to implement UK aid funded project entitled "Strengthening Community Anti-poaching and Ecotourism in the Western Terai Complex". Through this project some eco-tourism infrastructures were constructed and community based anti-poaching units were mobilized. Similarly, NTNC collaborated with ZSL to execute IUCN-KfW funded project "Supporting Trans-boundary Tiger Recovery in India and Nepal". Through this project, NTNC conducted regular tiger and prey base monitoring and mobilised local community to promote homestay tourism, improved corrals and other measures to minimise human-wildlife conflict, and community engagement in tiger conservation. Both of those initiatives were mostly implemented in the southern part of parks. However, there are limited community engagement programmes in the northern hilly region of the parks where poaching threats are severe. This project is thus centered to the northern Siwalik Range, geographically remote, poverty-stricken and high potential site for tiger habitat extension.

Q24b. Are you aware of any other individuals/organisations/projects carrying out or applying for funding for similar work?

◉ No

Q25. Co-financing

Are you proposing co-financing?

◉ Yes

Q25a. Secured

Provide details of all funding successfully levered (and identified in the Budget) towards the costs of the project, including any income from other public bodies, private sponsorship, donations, trusts, fees or trading activity, as well as any your own organisation(s) will be committing.

Donor Organisation	Amount	Currency code	Comments
National Trust for Nature Conservation	▮▮▮	GBP	Mostly covers the cost of salary, office running and vehicle operation.

No Response	0	No Response	No Response
No Response	0	No Response	No Response
No Response	0	No Response	No Response

Do you require more fields?

○ Yes
○ No

Q25b. Unsecured

Provide details of any co-financing where an application has been submitted, or that you intend applying for during the course of the project. This could include co-financing from the private sector, charitable organisations or other public sector schemes. This should also include any additional funds required where a donor has not yet been identified.

Date applied for	Donor Organisation	Amount	Currency code	Comments
No Response	No Response	0	No Response	No Response
No Response	No Response	0	No Response	No Response
No Response	No Response	0	No Response	No Response
No Response	No Response	0	No Response	No Response

Do you require more fields?

⊙ No

Section 10 - Capital Costs, Value for Money & Ethics

Q26. Outputs of the project and Open Access

Please describe the project's open access plan and detail any specific costs you are seeking from the IWT Challenge Fund to fund this.

The project will develop a comparative database of socio-economic attributes of the beneficiaries which will help us to assess the before and after scenario to showcase the project contribution on local livelihoods and change in lifestyle and contribution to SDGs. A number of success stories will be prepared to make them public. Local and national media will be used to highlight the results of the project. Wildlife crime and human wildlife conflict database will be maintained by the respective protected area authorities. Additionally, activity wise technical reports will be prepared. A peer-reviewed journal article will be

published on human wildlife conflict and mitigation measures.

All the project findings will be made public and free to users. Project team will collect necessary data, which will be processed and published through different media. Success stories will be printed and both hard copies and soft copies will be made public. NTNC will make use of its website and social media platforms to make information public. Activity wise reports will also be published though the website and social media platform. Larger datasets will be provided to Defra to share it though appropriate online platform.

No costs area allocated in the project for information sharing. These costs will be beard by NTNC through its regular funding sources.

Q27. Financial Risk Management

This question considers the financial risks to the project. Explain how you have considered the risks and threats that may be relevant to the successful financial delivery of this project. This includes risks such as fraud or bribery, but may also include the risk of fluctuating foreign exchange and internal financial processes such as storage of financial data.

The project may have risks of fluctuating foreign exchange as projected expenses are based on local standards and norms. Price fluctuations in markets are often, which may increase cost of procuring goods and project activities. Given the fiscal obligations, NTNC maintains high standards of financial integrity. Bribery, fraud or other corruption is not tolerated; any transgressions will be reported to respective authority. Projects implemented through NTNC must comply with the national statutory obligations. Financial activities are audited by internal auditor and the Office of Auditor General of Nepal. Outcome based disbursement will be followed and requests for reimbursement must follow general accounting practices and be thoroughly documented. All the transactions will be made through banks as far as possible. Insurance of cash in transit will be done in case of longer time cash holding in remote areas of project. NTNC has sufficient funds for addressing potential cash-flow requirements of Defra and project-specified billing schedules. NTNC has its own financial management and control manual, anti-money laundering and anti-terrorist financing policies, discipline in payment and disbursements, procurement of goods and services and overall financial risk management. NTNC's governing board and its sub-committee provides insight and periodic review to minimize any risks.

Q28. Capital items

If you plan to purchase capital items with IWT funding, please indicate what you anticipate will happen to the items following project end. If you are requesting more than 10% capital costs, please provide your justification here.

NTNC will purchase one motorbike to be used for the mobility of project staffs. These items will be remained at NTNC's field station in Bardia after the project completion. These items will be used for the frontline staffs to conduct regular monitoring and surveillance in the future as well. NTNC will provide the status of these items as required by Defra.

Q29. Value for money

Please describe why you consider your application to be good value for money including justification of why the measures you will adopt will secure value for money.

The project interventions will produce multiplier effects and thus outweigh initial investments. Funds spent on anti-poaching, local livelihood improvement and awareness generation will overtime contribute to increasing the value of conserving tigers in the Bardia-Banke complex. Adequate measures will be taken during the project operation to ensure efficient use of project resources to achieve highest possible results. NTNC implements its activities with maximum community participation that ensures local ownership for

sustainability of the interventions. Project activity costs under livelihood component (homestay, predator proof coral) are reduced with community's in-kind contributions and use of locally available materials. The anticipated results from livelihood activities (homestay management and predator proof corrals) will bring sustained income generation in beneficiary households, wildlife related conflicts will reduce, thereby reducing the government's cost for compensations, and the local governments have prioritized green-economy such as tourism and agro-based products for local economic development where project impacts and learning can be adopted by the governments. Conservation and IWT awareness activities will enhance environmental education taught in schools, eco-teachers will benefit from the trainings and local youths will embody the importance of national parks and wildlife conservation by engaging in conservation. NTNC's field station in Bardia has a spacious office with meeting room, training hall, good accommodation facility and vehicles for mobility that will minimize the relevant costs.

Q30. Ethics and human rights

Outline your approach to meeting the IWT's key principles for ethics as outlined in the Guidance Notes.

Additionally, are there any human rights and/or international humanitarian law risks in relation to your project? If there are, have you carried out an assessment of the impact of those risks, and of measures that may be taken in order to mitigate them?

NTNC and the project partners will adhere to ethical and human rights standards in all phases of project implementation. The project strongly focuses on local participation and maximum benefits to the local communities that is relevant to protecting a key human right issue i.e. right to adequate standard of living, provided by the Nepalese Constitution. Indigenous, socially disadvantaged and other vulnerable groups will be incorporated in the project planning phase by using community-led planning process. Local culture and tradition, knowledge and rights of people will be respected, acknowledged and considered in design of project activities. Local wildlife knowledge and traditional ecological knowledge will be duly considered in planning and implementing the activities. Project specific Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) will be developed following NTNC's GRM policy and consultation with local authorities, aimed at addressing violations against rights, privacy and safety of people affected by the project. Prior informed consent, maintenance of anonymity and confidentiality will be considered in concerns subject to data/information collection and sharing. Poor and vulnerable households along with indigenous people and women will be prioritized for participation, hence incorporating their voices and concerns in project activities. Park frontline staff and CBAPU members will be required to get health and accidental death/injury insurance coverage. NTNC maintains political neutrality and transparency throughout its interventions as guided by the NTNC code of conduct. NTNC will follow its fiduciary procedures for effective community-based projects and a number of other safeguards that ensures higher level of transparency and accountability throughout its undertakings (https://ntnc.org.np/compliance-and-ethics).

Q31. Corruption

This question specifically considers corruption. Explain how you have considered any risk of corruption that may affect the success of this project, and how you plan to manage this. This may include financial corruption, but may also deal with gifts or inducements, or other types of dishonesty or deceit.

Corruption in the project can result through falsification of documents, inadequate internal control and staff mishandling of project resources for personal gain. Oversight of the project activities will be undertaken through an Oversight Committee as provisioned by NTNC's policy, which will oversight finance,

compliance, audit, code of conduct, ethics and the project's transparency and accountability. The project team will identify and assess the corruption risks during the project designing stage and categorize the level of risks into operational, financial, compliance and ethical risks. Monitoring of the risks will be carried out during implementation through a risk management system that will be executed by the project team. NTNC's policies for financial management and control, fiduciary system, employee code of conduct, conflict of interest and information disclosure will be fully executed. Consulting services to be procured by the project will be safeguarded from possible corruption with appropriate anti-corruption clauses in the consultant's terms of references. Corruption cases that arises during project implementation will be addressed at both field level and central level with the full application of NTNC's anti-corruption policies and the instruments so provisioned. Project level Complaints Committee will be responsible for redressing project resulting grievances/complaints, including complaints related to corruption.

Q32. Use of data

If your project involves data collection and/or analysis which identifies individuals (e.g. biometric data, intelligence data), please explain the measures which are in place and/or will be taken to ensure the proper control and use of the data. Please explain the experience of the organisations involved in managing this information in your project.

If any aspect of your project relates to informant network data please also explain what measures are in place to ensure it is properly controlled.

The project will involve data collection of individuals related to law enforcement intelligence and socio-economic attributes. Intelligence data will be collected by the frontline staff, processed by the authorities and will be used to deal with the illegal cases of hunting and poaching. Such information are not disclosed to public and solely used for legal procedures. Limited legal stakeholders such as the police and park administration has access and control to this data and information. NTNC data disclosure follows the provisions of right to information act of Nepal, 2007. As per NTNC's information disclosure, grievance redressal and conflict of interest guidelines, information appropriate for to the public shall be made available through the internal web portal, and can be communicated through the print media, media broadcasts, or any other means. However, all confidential personal information will not be made public until it is processed to make available for public media.

Q33. Safeguarding

Projects funded through the IWT Challenge Fund must fully protect vulnerable people all of the time, wherever they work. In order to provide assurance of this, projects are required to have appropriate safeguarding policies in place. Please confirm the lead organisation has the following policies and processes in place and that these can be available on request:

We have a safeguarding policy, which includes a statement of our commitment to safeguarding and a zero tolerance statement on bullying, harassment and sexual exploitation and abuse	Checked
We have attached a copy of our safeguarding policy to this application (file upload below)	Checked
We keep a detailed register of safeguarding issues raised and how they were dealt with	Checked

We have clear investigation and disciplinary procedures to use when allegations and complaints are made, and have clear processes in place for when a disclosure is made	Checked
We share our safeguarding policy with downstream partners	Checked
We have a whistle-blowing policy which protects whistle blowers from reprisals and includes clear processes for dealing with concerns raised	Checked
We have a Code of Conduct for staff and volunteers that sets out clear expectations of behaviours - inside and outside the work place - and make clear what will happen in the event of non-compliance or breach of these standards	Checked

Please outline how you will implement your policies in practice and ensure that downstream partners apply the same standards as the lead organisation.

NTNC's safeguarding policies include (i) code of conduct, (ii) information disclosure, grievance redress and conflict of interest, (iii) prevention and protection of sexual exploitation, sexual abuse and sexual harassment, and (iv) environmental and social management framework. Policies (i), (ii), (iii) will be applicable in aspects of the project and relevant safeguard standards of policy (iv) will bear specific importance in relation of gender, indigenous peoples, and community health and safety. The project team at the central level will conduct orientation training of the policies to the field-based team who will subsequently conduct trainings to the implementing partners. Follow-up trainings will be conducted as required. Safeguard requirements for gender, indigenous peoples and community health and safety will be addressed with plans that will be developed through bottom-up approach. Safeguards implementation will be reported as a part of the project's M&E framework. As guided by NTNC's guidelines, the project's strategy for consultation and engagement will constitute (i) identifying local stakeholder groups, (ii) conduct consultation meetings, (iii) organize workshops for stakeholder institutions/agencies, (iv) form relevant forums/groups to institutionalize engagement process, (v) publish and distribute project information, communication and education materials, (vi) share project related information to wider audience, and (vii) document consultation information.

Please upload the lead organisation's Safeguarding Policy as a PDF

⤓ NTNC Safeguard Policy
🗓 08/11/2020
🕐 13:24:55
📄 pdf 2.37 MB

Section 11 - Logical Framework

Q34. Logical Framework

IWT Challenge Fund projects will be required to monitor (and report against) their progress towards their expected Outputs and Outcome. This section sets out the expected Outputs and Outcome of your project, how you expect to measure progress against these and how we can verify this.

- Stage 2 Logframe Template

Please complete your full logframe in the separate Word template and upload as a pdf using the file upload below. Copy your Impact and Output statements and your activities below - these should be the same as in your uploaded logframe.

Please upload your logframe as a PDF document.

⤵ Logframe
📅 09/11/2020
🕒 08:10:05
📄 pdf 127.05 KB

Impact:

Sustained growth of tiger and its prey base with resilient local livelihood in Banke-Bardia complex.

Outcome:

Please ensure that your Outcome statement has been copied from your logframe into Q8.

Project Outputs

Output 1:

Increased community stewardship in conservation through diversified alternative livelihood opportunities.

Output 2:

Awareness of community towards IWT increased and hunting/poaching decreased.

Output 3:

Enhanced capacity of frontline park staff to handle IWT.

Output 4:

No Response

Output 5:

No Response

Do you require more Output fields?

It is advised to have less than 6 Outputs since this level of detail can be provided at the Activity level.

◯ Yes
◯ No

Activities

Each activity is numbered according to the Output that it will contribute towards, for example, 1.1, 1.2, 1.3 are contributing to Output 1.

Each activity should start on a new line and be no more than approximately 25 words.

Output 1: Increased community stewardship in conservation through diversified alternative livelihood

opportunities

1.1 Baseline socio-economic survey: Baseline socioeconomic survey involving socio-economist and local GESI champions

1.2 Home stay management support: 50 households

1.3 Capacity enhancement training on eco-tourism: Two homestay management (50 participants) and 2 events of Nature Guide (50 participants)

1.4 Improved livestock corral support: For 260 households affected by livestock depredation by tiger and leopard

1.5 Promotion of high value and wildlife non-palatable cash crops: Benefitting 130 households

1.6 Support for women's cooperatives for innovative livelihood activity: 150 women initiate innovative livelihood activities

Output 2: Awareness of community towards IWT increased and hunting/poaching decreased

2.1 IWT training manual developed

2.2 ToT on IWT: 20 local level IWT trainers produced through ToT

2.3 Community trainings on IWT: 100 events of community level IWT trainings for 4000 participants

2.4 Production of IWT sensitization booklet: 3000 copies produced and distributed to IWT affected areas

2.5 School programmes on tiger conservation: Conducted in 50 schools reaching 6,000 students

Output 3: Enhanced capacity of frontline park staff to handle IWT

3.1 Law enforcement training: Three trainings on IWT control for 90 frontline park staff

3.2 Establishment of Rapid Response Teams (RRT): 4 RRTs formed and institutionalized in Banke-Bardia complex

3.3 IWT database establishment: IWT database established in Banke and Bardia National Parks

3.4 Wildlife Crime Control Bureaus (WCCB) meetings: Six meetings in the project area during three years.

3.5 Organise regional workshop on IWT/project learning: A regional workshop covering province 5, 6 and 7 organized (50 participants)

Section 12 - Implementation Timetable

Q35. Provide a project implementation timetable that shows the key milestones in project activities

Provide a project implementation timetable that shows the key milestones in project activities.

Complete the Excel spreadsheet template as appropriate to describe the intended workplan for your project.

- Implementation Timetable Template

Please add/remove columns to reflect the length of your project. For each activity (add/remove rows as appropriate) indicate the number of months it will last, and fill/shade only the quarters in which an activity will be carried out. The workplan can span multiple pages if necessary.

⤓ Implementation Timetable

🗓 08/11/2020

🕐 13:29:38

📄 xls 36.5 KB

Section 13 - M&E and FCDO notification

Q36. Monitoring and evaluation (M&E) plan

Describe, referring to the indicators in your logframe, how the progress of the project will be monitored and evaluated, making reference to who is responsible for the project's M&E.

IWT Challenge Fund projects will need to be adaptive and you should detail how the monitoring and evaluation will feed into the delivery of the project including its management. M&E is expected to be built into the project and not an 'add' on. It is as important to measure for negative impacts as it is for positive impact. Additionally, please indicate an approximate budget and level of effort (person days) to be spent on M&E (see Finance for Darwin/IWT**).**

Monitoring will be mainstreamed in the project implementation arrangement where implementation schedule of project activities will have their monitoring counterparts defined by their targets and verification means to the progress. Monitoring of processes, compliances and results will be undertaken periodically during the project implementation. Monitoring arrangements will be developed for all project activities, where periodic technical and financial targets will be defined, and will be assessed against the baseline and targets. Ongoing variations will be minimized/mitigated with analysis and feedback from the central team, following NTNC's norms and standard best practices. At the central level, the project will have a dedicated M&E unit (M&E officer, GESI officer and Safeguard officer). The team will prepare M&E guidelines, processes and requirements for the project, orient the system to the field unit, oversee the monitoring of results and prepare progress reports. At the field level, the field unit will carry out the monitoring of activities and report periodic progress reflecting progress against technical and financial targets. The field team will also delegate monitoring responsibility to the project partners through monitoring arrangement for their specific activities; these will be nestled into the overall project M&E framework where each sub-activity and progress will feed into the monitoring of the major activities. Monitoring progress under the livelihood component will involve collecting socio-economic data, identifying the changes in (i) number of hunting community households having transitioned to alternative livelihood, (ii) poor local girls and youth having jobs in homestays, and (iii) poor women getting seed money for small enterprises and earning income. While some of these indicators can be examined during the project implementation from inputs level, indicators such as income generated and successful transition of livelihood will take time beyond project duration. Outcomes will be monitored beyond project monitoring where partners organizations will play the role. Positive changes will directly signify reduction in local poverty and supports in reducing gender inequality, however incidental (as income is only one of the factors affecting women). In the law enforcement component, monitoring will be undertaken through records of training events, prosecution records, patrolling reports and the wildlife crime database. These results are achievable during the course of the project and output level changes will attribute to capacity development. Similarly, increase in community awareness will be examined through (i) increase in familiarity to legal aspects of poaching, (ii) change in behaviour (as reduction of illegal activities), and (iii) number of student educated. Input level results will be monitored through reports, level of engagement of eco-teachers in communities and post-awareness questionnaires. Students becoming change agents is a function of personal interest, interpersonal influence and other social and familial aspects, however, reaching 3000 students by conservation education will more than likely bring a positive change at least at the perception level, with young children amicable to the idea of conservation. The central project team will carry out periodic field monitoring visits to evaluate the quality the implementation, assess quality of project design and make corrective measures as necessary.

Total project budget for M&E in GBP (this may include Staff, Travel and Subsistence costs)	£▮▮▮▮
Number of days planned for M&E	75
Percentage of total project budget set aside for M&E (%)	▮

Q37. FCDO Notifications

Please state whether there are sensitivities that the Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office will need to be aware of should they want to publicise the project's success in the IWT Challenge Fund competition in the host country.

No

Please indicate whether you have contacted your Foreign Ministry or the local embassy or High Commission (or equivalent) directly to discuss security issues (see <u>Guidance Notes</u>**) and attach details of any advice you have received from them.**

⊙ No

If no, why not?

Nepal has political stability and there are no security issues at present. The lead applicant is based in-country.

Section 14 - Certification

Q38. Certification

On behalf of the

trustees

of

National Trust for Nature Conservation

I apply for a grant of

£346,276.00

I certify that, to the best of our knowledge and belief, the statements made by us in this application are true and the information provided is correct. I am aware that this application form will form the basis of the project schedule should this application be successful.

(This form should be signed by an individual authorised by the applicant institution to submit applications and sign contracts on their behalf.)

- I have enclosed CVs for key project personnel, letters of support, budget and project implementation timetable (uploaded at appropriate points in application).

- Our last two sets of signed audited/independently verified accounts and annual report are also enclosed.

  Checked

Name	Dr. Siddhartha Bajra Bajracharya
Position in the organisation	Member Secretary (Acting)
Signature (please upload e-signature)	⤵ <u>Certification</u> 🗓 09/11/2020 🕐 06:15:13 🗎 png 41.88 KB
Date	09 November 2020

Section 15 - Submission Checklist

Checklist for submission

	Check
I have read the Guidance, including Guidance Notes for Applicants **and** Finance for Darwin/IWT	Checked
I have read, and can meet, the current Terms and Conditions **for this fund.**	Checked
I have provided actual start and end dates for my project.	Checked
I have provided my budget based on UK government financial years i.e. 1 April – 31 March and in GBP.	Checked
I have checked that the budget is complete, correctly adds up and I have included the correct final total at the start page of the application.	Checked
The application has been signed by a suitably authorised individual (clear electronic or scanned signatures are acceptable).	Checked
I have attached my completed logframe as a PDF using the template provided.	Checked
(If copying and pasting into Flexi-Grant) I have checked that all my responses have been successfully copied into the online application form.	Unchecked
I have included a 1 page CV or job description for all key project personnel identified at Question 14, including the Project Leader, or provided an explanation of why not.	Checked
I have included a letter of support from the Lead Organisation and main partner organisation(s) identified at Question 13, or an explanation as to why not.	Checked

I have included a cover letter from the Lead Organisation, outlining how any feedback received at Stage 1 has been addressed where relevant.	Checked
I have included a copy of the lead organisation's safeguarding policy, which covers the criteria listed in Question 33.	Checked
I have been in contact with the FCDO in the project country/ies and have included any evidence of this. If not, I have provided an explanation of why not.	Checked
I have included a signed copy of the last 2 annual report and accounts for the Lead Organisation.	Checked
I have checked the IWT website on GOV.UK **immediately prior to submission to ensure there are no late updates.**	Checked
I have read and understood the Privacy Notice on GOV.UK	Checked

We would like to keep in touch!

Please check this box if you would be happy for the lead applicant and project leader (if different) to be added to our mailing list. Through our mailing list we share updates on upcoming and current application rounds under the IWT Challenge Fund and our sister grant scheme, the Darwin Initiative. We also provide occasional updates on other UK Government activities related to the illegal wildlife trade and share our quarterly project newsletter. You are free to unsubscribe at any time.

Checked

Data protection and use of personal data

Information supplied in this application form, including personal data, will be used by Defra as set out in the latest copy of the Privacy Notice for Darwin, Darwin Plus and the Illegal Wildlife Trade Challenge Fund available here. This Privacy Notice must be provided to all individuals whose personal data is supplied in the application form. Some information, but not personal data, may be used when publicising the Darwin Initiative including project details (usually title, lead organisation, location, and total grant value) on the GOV.UK and other websites.

Information relating to the project or its results may also be released on request, including under the 2004 Environmental Information Regulations and the Freedom of Information Act 2000. However, Defra will not permit any unwarranted breach of confidentiality nor will we act in contravention of our obligations under the General Data Protection Regulation (Regulation (EU) 2016/679).

Project Summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of Verification	Important Assumptions
Impact: Sustained growth of tiger and its prey base with resilient local livelihood in Banke-Bardia complex			
Outcome: Hunting communities generating income from alternative livelihood, capacitated frontline staff on wildlife enforcement and increased conservation awareness results in reduced community's dependency on bush meat hunting and tiger poaching	0.1 At least 75% of ~250 households involved in hunting adopted alternative livelihood options and give up hunting and poaching by year III (baseline = 0) On an average 20% increase in monthly household income of those 75% households by year III (baseline $ 1133 in Banke, $1086 in Bardia district and $1086 in Surkhet district) 0.2 >25% decline in human wildlife conflict cases and 50% reduce in retaliatory killings of wildlife by year III (baseline = ~450 livestock depredation per annum, ~10 human causalities per annum, ~2 tigers/leopard killing per annum) 0.3 Wildlife poaching cases declined at least by 25 % by year III (baseline = ~45 per annum)	0.1 Baseline socio-economic report and M&E report 0.2 HWC assessment and national park's annual reports 0.3 National park's annual reports; WCCB annual report	Country remains committed to increasing its tiger and other wildlife populations Covid 19 pandemic will not further worsen the community engagement, livelihood and society

	0.4 30% tiger population and 10% prey base increased by 2024 (Baseline = 108 tigers and prey base density of 97 and 15 per km^2 in BNP and BaNP, respectively in 2018)	0.4 Tiger and prey base monitoring report of Banke-Bardia complex	
Outputs: 1. Increased community stewardship in conservation through diversified alternative livelihood opportunities	1.1 130 households belonging to poor marginalized and hunting communities adopted alternative livelihood by year III (baseline = 0)	1.1 Project progress reports, M&E reports	Tourism industry will revive by mid-2021 passing the current stage of COVID-19 pandemic
	1.2 50 households (at least 50% women-led and IWT affected households) are generating income from homestay tourism (baseline = 0)	1.2 Project progress reports, M&E reports	Local municipalities/line agencies will also collaborate with project interventions
	1.3 80 local youths and girls of poor and marginalised households capacitated as licensed nature guides and at least 70% of them are engaged in eco-tourism by year III (baseline=0)	1.3 Project progress reports, M&E reports	
	1.4 260 households supported with construct predator proof corals have livestock depredation reduced by 100% (baseline = 0)	1.4 Project progress reports, M&E reports, HWC report	
	1.5 At least 150 women members of marginalised poor community have access to credits from cooperatives to establish	1.5 Local cooperative profiles, project progress reports, M&E reports	

	microenterprises as alternative livelihood option by year III (baseline=0)		
2. Awareness of community towards IWT increased and hunting/poaching decreased	2.1 About 60% of local population living around the poaching hotspots becoming familiar to the legal aspects of tiger and prey base poaching and resulting consequences by year III (baseline = 20% of the populations have some idea)	2.1 Before and after training assessment report, project progress reports, M&E reports	Local communities show willingness to change attitudes and participate in project activities
	2.2 Illegal activities related to wildlife reduced by at least 50% by year III (baseline = ~ 300 cases per year)	2.2 Park records	
	2.3 50 schools reached and at least 6000 students sensitized on tiger conservation and IWT	2.3 Project reports, M&E reports	
3. Enhanced capacity of frontline park staff to handle IWT	3.1 90 frontline park enforcement staff are competent to handle wildlife crime cases by year III (baseline = none of the staff have received IWT related training out of recently deployed/recruit 310 staff)	3.1 Parks reports indicating effective prosecution, project report and M&E report	Park retains the trained staff during project period

	3.2 4 RRTs functional and responding to HWC incidents in HWC prone areas (baseline = 0)	3.2 Parks and RRT periodic records
	3.3 IWT database created and maintained in both parks (baseline = 0)	
	3.3 Inter-agency coordination and collaboration strengthened resulting in well communicated wildlife crime control in the complex	3.3 Meeting minutes and workshop reports

Activities (each activity is numbered according to the output that it will contribute towards, for example 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 are contributing to Output 1)

Output 1: Increased community stewardship in conservation through diversified alternative livelihood opportunities
1.1 Baseline socio-economic survey: Baseline socioeconomic survey involving socio-economist and local GESI champions
1.2 Home stay management support: 50 households
1.3 Capacity enhancement training on eco-tourism: Two homestay management (50 participants) and 2 events of Nature Guide (50 participants)
1.4 Improved livestock corral support: For 260 households affected by livestock depredation by tiger and leopard
1.5 Promotion of high value and wildlife non-palatable cash crops: Benefitting 130 households
1.6 Support for women's cooperatives for innovative livelihood activity: 150 women initiate innovative livelihood activities

Output 2: Awareness of community towards IWT increased and hunting/poaching decreased
2.1 IWT training manual developed
2.2 ToT on IWT: 20 local level IWT trainers produced through ToT
2.3 Community trainings on IWT: 100 events of community level IWT trainings for 4000 participants
2.4 Production of IWT sensitization booklet: 3000 copies produced and distributed to IWT affected areas
2.5 School programmes on tiger conservation: Conducted in 50 schools reaching 6,000 students

Output 3: Enhanced capacity of frontline park staff to handle IWT
3.1 Law enforcement training: Three trainings on IWT control for 90 frontline park staff
3.2 Establishment of Rapid Response Teams (RRT): 4 RRTs formed and institutionalized in Banke-Bardia complex
3.3 IWT database establishment: IWT database established in Banke and Bardia National Parks

3.4 Wildlife Crime Control Bureaus (WCCB) meetings: Six meetings in the project area during three years.
3.5 Organise regional workshop on IWT/project learning: A regional workshop covering province 5, 6 and 7 organized (50 participants)