



## Illegal Wildlife Trade (IWT) Challenge Fund Half Year Report (due 31<sup>st</sup> October 2021)

<b>Project reference</b>	IWT091
<b>Project title</b>	Control poaching and IWT by strengthening community guardianship in Chitwan
<b>Country(ies)</b>	NEPAL
<b>Lead organisation</b>	National Trust for Nature Conservation
<b>Partners(s)</b>	Kalika Community Forest, Kankali Community Forest, Kalika and Rapti Municipalities and German Nepal Friendship Association
<b>Project leader</b>	Dr. Siddhartha Bajra Bajracharya
<b>Report date and number (e.g. HYR1)</b>	31 October 2021 (HYR1)
<b>Project website/blog/social media</b>	

**1. Outline progress over the last 6 months (April – Sept) against the agreed project implementation timetable (if your project has started less than 6 months ago, please report on the period since start up to the end September).**

The project was signed on 28<sup>th</sup> September 2021 between NTNC and IWT Challenge Fund with the starting date November 01, 2021. Although no activities are planned for the reporting period (April to October 2021) under this project, we have initiated the preparatory work for the project implementations and outlined the progress as follow.

1. Community consultation with Kalika Community Forest has been carried out for the project implementation. A request letter from the community forest has been received on 26 October 2021 showing the willingness to implement and community ownership and partnership for the implementation of the project.
2. The farmer household selection process is ongoing for:
  - a)- Cow farming
  - b)- Goat farming
  - c)- Vegetable farming
  - d)- Driving training
  - e)- Nature guide training
  - f)- Electric and plumbing training
  - g)- Cook and hospitality training

h)- Wool spinning and carpet weaving

4. During community consultation, NTNC was informed that due to festival months in Nepal; it is highly likely that poaching and IWT activities might increase in the project site. There fore we have installed five automatic motion sensor camera traps in strategic location to deter the potential wildlife poaching and detect early if it happens.



**Figure 1. CBAPUs members installing camera traps on strategic location to monitor wildlife movement and deter potential wildlife poaching and IWT**

**2a. Give details of any notable problems or unexpected developments/lessons learnt that the project has encountered over the last 6 months (for COVID-19 specific delays/problems, please use 2b). Explain what impact these could have on the project and whether the changes will affect the budget and timetable of project activities.**

None

**2b. Please outline any specific issues which your project has encountered as a result of COVID-19. Where you have adapted your project activities in response to the pandemic, please briefly outline how you have done so here. Explain what residual impact there may be on your project and whether the changes will affect the budget and timetable of project activities.**

Due to covid-19 protocols of the Nepal government, large community gatherings (more than 25 people) are not allowed. Thus, we conducted community consultation in small numbers.

**2c. Have any of these issues been discussed with LTS International and if so, have changes been made to the original agreement?**

Discussed with LTS: NO

Formal change request submitted: NO

Received confirmation of change acceptance 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. Please DO NOT send these in the same email as your report.**

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

Not now

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.

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 DO NOT send these in the same email.**

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