

Illegal Wildlife Trade (IWT) Challenge Fund Annual Report

To be completed with reference to the “Project Reporting Information Note”:
(<https://iwt.challengefund.org.uk/resources/information-notes/>).

It is expected that this report will be a **maximum** of 20 pages in length, excluding annexes)

Submission Deadline: 30th April 2022

- **IWT Challenge Fund Project Information**

Project reference	IWT093
Project title	Protecting megafauna through on-the-ground, legislative and enforcement strengthening in Aceh
Country/ies	Indonesia
Lead partner	PanEco
Project partner(s)	Yayasan Ekosistem Lestari (YEL); Yayasan Hutan Alam dan Lingkungan Aceh (HAKA); Orangutan Information Centre (OIC); Forum Konservasi Leuser (FKL)
IWTFCF grant value	£610,003
Start/end dates of project	01/10/2021 – 31/03/2024
Reporting period (e.g., April 2021-Mar 2022) and number (e.g. Annual Report 1, 2, 3)	01/10/2021 – 31/03/2022; Annual Report 1 (please note our project “year” is only six months due to the project beginning on October 1 st)
Project Leader name	Dr Dicky Simorangkir
Project website/blog/social media	n/a
Report author(s) and date	Vicky Dauncey and all partners; April 2022

Please note that the text **highlighted in red** in this report is sensitive and should not be made public. We also ask that before any other part of the report is published anywhere publicly accessible that we are able to further redact any information which may have become sensitive.

Much of the supporting evidence in this report is provided as links to documents within Google Drive folder. For security reasons we ask that prior to the report being published that the links are disabled as, for security reasons, we would not like public access to the supporting documents. Thank you.

1. Project summary

Sumatran orangutans and elephants are extremely vulnerable to illegal trade, and demand for these species is high and well-documented. We are working in the Indonesia province of Aceh, across the irreplaceable tropical forests landscapes of the Leuser and Ulu Masen Ecosystems, the last strongholds for Critically Endangered megafauna, including Sumatran orangutan and elephant. Our project is working to enhance the Acehese provincial legislative framework, and agency-level capacity for effective application of wildlife laws. We are already well on the way to facilitating the issuance of a Fatwa banning illegal wildlife trade in Aceh, and two Governor's Decrees further strengthening provincial legislature. Complementing this, we are increasing presence of on-the-ground protection responses to tackle illegal trade across the Leuser and Ulu Masen Ecosystems, and strengthening how human-wildlife conflict, as a driver of trade, is mitigated. Furthermore, we are fostering Acehese community-led and traditional wildlife protection, while building awareness of illegal trade and the importance of wildlife protection in the next generation of Acehese.

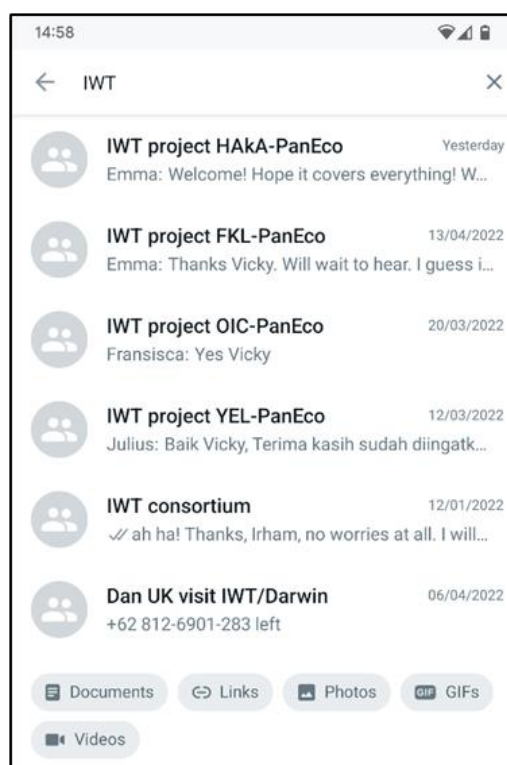
2. Project partnerships

Achievements

Our project represents a truly collaborative partnership. Partners have not united solely for the purpose of this project, but have in fact been working together, both formally and informally, for conservation objectives within the Indonesian provinces of North Sumatra and Aceh for nearly 20 years. We are also currently working together on a number of other conservation initiatives within the landscape, including the [UNDP Lion' Share Leuser Programme](#). IWT is one of the key threats facing species within the landscapes in which we work, and an issue that all partners have been addressing through various aspects of our individual and collaborative programming for many years. Having increased our capacity for, and experience in, managing and implementing larger, collaborative, and statutory-funded projects over the past few years, it felt like a natural moment for us to come together for this IWT Challenge Fund project.

All partners were involved in project development processes from the outset. PanEco held all project development meetings as a full consortium with all partners; YEL, OIC, HAKA and FKL. We do not work in a top down manner, project development and ongoing management is collaborative and bottom-up, based on the strengths and ambitions of our trusted partners. In development processes, PanEco plays the role of bringing together and honing different ideas for achieving conservation impact into a cohesive whole. All indicators and targets were set by the implementing partners themselves.

This collaborative approach continued into project kick-off and the first six-months of implementation. The project kick-off meeting took place as a full consortium and all partners were supported by PanEco in implementation planning and the use of the project logframe as a project management tool. Likewise with internal project reporting templates, while developed by PanEco these weren't simply sent out to partners. Rather individual meetings with each partner were held



to explain the reporting requirements, go through the templates and address any questions as well as planning monitoring processes.

Regular check-in meetings with each partner by the PanEco team have taken place since project outset (approximately each quarter) either by Zoom or in person where possible, and regular communication takes place via WhatsApp groups. Specific, individual WhatsApp groups between each partner and PanEco were established, where very regular communication takes place (sometimes on a weekly basis depending on current events). We encourage relaxed and informal communication on the WhatsApp groups so that all partners feel comfortable reaching out to the PanEco team when questions or issues arise. There is also a whole consortium WhatsApp group.

Challenges

A full consortium meeting reviewing the first six-months (01/10/2021 – 31/03/2022) of implementation has yet to take place. This is due to the tight turnaround between the end of the reporting period and the report submission date to the IWT Challenge Fund Managers, meaning April is entirely taken up with reporting, and furthermore most of April in 2022 is Ramadhan. However, we intend to hold this as soon as feasible in May once Idul Fitri has taken place. Considering the complexity of our project, with five consortium members, having on 30 days from the end of the reporting period until report submission is particularly challenging.

Other stakeholders

As with the NGO partners, this project is actively collaborating with many local institutions and government agencies. These include the Natural Resource Conservation Authority of Aceh (BKSAD Aceh), the Environment Law Enforcement Division (GAKKUM Sumatra), the Environment and Forestry Service of Aceh (DLHK Aceh) the Aceh District Police, Forest Management Units (KPH), Sumatran Tropical Forest Journalists (STFJ), Environmental Journalists Forum Aceh (FJL Aceh), Acehnese *Ulema* Institution Council (MPU; Institution of Authoritative Religious Leaders), Disaster Reduction Forum (PRB) and the Disaster Management Agency of Aceh (BPBA). How each of these partners and stakeholders are involved within each of the project Outputs is covered in detail in the question 3 below.

Furthermore, Dan Montgomery-Hunt, Political Counsellor at the British Embassy in Jakarta made a visit to PanEco and the project partners in Banda Aceh in November 2021. The project had only just begun at that point, so progress was not yet able to be demonstrated, but his schedule involved meetings with project partners to discuss plans for project and specifically our approach to the legislative enhancement elements of the project.

3. Project progress

3.1 Progress in carrying out project Activities

OUTPUT 1: Increased effectiveness of law enforcement frameworks through (i) heightened capacity of key Acehnese public-sector actors to apply wildlife protection laws and pursue IWT cases appropriately and (ii) increased public attention on IWT cases
Activities 1.1 (a): In collaboration with GAKKUM, formulate derivative activities under Aceh’s <i>Qanun Satwa Liar</i> , focusing on rules governing illegal wildlife trade (YEL; Y1 Q2-3)
Progress towards activities 1.1 (a): A focus group discussion took place on March 15 th , facilitated by project partner YEL, in Aceh Besar district with 16 representatives from government agencies and non-governmental organisations working on the issue of wildlife trade in Aceh. Attendees included (but were not limited to) representatives from GAKKUM Aceh (Division of Environmental Law Enforcement,

Aceh), DLHK Aceh (the Environment and Forestry Service, Aceh) BKSDA Aceh (Division of Natural Resource Conservation, Aceh), the Aceh Besar District Police, KPH 1 (Forest Management Unit 1), and various non-governmental organisations including YEL and another project partner, HAKA. The group devised several recommendations, stemming from the legislative infrastructure provided by the *Qanun Satwa Liar*, to assist GAKKUM (Environmental Law Enforcement) in carrying out its duties to prevent environmental crime, especially the illegal trade in protected species. These include (but are not limited to):

- To revive the culture of, and to encourage, the general public and community groups to report any crimes observed to GAKKUM;
- To further improve coordination and collaboration between and within partner government agencies, institutions and civil society groups;
- In order to enhance deterrents, to make specific revisions to Law 5 of 1990 concerning conservation of biological resources and ecosystems to include the potential for application of criminal sanctions under the law. Furthermore, amend several articles under Law 5 to encourage participation and accountability from business actors and the community;
- To undertake a Protected Wildlife Amnesty with surrender to BKSDA Aceh.

The group further devised a set of recommendations to support BKSDA Aceh in overcoming challenges faced in conserving Aceh's forest-based natural resources and also to support KPH 1 (Forest Management Unit 1). These include (but are not limited to):

- To improve coordination with cross-sectional government agencies in the Aceh region, namely BKSDA Aceh, the seven UPTs (Technical Units) and KPHs (Forest Management Units) that sit under DLHK Aceh (the Environment and Forestry Service);
- To further build partnerships with non-governmental actors such as the private sector and community in and around forest areas;
- To increase resources, specifically personnel numbers and strategic budget allocation, to BKSDA Aceh and KPH 1.

The recommendations form an important step in determining activities deriving from the *Qanun Satwa Liar*. Follow on steps involve the socialising of the *Qanun* and the derivative activities recommended at the government staff and community-levels (Activities 1.1b and 5.2 of this project), including mechanisms for reporting wildlife conflict.

Supporting evidence

For the full list of representatives in attendance at the meeting and full notes of the topics discussed and recommendations derived, please review the [full meeting notes in English here \(Google Translate\)](#) and [the original document in Bahasa Indonesia here](#).



Figure 1. Focus Group Discussion on the *Qanun Satwa Liar* and related legislation with GAKKUM, KSDA Aceh and other key stakeholders. March 15th 2022.

<p>Activity 1.1 (b): Socialise the <i>Qanun Satwa Liar</i> and its derivative activities at three district authority levels (Districts of: Aceh Besar, Nagan Raya and Aceh Barat Daya, chosen specifically based on conservation value of the Districts) and relevant government institutions (Aceh Environmental and Forestry Agency [DLHK Aceh], Gunung Leuser National Park Authority [BBTNGL], Aceh's Natural Resource Conservation Agency [BKSDA Aceh], and the local Police). Training will be conducted through a series of 12 meetings and workshops (three at each district-level and three at the provincial-level, with a minimum 30% female participation; target 40%) post-training evaluations will be conducted at each workshop (Y1 Q3;YEL)</p>
<p>Progress towards activities 1.1(b): Activities under 1.1(b) will commence in May 2022 following Idul Fitri. Due to Activity 1.1a taking place later within the planned period than thought (it was scheduled for year 1 Q2 and Q3, it took place on March 15th), it has been necessary for project partner YEL to delay the socialisation and training workshops with government and authority staff until year 2 of the project. The activity 1.1a delay was due to a longer than anticipated wait for the approval from GAKKUM Sumatra in order to commence these specific activities (approval from GAKKUM for the overall project was secured previously and evidence submitted as part of the application process for this project). It has been necessary for project partner YEL to develop a specific cooperation agreement in relation to the respective collaborative activities they are undertaking with GAKKUM as part of this project. A good deal of time on the part of the partners has been spent on this since the outset of the project, and the late project start has also contributed to this.</p>
<p>Activity 1.1 (c) : One year post training evaluation conducted (Y2 Q3; YEL)</p>
<p>Planned for later in the project.</p>
<p>Activities 1.2 (a) and (b): a. Conduct series of trainings on collaboration working techniques and processes for public sector staff of law enforcement agencies; GAKKUM, the Police, the Military, the Judiciary and prosecutors, reaching at least 80 people (minimum 30% female participation; target 40%) (Y1 Q3;OIC) b. Facilitate quarterly coordination meetings between law enforcement agencies; GAKKUM, the Police, the Military, the Judiciary and prosecutors (minimum 30% female participation; target 40%) (initiating in Y1 Q3;OIC)</p>
<p>Progress towards 1.2 (a) and (b) Project partner OIC is delayed with commencing both the series of training events (a) and initiating the quarterly coordination meetings between agencies (b). As explained above in relation to YEL's work, OIC have had to spend considerable time since the project outset on working towards securing their cooperation agreement, and the late project start (due to delayed announcement of the IWT Challenge Fund results) has also contributed to this delay. While YEL have secured their cooperation agreement already, OIC are still in discussion with GAKKUM. To help overcome the delay, OIC intends to coordinate directly with the District Police until the cooperation agreement with GAKKUM is in place.</p>
<p>Activity 1.2 (c): c. Support and work with BKSDA Aceh to establish a secure IWT evidence room and systematic evidence handling, processing and storage systems (FKL Y2).</p>
<p>Planned for later in the project</p>
<p>Activity 1.3 (i): Conduct annual press conferences and press releases involving local and national-level media on the IWT cases handled during the project period (initiating Y1 Q4; OIC)</p>
<p>Progress towards Activity 1.3 (i):</p>

Project partner OIC and the Sumatran Tropical Forest Journalists (STFJ) held a press conference entitled “The Year-End Note of Crimes and Protected Wildlife Trade in North Sumatra and Aceh 2021” (translation) on December 27th 2021. The conference was attended by the Head of the Gunung Leuser National Park, the Head of Section 1 of GAKKUM Sumatra, the Director of OIC, the Director of CRU Aceh (a local conservation NGO), a representative from WCS Indonesia Programme, and 17 local and national media. 24 local press articles resulted from the conference, and five national media articles (links provided in the Output section below).

Furthermore, on February 4th 2022, OIC and STFJ held an Open Discussion about mitigation of poaching and forest degradation inside the Gunung Leuser National Park, focusing specifically on the Bekantan area. The event was attended by the Head of the Bekantan Section from the National Park Authority, community members local to the area, NGO representatives and several local media outlets.

Supporting evidence



Figure 2. Press conference hosted by OIC and STFJ, December 27th



Figure 3. Press conference in Illegal wildlife trade hosted by OIC and STFJ, December 27th



Figure 4. Open Discussion on poaching and degradation inside the Gunung Leuser National Park, hosted by OIC and STJF, February 4th 2022

Activities 1.3 (ii) (a – d):

- a. Identify and monitor unsolved IWT crimes (initiating Y1 Q2; HAKA)
- b. Hold public FGDs and public discussions on unsolved IWT cases (annually, initiating Y1 Q4; HAKA)
- c. Collaborate with leading local journalists (e.g., AJI Aceh [Independent Journalist Alliance] & FJL Aceh [Environmental Journalist Forum] to investigate two unsolved specific IWT crime cases per year; conduct related investigations (initiating Y1 Q3; HAKA)
- d. Submit investigation results to law enforcement authorities and distribute through annual media release and social media (initiating Y1 Q4; HAKA)

Progress towards Activities 1.3 (ii) (a - d)

Project partner HAKA, have secured their collaboration with FJL Aceh (Environmental Journalist Forum), and together they are regularly monitoring law enforcement, media release, news articles and community networks. Expert journalists then analyse the information collected. To date, FJL have published 15 articles (distribution through media release) on unsolved illegal wildlife trade cases (examples below). A press conference was held on January 24th 2022 attended by 20 journalists to convey information about the cases currently being monitored and 16 news articles were published following the conference. On March 16th 2022, a focus group discussion, led by FJL, with government agencies, environmental NGOs and journalists was conducted. Three major unsolved cases in Aceh Selatan were discussed as well as steps needed to urge the authorities to focus on these cases. The discussion earned excellent media coverage.

Supporting evidence

- [Example service agreements between HAKA and FJL](#)
- Sample news articles published by FJL under their collaboration with HAKA: [elephant killers receive 42 months in prison](#) and [Aceh central to global wildlife trade](#).

OUTPUT 2: Acehese legislative frameworks and religious law are further enhanced through the development of two Governor Decrees and a Fatwa that builds on the IWT and HWC elements of the *Qanun Satwa Liar*

Activities 2.1 (a – c):

- a. Open formal discussion and meeting with academics and religious leaders to gather support for *Fatwa* issuance in Acehese *Ulema* Institution council (Y1 Q4 & Y2 Q1; HAKA)
- b. Hold forum discussion to gather inputs from Acehese Religious Leaders for the *Fatwa* banning IWT (Y2 Q2; HAKA)
- c. Present results of the discussions in a and b to the Acehese *Ulema* Institution and advocate for it to issue a *Fatwa* banning IWT in the province (Y2 Q2-3; HAKA)

Progress towards activities 2.1 (a – c):

On December 20th 2021, project partner HAKA held a meeting with the Acehese *Ulema* Institution Council (MPU; Institution of Authoritative Religious Leaders) in Banda Aceh to open discussions about the issuance of the *Fatwa* banning illegal wildlife trade. The discussion was positive and the MPU have agreed to support issues through a religious approach and have committed to the *Fatwa*. Further coordination has taken place between HAKA and the MPU to plan a period of research now being undertaken. Further progress towards the *Fatwa*-related elements of Output 2 is described in the Output section below.

Supporting evidence

- [Minutes of December 20th 2021 meeting \(with English underneath the Bahasa Indonesia\)](#)



Fig 5. HAKA meeting with the MPU, December 20th 2021, Banda Aceh

(Activities 2.1 b and c are planned for later in the project)

Activities 2.2 (a -b):

- a. Disseminate *Fatwa* issuance in a press release and on social media platforms e.g. HAKA and partners' Facebook, Instagram, Twitter (Y2 Q3, 4 & Y3 Q1; HAKA)
- b. Promote the *Fatwa* on billboards in 13 districts around the Leuser Ecosystem and 4 districts around the Ulu Masen Ecosystem (Y2 Q3 & 4; HAKA)

Planned for later in the project

Activities 2.3 (a – d):

- a. Open formal discussion with the Government of Aceh and BKSDA Aceh to secure agreement and a collaborative effort to draft an Aceh Governor's Decree (A derivation of *Qanun Satwa Liar*) recognizing Human-Wildlife Conflict as 'Extraordinary Natural Disaster' status (Y1 Q2; HAKA)

- b. Formally request the Governor of Aceh to establish a Working Group for the development of this decree (Y1 Q2-3;HAKA)
- c. Hold at least 2 meetings and 2 FGDs to gather inputs from relevant stakeholders (Y1 Q3-4 & Y2 Q1; HAKA)
- d. Obtain an audience with the Governor of Aceh to advocate for agreement on a Draft Governor's Decree and for the final Decree to be formally issued (Y2 Q2; HAKA)

Progress towards activities 2.3 (a - c):

Project partner HAKA met with the Disaster Reduction Forum (PRB) on the 26th of October 2021 and also with the Disaster Management Agency of Aceh (BPBA) on November 16th in Banda Aceh. The objective of both meetings was to discuss drafting a derivative Governor's Decree (*PerGub*) of the *Qanun Satwa Liar* recognising human-wildlife conflict as having 'Extraordinary Natural Disaster' status. The discussions were positive and both the PRB and BPBA support the drafting of the decree. Following this two focus group discussions were held with BPBA and other stakeholders in February 2022. The discussion resulted in the development of a drafting team (working group) consisting of representatives from several government agencies, academic institutions, and NGOs. The team will develop the criteria for determining wildlife conflict as an 'extraordinary natural disaster'.

Supporting evidence

- [Minutes of the meeting with PRB on October 26th \(with photos and English underneath the Bahasa Indonesia\)](#)
- [Minutes of the meeting with BPBA on November 16th \(with photos and English underneath the Bahasa Indonesia\)](#)
- ToR for coordination meetings (focus group discussions) to develop of the Governor's Decree (*PerGub*): [English Google translate version](#) and [original in Bahasa Indonesia](#)
- [Minutes of focus group discussion with BPBA](#) (English underneath the Bahasa Indonesia)
- [Minutes of focus group discussion with academics and NGOs](#) (English underneath the Bahasa Indonesia)

(Activity d is planned for later in the project)

Activities 2.4 (a – d):

- a. Open formal discussions with the Government of Aceh and BKSDA Aceh to secure agreement and collaboration to draft a Governor's Decree on Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for HWC mitigation in the province (Y2 Q2; HAKA)
- b. Advocate to the Aceh Environmental and Forestry Agency (DLHK Aceh) to establish a formal Working Group for the development of this decree (Y2 Q2-3; HAKA)
- c. Hold meetings and FGDs to gather inputs from relevant stakeholders (Y2 Q3-4 & Y3 Q1; HAKA)
- d. Advocate to the Governor of Aceh to agree on the Draft Governor's Decree and issue the final Decree (Y3 Q2; HAKA)

Planned for later in the project

(OUTPUT 3 was removed, CR approved March 2022)

OUTPUT 4: Collaborative, on-the-ground law enforcement capacity for addressing IWT and HWC is increased, and effectiveness enhanced, across key hotspot areas in the Ulu Masen and Leuser Ecosystems

Activity 4.1:

Four new on-the-ground Wildlife Protection teams, (SMART patrol teams, Community Rangers) are recruited, trained, and deployed in identified IWT hotspots areas, enhancing current protection activities (Y2 Q1 onwards; YEL, FKL, OIC)

While this is not scheduled until Y2 Q1, project partners YEL and OIC have made progress ahead of schedule meaning that the project will enter Y2 with new boots already on the ground:

- YEL have established their new SMART Patrol team, consisting of 6 Community Rangers, in the Tangse area of the Ulu Masen Ecosystem. Starting from January 2022, the new team was recruited and trained. Training to date has covered an introduction to SMART patrol and field data collection. The new team conducted their first 10-day patrol in March 2022, covering 80 km and identified five threats (access road, logging, nylon snare, hunting camp, and heavy equipment) which were reported to BKSDA for follow up.
- OIC have begun the establishment of one new SMART Patrol team in KPH 5 (Forest Management Unit 5) in the Gayo Lues area of Aceh (Leuser Ecosystem). To date, one local community member has been recruited to coordinate patrol activity in KPH 5 (the eventual team will consist of seven people including KPH 5 Officers, OIC Rangers and community members). OIC is currently preparing the patrol equipment and working on the administrative requirements.

Supporting evidence

- [Minutes of meeting with KPH V for new Gayo Lues SMART team](#)



Figure 6. SMART Patrol training for the new Tangse Patrol team, February 2022



Figure 7. *Rafflesia* sp. in bloom, identified by the Tangse Ranger team, March 2022.

Activity 4.2:

Three new on-the-ground HWC Mitigation teams (one Human-Elephant Conflict Response Unit and two Human-Orangutan Conflict Response Unit) are recruited, trained, and deployed in identified HWC hotspots areas enhancing current mitigation activities. (Y2 Q1 onwards; FKL, OIC)

Also ahead of schedule, OIC have established one of their new Human-Orangutan Conflict Response Units (HOCRU) in the Gayo Lues area of Aceh (Leuser Ecosystem). They have recruited two people who will collect information about potential human-orangutan conflict in the areas of Gayo Lues and Aceh Tenggara. The new team has attended on-the-job training with OIC’s HOCRU team on the west coast of Aceh. The establishment of this team fills a critical gap in intelligence gathering, surrounding the frequency and dynamics of human-orangutan conflict in the Gayo Lues and Aceh Tenggara areas.

Supporting evidence

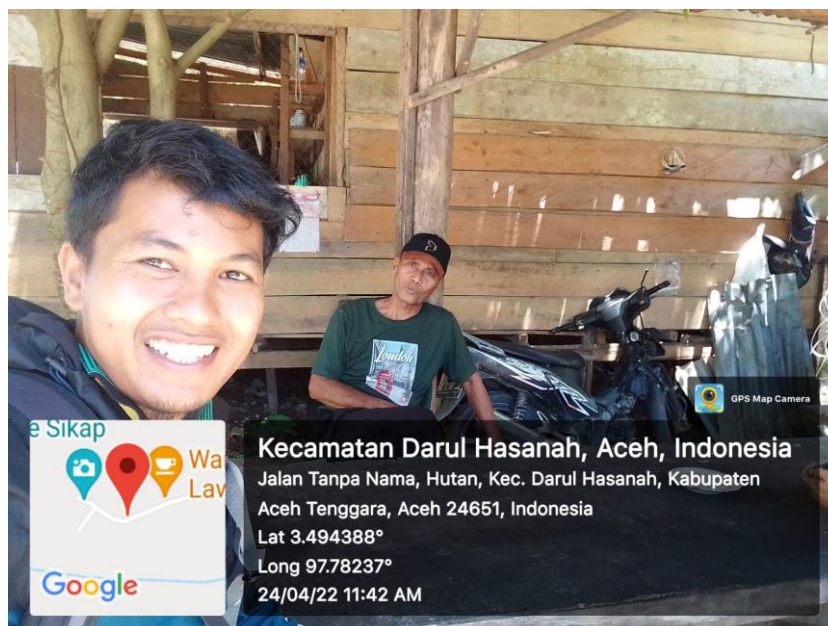


Figure 8. New HOCRU tea surveying for potential orangutan conflict in Aceh Tenggara

(4.3 was removed, CR approved March 2022)

OUTPUT 5: Community environmental stewardship and community-led & traditional wildlife protection governance strengthened in key IWT and HWC hotspots adjacent the Leuser and Ulu Masen Ecosystems

Activities 5.1:

- a. Engage Acehese art groups to secure collaboration in a campaign against IWT (Y2 Q1; HAKA)
- b. Collaborate with Acehese art groups to create at least 20 local art products for the campaign (Y2 Q2-4; HAKA)
- c. Hold a small art exhibition in a public space (location TBD) in Banda Aceh (Y2 Q4; HAKA)
- d. Identify local youth environmental groups in Aceh (Y2 Q1; HAKA)
- e. Hold one training for local youth environmental groups in Aceh on IWT (Y2 Q2; HAKA)
- f. Collaborate with local youth environmental groups to develop a coalition to raise awareness on IWT (Y2 Q2; HAKA)
- g. Collaborate with local youth groups to build awareness on IWT through creative campaign methods (digital campaigns, campus tours, etc) (Y2 Q2-4 & Y3 Q1; HAKA)

Progress towards activities 5.1 (a – e):

Ahead of schedule, project partner HAKA have begun a multi-faceted collaboration with art groups in Aceh province. Activities kicked off with a series of virtual 'Leuser' Festivals to raise public awareness of wildlife conflict issues through the arts. The first festival was launched on World Rhino Day in November 2021. HAKA have also held and filmed '*Didong Uteun*', a cultural piece involving performers from Bener Meriah district, Gayo Lues and Aceh Tengah. The editing has been completed and the film was released on April 22, 2022 to celebrate Earth Day. In February, in collaboration with artists and youth community groups, HAKA held a 4-day event called Bu-Moe Fest celebrating World Wildlife Day in Banda Aceh. Bu-Moe Fest promoted conservation and raise awareness of IWT issues through a mixed artistic approach including performance art, interactive activities, exhibitions, and educational talks, attracting over 500 visitors (>50% female). Through Bu-Moe Fest, HAKA established a collaboration with an Acehese artist group to produce 20 wildlife trade-themed pieces. These were exhibited in the Leuser Conservation Training Centre in Banda Aceh as part of Bu-Moe Fest. Bu-Moe Fest was covered by 12 media outlets and had its own YouTube page.

HAKA have identified several local environmental youth groups and are in the planning phase for future training and collaboration.

Supporting evidence

- [Service agreement for Didong Uten video shoot](#)
- [E-catalogue for Bu-Moe Fest exhibition pieces](#)
- Bu-Moe Fest report: [Google translate](#) and [original report \(Bahasa Indonesia\)](#)
- [Bu-Moe Fest attendance records](#)



Figure 9. Bu-Moe Fest February 28th – March 3rd, Banda Aceh



Figure 10. Bu-Moe Fest February 28th – March 3rd, Banda Aceh

Activity 5.2:

Conduct community outreach relating to the *Qanun Satwa Liar* (focusing on rules governing IWT) in the communities in the three districts of Aceh Besar, Nagan Raya and Aceh Barat Daya, through a minimum of nine meetings (three per district) and distribution of materials containing IWT regulations in the *Qanun Satwa Liar*, with minimum participation of 30% female participants (target 40%) and specific promotion of female participation through pre-existing women's groups (Y1 Q4 & Y2 Q1; YEL)

Progress towards activity 5.2:

This activity began with a mapping exercise to choose locations (at the sub-district and village level) for outreach activities based on locations prone to IWT. For the workshops delivered thus far (see below) these were identified as:

- Aceh Besar: district i) Sub-district Jantho; ii) Sub-district Lhoong; iii) Sub-district Lembah Seulawah
- Nagan Raya district: i) Sub-district Darul Makmur

To date, four workshops have been conducted (out of a planned 10) by YEL, reaching 83 people. These breakdown into three workshops in Aceh Besar and Pidie districts and one in Nagan Raya. The remaining six workshops will be conducted in May 2022 after Ramadan (in line with original project planning for these workshops to straddle year 1 Q4 and year 2 Q1). In the four workshops conducted to date, we have achieved a 45% female participation rate, surpassing our 40% target.

The workshops were led by GAKKUM. Topics covered in the socialisation workshops include: the main duties and functions of GAKKUM, BKSDA and KPH 1; types of environmental crime; Indonesian legislation covering environmental crime and Acehnese Law, specifically relevant sections from the 2019 *Qanun Satwa Liar*; strategies utilised for preventing IWT in protected species; law enforcement systems currently in place for preventing IWT in protected species; protected wildlife species targeted in Sumatra and modes of illegal transport.

Supporting evidence

A document detailing all of the workshops conducted to date, including date, location, interviewees, facilitators, trainers, participant numbers, and training material (Appendixes) can be found [here in English \(Google translate\)](#) and the [original here in Bahasa Indonesia](#).



Figure 11. Community workshop to socialise the *Qanun Satwa Liar*, Lhoong, Aceh Besar. March 21st 2022.



Figure 12. Community workshop to socialise the *Qanun Satwa Liar*, Lembah Seulawah, Aceh Besar. March 22nd 2022.

Activities 5.3:

- a. Identify the 35 villages in target districts (Y1 Q2-3; HAKA)
- b. Hold one IWT training and capacity-building for community members in Banda Aceh in which we will develop collaborative action plans (Y1 Q4; HAKA)
- c. Identify Acehnese '*Pawang*' in Aceh (Y2 Q2-3; HAKA)
- d. Hold one 'Sustainable Human-Wildlife Conflict Mitigation Training' for Acehnese '*Pawang*' in Banda Aceh (Y2 Q4; HAKA)
- e. Engagement and field visit to villages, community rangers and '*Pawang*' villages for post-training evaluation (Y1 Q4, Y2 Q1 & Y2 Q4, Y3 Q1; HAKA)

Progress towards activities 5.3:

Preliminary identification of potential target villages has been conducted by project partner HAKA, based on human-wildlife conflict intensity from 2010 – 2022. However, final selection of villages has not yet taken place, HAKA plans to complete the selection process in Q1 of year 2. As the training under 5.3 (b) will be for community members from the villages selected under 5.3 (a) this activity will now be completed in year 2 Q2 (and 5e also will follow in succession). Ahead of schedule, HAKA has already identified an initial eight *Pawang* (Acehnese traditional animal experts; a type of shaman), through field visits to villages, and are continuing to conduct initial communications to gather information about them and confirm their interest in participating in the sustainable human-wildlife conflict mitigation training (scheduled for year 2 of the project). The identification of *Pawang* and further communication and relationship building will continue into year 2.

Supporting evidence

- [Mapping of human-wildlife conflicts 2010 – 2022, with deforestation layer](#)

Activities 5.4:

- a. Conduct site background information gathering (including but not limited to existing data on IWT in the district of Aceh Besar, potential economic opportunities; gaps and needs for local livelihoods; impacts of COVID-19 pandemic) and validate the key activity(ies) and/or infrastructure(s) for local livelihoods (Y1 Q2-4; YEL)
- b. Conduct community consultation and mapping to assess the social impact of the potential sustainable livelihood diversification; identify and analyse governance and capacity (Y1 Q4 & Y2 Q1-2; YEL)

Progress towards activities 5.4 (a):

The background information gathering exercise (baseline) has taken place. It includes a natural profile of target districts (including coverage area, forest areas including protected forest, nature reserves, and production forests), population density, and human welfare statistics (sources of income, average income, and education level). The community consultation and mapping is slightly delayed and will commence in year 2 Q1.

Supporting evidence

- [ToR for consultant conducting the background study in English \(Google translate\)](#) and the [original document in Bahasa Indonesia](#)
- [Background study report in English \(Google translate\)](#) and the [original document in Bahasa Indonesia](#)

3.2 Progress towards project Outputs

<p>OUTPUT 1: Increased effectiveness of law enforcement frameworks through (i) heightened capacity of key Acehese public-sector actors to apply wildlife protection laws and pursue IWT cases appropriately and (ii) increased public attention on IWT cases</p>
<p>Indicator 1.1: (i) 45 (90% of 50 key staff) selected for training; minimum 30% women, target 40% women) public- sector staff of law enforcement agencies (GAKKUM, the Police, the Military, the Judiciary, and prosecutors) self-report increased knowledge, after training sessions focused on the newly-established Acehese Provincial <i>Qanun Satwa Liar</i> (Wildlife Law) (Y1 Q3);</p>
<p>As reported above in the activities section, the workshops on which this indicator is based will take place in Year 2, Q1. This represents a small delay to the indicator target timeframe.</p>
<p>Indicator 1.1 (ii) 40 participants (80% of 50 key staff trained) self-report use of new knowledge in their jobs 1 year after training (Y2 Q3)</p>
<p>Planned for later in the project.</p>
<p>Indicator 1.2: Increased evidence of collaboration between law enforcement agencies in IWT cases (at least 3 cases jointly handled by agencies by March 2024)</p>
<p>We would like to clarify this Indicator to incorporate increased collaboration with NGOs in IWT cases, as well as between agencies.</p> <p>OIC has worked in collaboration with law enforcement agencies on three cases since the project outset.</p> <p>Details of the three cases are as follows.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Illegal trade of three tiger skins, tiger bones and 9kg of pangolin scales in Southwest Aceh. The verdict was announced on December 7th 2021 at the Kutacane District Court, Aceh Tenggara and the perpetrator was sentenced to two year and 10 months prison and fined 100 million IDR (circa £5,334 GBP) 2. Illegal trade of 36.7kg of pangolin scales in Tanjung Morawa, Deli Serdang, North Sumatra. Further investigation of this case also helped to identify the perpetrators of a hornbill trading case in Medan, North Sumatra. The perpetrators of the pangolin scale trading were arrested on November 24th 2022. The case had been trialled and we are awaiting the verdict. 3. Illegal trade of 21.9kg of pangolin scales in Banda Aceh, Aceh province. Three perpetrators were arrested in February 2022. The case has been through preliminary investigation by the Police and a charges plan has been developed by the prosecutors.
<p>Supporting evidence</p>



Figure 13. Case 1: Illegal trade in tiger skins, tiger bones and pangolin scales, evidence.



Figure 14. Case 1 trial at Kutacane District Court, Aceh Tenggara



Figure 15. Case 2: 36.7kg of pangolin scales, evidence

Indicator 1.3 (i): Each active IWT case during the project period receives at least 1 mention in national-level media during the project period;

It has been requested by project partners to slightly edit this indicator. Instead of every active IWT case being mentioned in national-level media during the project period we would like to adapt this to be “At least one publication about Acehnesse IWT cases at the national-level per year”.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] We will submit a Change Request formally requesting this following the Annual Report submission.

As reported above in the Activities section, resulting from the press conference held by OIC and STJF in December 2021, in addition to 24 local press articles covering the event and reporting on Illegal trade of protected species in Aceh, there were five national media articles published.

Supporting evidence

National-level coverage of the press conference

- [Msn.com](https://www.msn.com)
- [Kumparan.com](https://www.kumparan.com)
- [VoAIndonesia.com](https://www.voaindonesia.com)
- [Kompas.tv](https://www.kompas.tv)
- [Tribun news tv](https://www.tribunnews.com)

Indicator 1.3 (ii) At least 5 unsolved IWT cases per year are raised in public forums, and 2 unsolved illegal wildlife trade cases per year during the project period are monitored by professional journalists

As reported above in the Activities section, a partnership with FJL Aceh (Environmental Journalist Forum, Aceh) has been secured and 31 articles have been published to-date either by FJL or resulting from press conferences on unsolved cases held by the partnership (supporting evidence given above in the Activities section).

On March 16th 2022, a focus group discussion, led by FJL, with government agencies, environmental NGOs and journalists was conducted. Three major unsolved cases in Aceh Selatan were discussed as well as steps needed to urge the authorities to focus on these cases (the target is five in a 12 month period, we have achieved three in a six month period). The discussion earned excellent media coverage.

Thanks to HAKA's partnership with FJL under this project, several cases have been resolved in this period. [In February 2022, the police arrested three Sumatran elephant poachers in Aceh Barat Daya](#). They received the maximum imprisonment of five years and maximum fine of IDR100 million. Furthermore, law enforcement authorities under the Ministry of Environment and Forestry of Sumatra arrested two tiger poachers in Aceh Tengah and each received 1.5 years and 2.5 years in prison with IDR100 million fines. Subsequently, [the authorities identified a new suspect who is the owner of the tiger skin](#) that was previously confiscated from the poachers. The latest resolved case was from Aceh Jaya in which [11 perpetrators of the killings of five elephant were arrested and sentenced to prison](#). This case was previously stalled and received no attention from the authorities, but since HAKA's collaboration with FJL began, we have seen major progress in case processing and sentence lengths.

OUTPUT 2: Acehese legislative frameworks and religious law are further enhanced through the development of two Governor Decrees and a Fatwa that build on the IWT and HWC elements of the *Qanun Satwa Liar*

As reported above in the Activities section, project partner HAKA have secured support from the Acehese *Ulema* Institution (MPU; Institution of Authoritative Religious Leaders) for the issuance of the Fatwa banning IWT (supporting evidence provided above in the Activities section). A decree by the *Ulema* Institution is currently in the final stages of development, and it defines the process for the Fatwa development on the issue of IWT and lists the MPU and HAKA staff responsible for the Fatwa issuance process. HAKA have also invited a Cultural Law expert from the University of Syiah Kuala to contribute inputs on wildlife trade from the Acehese cultural law perspective.

Next steps are the establishment of a team to conduct socio-legal research on the negative impacts of poaching and wildlife trade, and the research will underpin future discussions within the MPU. The research team will have members from the *Ulema* Institution, HAKA and academics. The research will be undertaken during Ramadan in the form of "Ramadan Safaris" in two Acehese districts. The Ramadan Safaris will include two influential religious leaders giving sermons on the importance of wildlife and environmental protection. Based on the excellent progress to date, we expect the Fatwa-related elements of Objective 2 (and Outcome 0.2) to be achieved by the end of 2022.

Indicator 2.1: At least 90% of discussion forum participants (academics, religious leaders) support the Fatwa (formal issue of the Fatwa is outcome indicator 0.2)

This relates to discussions planned for the next stage of the Fatwa development.

Indicator 2.2: The Fatwa is disseminated through billboard advertisements in 13 districts around the Leuser Ecosystem and 4 districts around Ulu Masen Ecosystem in December 2022

This is planned for later in the project.

Indicator 2.3: Discussions opened with the Government of Aceh regarding a Governor's Decree (PerGub) recognising HWC as Kejadian Bencana Luar Biasa (having 'Extraordinary Natural Disaster' status), a drafting team established and FGD held by December 2021 (formal issue of the Decree is Outcome indicator 0.3 i).

As reported above in the Activities section (with supporting evidence), project partner HAKA have begun discussions with the Disaster Reduction Forum (PRB) and the Disaster Management Agency, Aceh (BPBA Aceh) which resulted in support for the development of a Governor's Decree (PerGub) recognising human-wildlife conflict as having 'Extraordinary Natural Disaster' status. Two following focus group discussions were held resulting in the forming of a multi-stakeholder drafting team (working group).

The next step is for DLHK Aceh (the Department of Environment and Forestry, Aceh) to issue a decree (SK) in which the members of the Governor's Decree drafting team will be named. HAKA are currently waiting for the DLHK decree to be issued.

Indicator 2.4: Discussions opened with the Government of Aceh and BKSDA Aceh to secure collaboration to draft the SOPs on HWC Mitigation, a drafting team established and FGD held by December 2022 (formal issue of the Decree is Outcome indicator 0.3 ii).

This is planned for later in the project

(OUTPUT 3 was removed, CR approved March 2022)

OUTPUT 4: Collaborative, on-the-ground law enforcement capacity for addressing IWT and HWC is increased, and effectiveness enhanced, across key hotspot and areas in the Ulu Masen and Leuser Ecosystems

Indicator 4.1: Four newly established Wildlife Protection teams (minimum 20 rangers) are actively patrolling IWT hotspot/at-risk areas at a rate of at least 15 days/month, by October 2022

While this indicator is not due to be achieved until October 2022, some progress has already been made. As reported above in the Activity section, one new SMART Patrol team has been established by YEL, consisting of six Community Rangers, and is actively patrolling (commenced March 2022) at a rate of 10 days per month in the Tangse region of the Ulu Masen Ecosystem. The impact of the placement of the new Tangse team is two-fold; firstly, the location is strategic to protect the area (Tangse and Keumala) into which a population of re-introduced Sumatran orangutans are dispersing outside of the Nature Reserve into which they are released. In the longer-term, as the population grows and spreads, it will be essential to ensure the surrounding parts of the Ulu Masen ecosystem are firmly protected so that this population does not fall victim to poaching and illegal trade. This area is the site of the only orangutan population within the Ulu Masen and therefore the potential for human-wildlife conflict, poaching and illegal trade are high as the orangutans disperse beyond the strict Nature Reserve. The new team will monitor levels of disturbance in Tangse and Keumala including poaching, mining and other forest encroachment.

Furthermore, OIC has begun establishment of a new SMART Patrol team within the Leuser Ecosystem in the KPH 5 (Forest Management 5) area of Gayo Lues, Aceh. The area is a

known poaching hotspot and therefore establishment of the new team meets a strategic need. As reported above in the Activities section, the team is still in the stage of being established and not actively patrolling yet.

Indicator 4.2: Three newly established HWC mitigation teams are active within HWC hotspot/at-risk areas, responding to at least 95% of reported HWC events by October 2022

While this indicator is not due to be achieved until October 2022, some progress has already been made. As reported above in the Activity section (with supporting evidence), OIC have begun to establish one of their new Human-Orangutan Conflict Response Units which will operate in the Gayo Lues and Aceh Tenggara area of the Leuser Ecosystem. The team will initially focus on collecting data about conflict events which will serve to fill an intelligence gap about the levels and dynamics of conflict in this area.

OUTPUT 5: Community environmental stewardship and community-led & traditional wildlife protection governance strengthened in key IWT and HWC hotspots adjacent the Leuser and Ulu Masen Ecosystems

Indicator 5.1: At least 50 key community members in IWT and HWC hotspots (minimum 40% female participation), and 25 local art and youth groups, are reached through IWT focused participatory training activities, by April 2024

As reported above in the Activities section, project partner HAKA have conducted a fantastic series of events, both virtual and in-person, in Aceh since the outset of the project. To date, HAKA have worked with 18 youth groups as part of their work holding together Bu-Moe Fest, which was attended by over 500 people (>50% female) from mixed backgrounds and with a strong youth presence (HAKA are currently preparing a survey to send to Bu-Moe attendees to assess impact in terms of awareness and behavioural change). Through their artistic work thus far, HAKA have identified several local environmental youth groups and are in the planning phase for future training and collaboration.



Figure 16. Bu-Moe Fest February 28th – March 3rd, Banda Aceh



Figure 17. Bu-Moe Fest February 28th – March 3rd, Banda Aceh

Indicator 5.2: At least 90% of community training participants self-report (i) increased awareness of the newly established Acehese *Qanun Satwa Liar* (Provincial Wildlife Law), including penalties and sanctions and, (ii) positive changes in knowledge and attitude towards importance of biodiversity and ecosystem services

While four workshops have been carried out to date, reaching 83 people (45% women, surpassing our female participation target), due to the workshop delivery being scheduled into Y2Q1 (in line with original time planning), we do not yet have the full dataset to analyse the % self-reporting increased knowledge. This will be reported in the next reporting period.

Indicator 5.3: (i) At least 30 of 35 villages that participate in IWT capacity building training report use of new knowledge and capacity for positive community impact one year after training; and (ii) at least 13 out of 15 Acehese *Pawang* (traditional animal experts) that participate in sustainable HWC mitigation training report use of new knowledge and capacity for positive community impact one year after training

Measurement of this indicator will occur until the capacity building training takes place as planned later in the project.

Indicator 5.4: Deepen understanding of local IWT/HWC drivers/dynamics in respect to the changes to livelihoods and wellbeing as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, through completion of a study on two focal communities (identified from within highly at-risk IWT/HWC areas adjacent to Ulu Masen and the Leuser Ecosystems).

In line with original project planning, this study has started with a background information (baseline) gathering exercise and will continue into Y2.

3.3 Progress towards the project Outcome

Outcome: Wildlife protection and community security in Aceh are enhanced by robustly addressing IWT at the legislative-level, complemented by enhanced protection and HWC mitigation capacity on-the-ground and engagement with informed communities

Indicator 0.1: Increased numbers of:

- i) wildlife trader prosecutions (target: 5 cases/year by March 2024; baseline 3 cases/year);
- ii) wildlife trader criminal convictions (target: 4 cases/year by March 2024; baseline 2 cases/year); and
- iii) delivery of more severe penalties (above 1 year) to wildlife traders (target: 2/year by March 2023; baseline 1 case/year)

To date, project partner OIC has supported the authorities with three illegal wildlife trade cases that have progressed to the prosecutions stage. OIC's role in the cases is through their investigation team that supports the authorities with information and evidence. Considering our target of five cases per year, and we have achieved three prosecutions in the first six months of the project, we are pleased with progress thus far and confident of reaching our annual target by the end of Y2Q2 (which will be 12 months since the project began).

To date, of the cases supported by OIC, there has been one conviction, and this conviction was of the higher severity; a 2 years and 10 months prison sentence plus a 100 million IDR (£5,334 GBP) fine. For the other cases that reached prosecution, the second has been trialled and the verdict is awaited, and the third is beginning prosecution imminently. We are again pleased with progress in the first six-months of the project and confident of reaching our targets.

Details of the three cases are as follows (as reported above in the Activities narrative section).

- Illegal trade of three tiger skins, tiger bones and 9kg of pangolin scales in Southwest Aceh. The verdict was announced on December 7th, 2021 at the Kutacane District Court, Aceh Tenggara and the perpetrator was sentenced to two year and 10 months prison and fined 100 million IDR (circa £5,334 GBP)
- Illegal trade of 36.7kg of pangolin scales in Tanjung Morawa, Deli Serdang, North Sumatra. Further investigation of this case also helped to identify the perpetrators of a hornbill trading case in Medan, North Sumatra. The perpetrators of the pangolin scale trading were arrested on November 24th, 2022. The case had been trialled and we are awaiting the verdict.
- Illegal trade of 21.9kg of pangolin scales in Banda Aceh, Aceh province. Three perpetrators were arrested in February 2022. The case has been through preliminary investigation by the Police and a charges plan has been developed by the prosecutors.

Indicator 0.2: The Acehese *Ulema* Institution (Institution of Authoritative Religious Leaders) issues a Fatwa banning IWT by September 2022

Project partner HAKA have made really excellent progress achieving issuance of a Fatwa banning IWT, as detailed above in the Output section. Support from the *Ulema* Institution has been secured, and a decree by the *Ulema* Institution defining the process for the Fatwa development has been issued and lists the *Ulema* Institution and HAKA staff responsible for the Fatwa issuance process. Currently a period of socio-legal research is taking place to support the Fatwa development. While there are upcoming leadership changes scheduled at the *Ulema* Institution, we do not foresee this impacting progress. We do however think that we may need to extend the target date until December 2022 but are confident of the Fatwa being issued by the end of the year.

Indicator 0.3: The Governor of Aceh issues:

- (i) a Governor's Decree (*PerGub*) for a derivative of the newly established Acehese *Qanun Satwa Liar* (Wildlife Law) recognising HWC as *Kejadian Bencana Luar Biasa* (having 'Extraordinary Natural Disaster' status), by July 2023 (previously 2022, change request submitted and currently being considered), and;

(ii) a Governor's Decree to regulate the Standard Operating Procedures for managing HWC, by July 2023
Project partner HAKA have made an encouraging start to achieving the Governor's Decree (<i>PerGub</i>) recognising human-wildlife conflict as having extraordinary natural disaster status, as detailed above in the Output section. Support from the Disaster Management Agency of Aceh and the Disaster Reduction Forum (PRB) has been secured and focus group discussions have taken place with key stakeholders, from which a drafting team has been put together. The team will work to determine the criteria for recognising wildlife conflict as an extraordinary natural disaster. With the adjustment made to the target for the Governor's Decree on HWC, we are confident in our ability to achieve the target.
Work towards the second Governor's Decree, for Standard Operating Procedures related to wildlife conflict is scheduled to begin later in the project.
Indicator 0.4: On-the-ground capacity a) increased by 15% to directly address HWC and IWT issues in key hotspots in the Leuser and Ulu Masen Ecosystems by March 2023
This project will see seven new teams, four SMART patrol teams and three human-wildlife conflict mitigation teams, strategically placed on the ground in the Leuser and Ulu Masen Ecosystems. Thus far, three new teams are at various stages of establishment as detailed above in the Output section. The additional four new teams are due as part of year 2 of the project. The seven new teams will be established in addition to the 46 teams already operated by project partners across the Leuser and Ulu Masen Ecosystems, representing a 15% increase in boots-on-the-ground protection.
Indicator 0.5: 90% of community member training participants self-report they are confident to conduct community awareness raising activities related to negative impacts of IWT and the importance of criminal sanctions of wildlife traders within their villages; and 90% of Acehnese <i>Pawang</i> self-report increased awareness and capacity to introduce effective and sustainable HWC mitigation among their communities by December 2022
Progress toward this indicator is at the early stages, as detailed above in the Output section.

3.4 Monitoring of assumptions

Outcome assumption 1: Indonesia remains committed to upholding and strengthening wildlife laws and coordination, including at Aceh provincial level

Comments: The project progress thus far involving government agency collaboration (Outputs 1, 2, and 3) shows this assumption to still hold true.

Outcome assumption 2: Increased prosecutions, convictions and penalties will reduce (disincentivise) IWT activity; **Outcome assumption 3:** Strengthened on-the-ground capacity will reduce IWT/HWC activity in key hotspots/at risk areas; and **Outcome assumption 4:** Informed, engaged communities will mitigate and protect against IWT/HWC and reduce related activity

Comments: These three assumptions do not underpin achievement of project indicators as such, more so it tests the theory of change between the project achievements within the three-year timeframe and the overall impact in the longer-term.

Outcome assumption 5: Project partners maintain permissions to continue operations in Aceh

Comments: Still holds true.

Output 1 assumption 1: Stakeholders (GAKKUM, the Police, the Military, the Judiciary, and prosecutors) willing to actively participate in training and meeting sessions, including key decision makers; **Output 1 assumption 2:** Stakeholders (GAKKUM, the Police, the Military, the Judiciary,

and prosecutors) remain open to collaboration on cases and improving processes, including key decision makers.

Comments: The project progress thus far towards Output 1 shows this assumption to still hold true, though while the majority of delays to project progress to date have stemmed from difficulty with scheduling events with government counterparts due to their schedules and availability, support has nonetheless been secured from the relevant stakeholders.

Output 1 assumption 3: Reporters interested, engaged and resourced to report on wildlife-related law enforcement.

Comments: The project progress thus far towards Output 1 shows this assumption to still hold true.

Output 2 assumption 1: Academics and religious leaders willingly engage in discussions and support the issuance of Fatwa banning IWT and a discussion forum, including key decision makers.

Comments: The support secured from the *Ulema* Council show this assumption to have held true.

Output 2 assumption 2: Government of Aceh support and participate decree development discussions, including key decision makers.

Comments: The support secured from BPBA towards decree development thus far show this assumption to have held true.

Output 2 assumption 3: Government and religious leaders and actors enact relevant decrees following discussions advocacy processes.

Comments: This assumption will be tested later in the project, support secure to date looks positive.

(Output 3 was removed)

Output 4 assumption 1: Partners remain committed to supporting IWT/HWC programmes.

Comments: Impressive results from partners thus far show this assumption to be holding true.

Output 4 assumption 2: Partners maintain existing government permissions to patrol and carry out protection activities in Leuser and Ulu Masen Ecosystems.

Comments: To date, all partners that have patrol team development as part of the project have maintained permissions to continue conducting patrols and set up the upcoming new teams.

Output 5 assumption 1: Communities are willing to participate in training activities and are receptive to key messages.

Comments: Thus far, community members in target areas have been willing to participate and attended all scheduled events as planned.

Output 5 assumption 2: Training content developed collaboratively with local community members, based on proven methods/approaches and led by experienced facilitators/educators to ensure effectiveness.

Comments: Project implementation and future plans incorporate this strategy of content development.

Output 5 assumption 3: Livelihoods have been impacted by COVID-19 and local people are willing to participate in the study.

Comments: This assumption will be tested in the upcoming project phase.

3.5 Impact: achievement of positive impact on illegal wildlife trade and poverty reduction

Project Impact Statement: Aceh's biodiversity is sustainably protected under an effective legal system and there is peaceful co-existence between critical megafauna and resilient local communities

Our project is working to deter and ultimately reduce illegal trade in Indonesia's Aceh Province. By project end, wildlife traders in Aceh will face increases in prosecutions, convictions, and delivery of maximum penalties (Indicator 0.1), providing an enhancement deterrent compared to the pre-project status quo. This is already beginning to be achieved through capacity building of key legal and law-enforcement staff, including around the newly-established Acehese Wildlife Law (Indicator 1.1), and preparatory steps to initiate and facilitate increased collaboration between agencies (Indicator 1.2). Furthermore, Acehese legislation will be enhanced by the issue of two Governor's Decrees (*PerGub*; Indicator 0.3) on illegal wildlife trade and human-wildlife conflict mitigation, for which development processes are already afoot, and the issue of a *Fatwa* banning illegal wildlife trade (Indicator 0.2), for which support from the Acehese *Ulema* Council has already been secured.

To date, through activities setting the foundations for achieving the high-level impacts, we have raised public awareness of wildlife trade issues through increased press coverage and the Bu-Moe festival (project partner HAKA are currently preparing a survey to send to Bu-Moe attendees to assess impact in terms of awareness and behavioural change). Furthermore, increased awareness among government officials has also been raised such as within the *Ulema* Council and Disaster Management Agency through regular collaborations and focus group discussions.

Complementary to legislative and judicial strengthening, this project is also working to enhance direct, on-the-ground protection of species, specifically Sumatran orangutans and Sumatran elephants, against illegal wildlife trade and human-wildlife conflict in the Leuser and Ulu Masen Ecosystems. SMART patrol and human-wildlife conflict response coverage in hotspot areas will be increased by 15% from current coverage by addition of seven new teams (Indicators 4.1 and 4.2), three of which are already in the process of establishment. Within the Acehese context, it has been shown that human-wildlife conflict is a direct driver of illegal trade, especially concerning orangutans and elephants^{1 2 3} hence our dual focus on both issues in this project. These linkages have also recently been demonstrated in other landscapes, finding that "human-wildlife conflict can prompt, pressure, permit, and provoke individuals to engage in both retaliatory killings and poaching."⁴

Furthermore, Community-led and traditional wildlife protection are being strengthened through a two-fold approach to raise awareness of illegal wildlife trade in the next generation of Acehese (Indicator 5.1) and also capacity building of rural communities and traditional Acehese *Pawang*

¹ Hadisiswoyo, P. (2008). Orangutans and farmers: A perceived human-orangutan conflict study in seven villages near Gunung Leuser National Park. Oxford Brookes University, MSc dissertation

² <https://www.ajnn.net/news/kronologi-penangkapan-pemilik-gading-gajah-di-aceh-tamiang/index.html>

³ 6. <https://www.voaindonesia.com/a/lima-gajah-sumatra-ditemukan-mati-di-aceh-jaya-diduga-tersetrum-pagar-listrik/5229474.html>

⁴ <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/1478601X.2019.1600816>

in the issues and in sustainable human-wildlife conflict and illegal wildlife trade mitigation techniques at the community-level (Indicators 5.2 and 5.3), this project aspect is in the early stages.

Aceh is Sumatra's poorest Province, with over 800,000 people living in poverty and the majority of poor situated in rural districts (80%)⁵. Illegal wildlife trade currently leads to insecurity and depletion of livelihood and economic assets for the rural poor. Human wildlife conflict results in crop and property damage, psychological and physical health impacts, lost opportunity costs, and, in the Acehnese context, is a key driver of wildlife trade. Therefore, work to address, mitigate and ultimately reduce illegal trade and wildlife conflict has a clear theory of change leading to positive development and human-wellbeing impacts. Furthermore, our training, community and public engagement and festivals and events have received positive anecdotal feedback in terms of their impact on wellbeing, cultural pride, inclusiveness, and empowerment.

It should be noted that as the project has only been running for a period of six months, during which mainly preparatory work has taken place, described above are primarily the aims of the project and as the project continues to unfold evidence and examples of impact-level achievements will be able to be provided, in addition to those reported above under the Outcome Indicators section.

4. Thematic focus

Our project is working to address two of the four IWT Challenge Fund objectives: 'Ensuring effective legal frameworks and deterrents' and 'Strengthening law enforcement'.

These themes are central to our project and are the specific focus of:

- Output 1: Increased effectiveness of law enforcement frameworks through (i) heightened capacity of key Acehnese public-sector actors to apply wildlife protection laws and pursue IWT cases appropriately and (ii) increased public attention on IWT cases. Output 1 aims to ultimately result in increased the number of wildlife trader prosecutions, convictions, and delivery of more severe penalties (Outcome Indicator 0.1);
- Output 4: Collaborative, on-the-ground law enforcement capacity for addressing IWT and HWC is increased, and effectiveness enhanced, across key hotspot and at risk areas in the Ulu Masen and Leuser Ecosystems; and
- Output 2: Acehnese legislative frameworks and religious law are further enhanced through the development of two Governor Decrees and a Fatwa that build on the IWT and HWC elements of the *Qanun Satwa Liar*

As the project has only been running for six months, during which mainly preparatory work has taken place, we do not have impact-level data to report. However, we have secured support from the *Ulema* Council and relevant government institutions for the issue of Fatwa and Governor's Decree on human-wildlife conflict. We are therefore on track to achieving these notable legislative enhancements, as well as other progress towards our Outcome as detailed above.

5. Impact on species in focus

Sumatran orangutans and elephants have drastically declined in recent decades. Both species are Critically Endangered, CITES Appendix I listed, and afforded full Indonesian legal protection. The nexus of illegal wildlife trade and human-wildlife conflict, together with adverse

⁵ (Ministry of National Development Planning (PPN)/ National Development Planning Agency (Bappenas, 2021

habitat change, are key factors driving these species towards extinction. Both species are highly vulnerable to illegal wildlife trade, and demand for these species is well-documented. In the year prior to the project, teams recorded 441 cases of poaching and destroyed 300+ snares in the Leuser Ecosystem alone, while 60% of illegally-held orangutan confiscations in Sumatra occurred in Aceh (partner data, unpublished).

The average population growth rate for both elephants and orangutans is 1-2% annually^{6 7}, meaning that the loss of even a few individuals will have a dramatic impact on population growth. Currently, there are < 500 Sumatran elephants and < 14,000 Sumatran orangutans in the Leuser and Ulu Masen Ecosystem combined^{8 9}, with these landscapes representing the last major strongholds for both. If these populations continue experiencing reductions from illegal trade and human-wildlife conflict, beyond their ability to naturally increase, these pressures alone could drive these species to extinction.

Our theory of change for this project is that by deterring and ultimately reducing illegal wildlife trade in Aceh we will thereby reduce offtake of both Sumatran orangutans and Sumatran elephants, positively impacting their conservation status in the long-term. The enhanced deterrent aspect of our project is complemented and reinforced by the increased numbers of SMART patrol and human-wildlife conflict mitigation teams that the project will deliver. Boots on the ground protection remains one of the most effective ways to combat poaching and killing of wildlife within the landscapes we work in.

Critically Endangered species including Sumatran tigers and rhinoceroses and other threatened species found in the Ulu Masen and Leuser Ecosystems will also benefit from the enhanced wildlife protections of this project.

6. Project support to poverty reduction

As reported above for question 3.5, Aceh is Sumatra's poorest Province, with over 800,000 people living in poverty and the majority of poor situated in rural districts (80%). Illegal wildlife trade currently leads to insecurity and depletion of livelihood and economic assets for the rural poor. Human wildlife conflict results in crop and property damage, psychological and physical health impacts, lost opportunity costs, and, in the Acehnese context, is a key driver of wildlife trade. Therefore, work to address, mitigate and ultimately reduce illegal trade and wildlife conflict has a clear theory of change leading to positive development and human-wellbeing impacts. Furthermore, our work towards Output Indicator 5.4 will be important for enhancing understanding of poverty in relation to illegal trade and wildlife conflict within the target landscapes and support future programming in this area.

7. Consideration of gender equality issues

Our activities endeavour to ensure gender balance in participation of community-based and training activities where possible, and all our indicator data collection is disaggregated. Indonesian guidelines set minimum female participation of 30%, we are taking this a step higher

⁶ Sukumar, R., 2003. The living elephants: evolutionary ecology, behaviour and conservation. Oxford University Press, Oxford.

⁷ Wich, S.A., Setia, T.M. and van Schaik, C.P. eds., 2009. Orangutans: geographic variation in behavioral ecology and conservation. Oxford University Press, Oxford.

⁸ Azmi, W. and Gunaryadi, D., 2011. Current status of Asian elephants in Indonesia. Gajah, 35, pp.55-61.

⁹ Wich, S.A., Singleton, I., Nowak, M.G., Atmoko, S.S.U., Nisam, G., Arif, S.M., Putra, R.H., Ardi, R., Fredriksson, G., Usher, G. and Gaveau, D.L., 2016. Land-cover changes predict steep declines for the Sumatran orangutan (*Pongo abelii*). Science advances, 2(3), p.e1500789.

to minimum 40% female participation target across this our community based activities (while all partners are united in a long-term vision for equal female/male participation, the political and religious context of Aceh must be considered). In the first six month of the project, we are delighted that we have exceeded our gender targets and achieved an average of 47.5% female participation (see Output section for details). Contributing to this achievement was Bu-Moe Fest which had >50% female attendance. We note that the HAKA team leading development and preparation of Bu-Moe was led by women.

In implementing Output 1, we engaged with more female journalists in illegal wildlife trade issues. We also tried to ensure gender balance in holding events, conferences, and FGDs. For example, we invited a female speaker who is a wildlife expert and veterinarian from BKSDA, Drh. Taing Lubis, to call communities and journalists to highlight unresolved wildlife crime cases.

Gender equality is more challenging for the aspects of our project that collaborate with Government agencies, due to the high percentage of male staff. However, in implementing Output 2, four women will be involved in the drafting team to formulate the criteria for determining wildlife conflict as an extraordinary disaster. Looking ahead, as we more fully embark on the government training and facilitation aspects of the project in Y2, we will encourage female involvement in training activities by identifying “gender champions” from within partner agencies prior to training taking place and we will specifically mention female participation in the training invitations. We will also aim to select specific female training beneficiaries for post-training mentoring (above and beyond follow-up activities) and we will encourage the involvement of more women as the expert members of the drafting teams.

Focusing on Output 5 specifically, HAKA’s engagement with the community members, local art and youth groups will be led by Rubama, the Community Development Officer at HAKA. Rubama was an award recipient for her work in Leuser Ecosystem biodiversity conservation through improving the role of women. Rubama was the key actor for HAKA’s work to establish village forest and Women Rangers in the Leuser Ecosystem and other women’s empowerment conservation initiatives. We believe that Rubama’s leadership for this element of the project can only improve the participation of women in future implementation.

8. Monitoring and evaluation

As reported above in the Impact section, we have a clear theory of change leading from our activities and Output level indicators through to our Outcome indicators and higher-level achievement towards addressing illegal wildlife trade in Aceh at the legislative, law enforcement and community-levels.

The project’s indicators are detailed above in the Output and Outcomes sections, as well as below in our logframe. During the first six months of the project all partners have worked collaboratively (led by PanEco) to develop a full project M&E plan with each indicator allocated to the relevant partner for responsibility for monitoring and internally reporting the indicator, with PanEco holding overall responsibility for coordination, tracking, and recording of M&E data, while also providing support and guidance in how such a plan should be developed and good M&E practice. The M&E plan details target values, measurement methods, MoV, how the indicator will be recorded, frequency, partner responsible, baseline value, baseline MoV, and reporting frequency.

The M&E plan is a living document and revisited quarterly as part of partner check-ins and internal project reporting to see if changes or updates are needed. Various improvements have been made so far as partners have begun to get the project off the ground and honed M&E

methodologies. One example of this is developing the Fatwa banning illegal trade in protected species, where initially the MoV was listed as the Fatwa (Decree) document itself. However, we have evolved the MoV to also be minutes of focus group discussions and the report stemming from the period of socio-legal research taking place that will inform the Fatwa. These evolutions to the measurement of this indicator allow us to track and record steps leading to the issuance of the Fatwa, rather than the issuance of the Fatwa itself. While PanEco takes overall responsibility for the M&E plan, it is held as a Google Sheets document inside a shared GDrive folder "IWT consortium shared folder" that all partners have access to and is used as a central location for all project information. In Y2 of the project, PanEco has specific capacity building exercises planned around reporting and M&E techniques.

Linked to and based on the M&E plan, PanEco has developed a full project results tracker to record progress towards activities, Output Indicators and Outcome Indicators. Each partner has a paired down version of the results tracker to record and report progress towards their own activities and indicators on a quarterly basis (this is in addition to quarterly internal narrative reporting). The individual partner trackers are then nested together by PanEco to form the overall results tracker. Partners also use their results trackers as project management tools to guide everyday project implementation. To add extra strength to our M&E systems and processes, PanEco has invested in occasional support from an M&E consultant at different points so far.

9. Lessons learnt

[Redacted content]

[Redacted content]

10. Actions taken in response to previous reviews (if applicable)

N/A – this is the first report we have submitted.

11. Other comments on progress not covered elsewhere

We feel all aspects have been comprehensively covered elsewhere in the report.

12. Sustainability and legacy

The legislative strengthening outcomes are an evolution following the establishment of the *Qanun Satwa Liar* that will have long-lasting impacts and set the scene for strengthened enforcement of wildlife protection in Aceh.

The governmental capacity building elements of this project, while designed to be self-sustaining within partner agencies through incorporation into agency policies and processes, will also be reviewed at project end to identify any gaps or future needs. Project partners will continue to work with partner agencies in the long-term as part of our holistic landscape-level strategy.

It should be noted that as the project has only been running for a period of six months, during which mainly preparatory work has taken place, described above are how we intend to ensure the legacy of our project. As the project continues to develop over the next two years, we will be able to report more fully on this aspect.

13. IWT Challenge Fund identity

PanEco has published [a new page on our website](#) introducing the project as a new collaborative initiative funded by the IWT Challenge Fund. A series of social media posts were also made introducing the project and tagging partner and the IWT Challenge Fund. As the project unfolds, we will post updates on the website and our social media channels. One of our intro posts was noticed by the Arcus Foundation and reposted.



14. Impact of COVID-19 on project delivery

While there were concerns in Q3 about the potential impact of the COVID-19 omicron variant on onwards project progress, after an initial increase in cases in Aceh during Q4, cases then began and continued to decrease. Therefore, only minimal restrictions on travel and events were in place and much of the project planning was able to be realised. However, most government offices only began to open again fully (since 2020) in January 2022 and therefore it was an extremely busy periods for institutions. This has contributed to the majority of project delays reported above. While partners are looking at ways to conduct more virtual meetings, it remains challenging in Aceh where in-person meetings have a higher impact, especially with activities such as meeting *Pawang*, supporting journalists to undertake audiences with law enforcement officials, and government meetings across the board.

Routine measures are now part of everyday practice for partners are ensuring all staff are vaccinated and remain up to date with boosters and providing masks and sanitisers for the office and all events held.

The overall aim of the project, to reduce wildlife trade, will play an important role in decreasing the likelihood of future pandemics resulting from zoonotic transmission, such as COVID-19.

15. Safeguarding

Please tick this box if any safeguarding or human rights violations have occurred during this financial year.

If you have answered yes, please ensure these are reported to ODA.safeguarding@defra.gov.uk as indicated in the T&Cs.

PanEco's safeguarding policies and procedures, including how we will ensure downstream partners carry out project implementation in a way that aligns with our principles, is in development and we aim to be able to report further in the next reporting period.

Project expenditure

Table 1: Project expenditure during the reporting period (April 2021-March 2022)

Current Year's Costs	2021/22 Grant (ORIGINAL) (£)	2021/22 Grant (Following Dec CR-approved) (£)	2021/22 Grant (Following March CR-pending)	2021/22 Total actual Darwin Costs (£)	Variance % (from figures following March CR)*	Comments (please explain any variance)
Staff costs	██████	██████	██████	██████	██████	
Consultancy Costs	██████	██████	██████	██████	██████	Higher consultancy needs than expected for Governor's Decrees workstream
Overhead Costs	██████	██████	██████	██████	██████	
Travel and subsistence	██████	██████	██████	██████	██████	Activity delays as detailed in the report
Operating Costs	██████	██████	██████	██████	██████	Activity delays as detailed in the report
Capital items	██████	██████	██████	██████	██████	Difference in actual price of item vs. budgeted amounts
Others	██████	██████	██████	██████	██████	See comment below table
Audit costs	█	█	█	█		
TOTAL	162,214	139,848	123,189	104,646.06	-15%	

'Others' line variance: Underspend primarily on M&E due to project staff who are allocated under staff costs undertaking the majority of M&E responsibility, and it therefore not coming under 'Other' according to the Finance guidance. For Y2 we would like to adjust to reflect this in staff costs more accurately and be able to fully utilise M&E allocations

*Variance from Grant amount following March CR (pending)

- **Annex 4 Onwards – supplementary material (optional but encouraged as evidence of project achievement)**

Our supporting evidence is either given as part of the report text above or a link within the text is provided.

- **Checklist for submission**

	Check
Different reporting templates have different questions, and it is important you use the correct one. Have you checked you have used the correct template (checking fund, type of report (i.e. Annual or Final), and year) and deleted the blue guidance text before submission?	Yes
Is the report less than 10MB? If so, please email to IWT-Fund@Itsi.co.uk putting the project number in the subject line.	
Is your report more than 10MB? If so, please discuss with IWT-Fund@Itsi.co.uk about the best way to deliver the report, putting the project number in the subject line.	
Have you included means of verification? You should not submit every project document, but the main outputs and a selection of the others would strengthen the report.	Yes
Do you have hard copies of material you need to submit with the report? If so, please make this clear in the covering email and ensure all material is marked with the project number. However, we would expect that most material will now be electronic.	No
Have you involved your partners in preparation of the report and named the main contributors	Yes
Have you completed the Project Expenditure table fully?	X
Do not include claim forms or other communications with this report.	