



**Illegal Wildlife Trade (IWT) Challenge Fund
Half Year Report
(due 31st October 2021)**

Project reference	IWTFCF094
Project title	Ensuring the deterrent enforcement of counter IWT legislation in Malawi
Country(ies)	Malawi
Lead organisation	Lilongwe Wildlife Trust
Partners(s)	Multiple Malawi law enforcement agencies and judiciary, Tikki Hywood Foundation, C4ADS
Project leader	Jonathan Vaughan
Report date and number (e.g. HYR1)	October 2021, (HYR1)
Project website/blog/social media	-

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).

This project started on 1 September 2021. To date we have completed all project initiation tasks (signing grant agreement and associated paperwork with Defra), informing project partners of the award and discussions on the project launch meeting.

We have submitted a change request to amend the budget allocation across years, which has been accepted, and submitted a revised implementation plan.

We have submitted a change request to update the exit strategy and log frame as per the recommendations in our award letter.

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.

N/A

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.

We have yet to start the implementation phase of the project, but we have COVID-19 policies and mitigation measures already in place, which will be adhered to as necessary during project roll-out. Fortunately the COVID-19 situation in Malawi has significantly improved in recent months and we do not envisage significant impacts to the project at this time, although court processes are still to return to pre-COVID levels, so this will continue to cause some delays.

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: Yes/No

Formal change request submitted: Yes/No

Received confirmation of change acceptance Yes/No

3a. Do you currently expect to have any significant (e.g. more than £5,000) underspend in your budget for this year?

Yes No Estimated underspend: £

3b. If yes, then you need to consider your project budget needs carefully. Please remember that any funds agreed for this financial year are only available to the project in this financial year.

If you anticipate a significant underspend because of justifiable changes within the project, please submit a rebudget Change Request as soon as possible. There is no guarantee that Defra will agree a rebudget, so please ensure you have enough time to make appropriate changes if necessary. 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?

No

If you were asked to provide a response to this year's annual report review with your next half year report, please attach your response to this document.

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. 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.**