



Illegal Wildlife Trade (IWT) Challenge Fund Main Final 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: no later than 3 months after agreed project end date.

Submit to: BCF-Reports@niras.com including your project ref in the subject line.

IWT Challenge Fund Project Information

Project reference	IWT095
Project title	Mongolia's New Ecological Police: Global Standards and Community Engagement
Country(ies)	Mongolia
Lead Partner	Zoological Society of London (ZSL)
Project Partner (s)	Ecological Police Department of National Police Administration of Mongolia, University of Internal Affairs ¹ of Mongolia, Professional Union of Detector Dogs (PUDD), City of London Police Forensics Science Services (CoLP) and Veterans for Wildlife-capacity building charity, Union of Conservation Communities, local NGO, Environment and Tourism Department of Arkhangai Province Government, Bulgan soum Government
IWTCF grant value	£ 597,020.00
Start/end dates of project	Start date: 01/07/2021/ End date: 31/03/2024
Project Leader's name	Tungalag [REDACTED]
Project website/blog/social media	www.zsl.org/mongolia
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1. Project summary

The project aims to achieve an increase in the interception of Mongolia's illegal wildlife trade (IWT) including IWT detections, seizures, investigations and reporting by the public to the Ecological Police Department (EPD) that is highly trained and using professional law-enforcement practices.

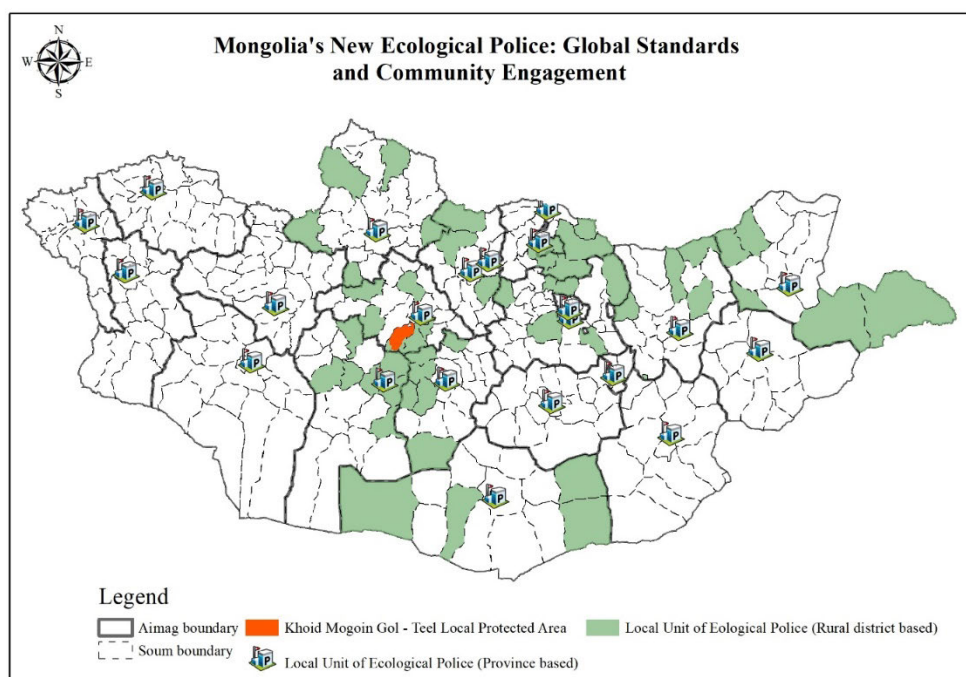
The project focuses on the Local Protected Area (LPA) of Bulgan district in Arkhangai province and the LPA herding communities in the Khangai Mountains, which harbor endangered species like the saker falcon, steppe eagle, musk deer, and Siberian marmots. Mongolia acts as both a source and a route for IWT primarily destined for China and other regions. Inadequate law enforcement, minimal inter-agency cooperation, and limited community involvement exacerbate the IWT issues. The project, led by the EPD

¹ The Government changed the name of University of Law Enforcement as University of Internal Affairs.
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and supported by local communities and law enforcement agencies, aims to eliminate poaching and reduce illegal logging in the area, simultaneously enhancing local well-being and public participation. The project will disrupt IWT through 1) building and sustaining the newly established EPD and partners' law enforcement (LE) efficacy by institutionalising state-of-the-art IWT training; 2) increasing EPD standards for Detector Dog (DD) training and strategic deployment; 3) strengthening EPD's engagement in partnership with Bulgan LPA herders; and 4) bolstering public awareness of EPD's role in combating IWT.

Without steady income and at high risk of environmental changes, herders live in the margins of poverty as their lives revolve around livestock production and grazing. By educating herders to improve the quality of livestock, raising awareness about rangeland degradation and ecosystem, herders are empowered to act as a community. And as public legal awareness about IWT improves by recognizing it as a crime, punishable by several laws and enforceable by several LE agencies, it is envisaged that IWT detections, investigation and prosecution improve with EPD leading crime resolution and environmental inspectors, rangers closely monitoring and resolving IWT related infringements.

Project map:



2. Project Partnerships

Ecological Police Department (EPD) of National Police Administration (NPA) of Mongolia, established on January 6, 2020, plays a pivotal role in combating environmental crimes. As of 2023, the EPD has expanded its force to 252 officers across Mongolia's 21 provinces, including 64 rural districts vulnerable to IWT crimes, and Ulaanbaatar, up from 170 officers. The EPD co-designed the project to address capacity issues and enhance enforcement capabilities and signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) and Workplan with ZSL for the implementation. EPD officers in Ulaanbaatar and Arkhangai have actively engaged in training, regular patrolling, raising public awareness about IWT and reporting. EPD has strong collaboration with Police School of Internal Affairs University by accepting new graduates, sending officers for graduate study and inviting professors to deliver new approaches in investigating Ecological crimes. The ZSL Mongolia and EPD signed a three-year Workplan ([Annex 4, photo 1](#))

University of Internal Affairs (UIA), trains LE officers in eight colleges, six training centers, and two research institutes. The project closely collaborated with UIA's Police School to develop a SMART handbook and updated its curriculum to integrate the project training content, including IWT investigation, intelligence, Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool (SMART) app use, and CITES. Therefore, UIA lecturers consistently participated in UK experts' training to learn from international best practices and tools available for law enforcement for adoption. UIA plans to open practical training center with simulation rooms designed for crime scene investigation.

Professional Union of Detector Dogs (PUDD) established in 2013, the PUDD focuses on capacity building, training, and creating a supportive environment for detector dog handlers. It conducts annual training sessions for K9 handlers in collaboration with government agencies including the State Special Security Department of Mongolia, Security Department of Chinggis Khaan International Airport, Security Department of Railways, Department of Corrections, National Intelligence Agency, and the NPA. Additionally, PUDD has offered professional consultancy and coordination services for the development of “The Standards for Detector Dog Trainers and Handlers,” which was carried out by the Occupation Standard and Human Development Institute in year 2.

Union of Conservation Communities (UCC), Bulgan district, Arkhangai province was the key beneficiary of a project-supported partnership model between provincial LE stakeholders and herder communities within the Khoid-Mogoin Gol-Teel (KMGT) LPA, managed by the Union of Conservation Communities (UCC). Initially, ten Community-based Organizations (CBOs) covered 137,018 hectares of the LPA. Through engagement activities such as ecological education and livelihood training, the project influenced the LPA’s expansion to over 242,000 hectares and increased the member CBOs to 20. The UCC conducted activities like regular patrolling, forest and waste cleaning, tree planting, and supporting forest regeneration. Additionally, UCC member CBOs had monthly Village Savings and Loan Association (VSLA) meetings, enhancing herders' access to financial services. These efforts were supported by the Arkhangai Community Stewardship Support Group (CSSG), which includes the Arkhangai Ecological Police Division, the Environment & Tourism Department, the Bulgan district Governor’s Office, the Administration of Khangai Mountains LPA, and the Orkhon-Chuluut River Basin Administration. During the project UCC worked actively with communities to promote the establishment and importance of cooperative.

City of London Police, Forensics Science Service: The City of London Police Forensic Science Service, under the leadership of Dr. Tracy Alexander FKC, provided forensics training to national law enforcement personnel. The training includes use of various techniques, and tools when examining crime scenes and illegal product seizures.

Veterans for Wildlife, UK (V4W): a UK-based international charity, is dedicated to protecting endangered species and habitats. The organization employs experienced volunteers from police, military, and customs backgrounds to provide training in operational tactics and senior management guidance to strengthen organizational capacities to combat IWT. Specifically, a V4W expert conducted training (year 2) for EPD officers focused on intercepting IWT activities related to CITES and managing intelligence databases.

Environment and Tourism Department, Arkhangai Province Government (ETDA) manages environmental conservation policies and programs across the province's 19 districts, covering 55,300 km². As a member of the CSSG, ETDA participates in training, community meetings, joint patrols using SMART and project reporting. They also guide annual forest regeneration and cleaning initiatives, working in close collaboration with the Bulgan district government, UCC, and other CSSG members. Encouraged by the success of initial SMART pilot exercises in the LPA, ETDA decided in March 2023 to implement SMART throughout the province for ranger operations.

Bulgan district Government, Arkhangai province (aka soum), encompasses the Khoid Mogoin Gol-Teel (KMGT) LPA. The district government has entrusted LPA management to the UCC, which not only manages the area but also reports on LPA outcomes and aids in implementing district government plans. As an active member of the CSSG, the district government supports UCC by its policies and finances various environmental conservation initiatives of CBOs, including signing rangeland management agreements with each CBO. The Bulgan district government has also seen benefits from the project through capacity training for district rangers in SMART, biological monitoring, and enhanced LE within the LPA. The project established good cooperation with Bulgan district governor, who regularly attends CBO meetings facilitated by the project.

British Embassy in Mongolia has supported the project by submitting a support letter for the implementation of the project. ZSL Mongolia arranged meeting with newly appointed ambassador H.E. Fiona Blyth with Mr. Matthew Gould, CEO of ZSL in September 2023. The Country Director of ZSL

Mongolia was invited to events commemorating the 60th Anniversary since the establishment of diplomatic relations between UK and Mongolia and gave a presentation about the ZSL's work in Mongolia.

Environmental Crime Prevention Sub-Council (ECPSC), a coordination working group established under the Crime Prevention Coordination Council of the Ministry of Justice and Home Affairs has played a key role in coordinating work of international and national partners by organizing regular meetings and adopting Integrated Annual Plan. The members of the sub-council constitute government agencies and international and national NGOs.

The National Forensics Agency, newly established group from National Forensics Institute, invited the project team and UK experts to tour the laboratory facilities and presented their work in environmental crime investigation. The agency is a member of the ECPSC and invited ZSL to collaborate in capacity building to meet the needs of introducing state-of-the-art technologies and databases.

Customs General Administration (CGA) is a beneficiary of the project by receiving Detector Dog (DD) kennels and training tools for their scent lab. Trainers of the CGA's Detector Dog Unit (DDU) were trained as trainers in the ToT delivered by UK expert and later provided venue for the training of DD handlers. DDU of CGA actively participated in the First K9 Convention and provided feedback on Standards development.

The National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) is a beneficiary of the project by receiving DD kennels, training tools, and DD transportation vehicle. CGA's Detector Dog Unit (DDU) were trainers and handlers participating in project training. NEMA's DDU with K9s participated in year 2 DD patrol led by EPD and successfully detected IWTs. NEMA actively participated in the First K9 Convention, contributing to Standards development. Their detector dogs later successfully completed mission in earthquake disaster zone in Turkey.

3. Project Achievements

3.1 Outputs

Output 1. [The newly established EPD staff are well-equipped and highly trained, and utilising global best practices in forensic intelligence gathering, SMART and intelligence sharing to enable long-term effective inter-agency efforts to reduce and prosecute IWT crime in Mongolia.](#)

Significant progress has been made for increasing EPD's capacity for tackling IWT guided by the EPD Capacity assessment conducted by UK and Mongolian experts. Thanks to the proactive work of the Coordination Council on Crimes Prevention (CCCP) and its Environmental Crime Prevention Sub-Council (ECPSC), inter-agency LE efforts were established and sustained throughout the project. ECPSC continued to organize bi-annual meetings each year to agree on an Integrated National Plan (INP), coordinating all government agencies and associated projects, and stakeholders report on the implementation status. ZSL joined the ECPS at the end of Year 1 and thereof contributed 6 activities in 2022 INP and 3 activities in 2023 INP. **Baseline 1.1:** Initially, there was no EPD-led INP of Action. **Change recorded:** The INP is now spearheaded by the ECPSC, in contrast to project assumptions that EPD will lead the INP.

EPD benefited from the project in terms of its technical and human resource capacity building. **Baseline 1.2:** EPD lacked a specimen storage facility and adequate equipment. **Change recorded:** Based on EPD capacity assessment, the project supplied a 20-tonne freezing container for specimen storage, two drones for addressing illegal mining activities, 15-night vision binoculars to combat poaching, 12 GPS units, and distributed 101 smartphones for SMART patrols, totaling MNT 188,519,030. ([Annex 4, photo 2](#))

EPD and other LE professionals including UIA instructors enhanced their skills and knowledge by receiving UK experts' training in CITES, crime investigation, forensics, intelligence management and SMART system. ([Annex 4, photo 3](#)) **Baseline 1.3:** EPD officers and UIA instructors lacked training in intelligence, SMART, CITES, and forensics. **Change recorded:** By the end of Year 2, over 300 participants completed project training. This includes two-day CITES and crime investigation training with 99 participants (93 EPD officers, and six from other law enforcement agencies: against target 70), while a London Police expert-run three-day forensics training brought 38 national forensic professionals (against a target of 30) from four organizations (NUM, UIA, NFI and National Center for Public Health). Three-days Intelligence Management training conducted by Thistle & Roses brought together 25 officers (against target 15) from

five law enforcement institutions. Lastly, basic SMART training by a ZSL instructor included 160 EPD officers. Also, two EPD officers attended the online ToT SMART training by Artio conservation NGO. Following SMART pilot that gathered data from patrols, 41 EPD officers attended SMART advanced level training in Year 2. Training evaluations were conducted after each training and received positive feedback.

To sustain this skills development process, UIA instructors developed a specialized academic curriculum on ecological security emphasizing CITES and IWT crime investigation for teaching future ecological officers. **Baseline 1.4:** UIA's curriculum lacked content on ecological crimes. **Change recorded:** By end of Year 3, UIA developed and approved curriculum on "Ecological Security" and will be adopted from Spring semester in 2024. Furthermore, the project created a handbook, "Procedure for Investigation of Environmental Crimes and Infringements using SMART System," to supplement UIA's program. ([Annex, photo 4](#))

In line with the EPD assessment, the training incorporating international best practices were delivered but also evaluated on how EPD participants retained knowledge and applying their skills in practice. **Baseline 1.5** Capacity of EPD is low as no specialized training or program is in place. **Change recorded:** The post-training evaluation conducted by the end of Year 3 show that out of 503 participants who received project training (1 or more of 6 trainings offered by the project) 380 participants (75%) was surveyed and 100% confirmed applying knowledge and skills in their work (*against target 70% trainees*). EPD assessment identified further training needs of the EPD and provided recommendation for institutional capacity development.

Lastly, the EPD is actively engaged in the prevention of IWT, by coordinating with ECPSC under INP and collaborating with other LEs in the investigation of crimes. **Baseline 1.6:** No training and meetings for collaborative investigative, intelligence, and analytical sharing previously occurred. **Change recorded:** By end of Year 1, the project facilitated an analytical case presentation competition among EPD officers and organized feedback sessions post SMART system testing. ([Annex 4, photo 5](#)) ECPSC facilitated bi-annual meetings served as a platform to bring the environmental crime cases into discussion where LEs and decision makers were presented with operational issues, with EPD leading the case-sharing, identifying gaps and suggesting legislative and regulatory amendments. By the end of Year 3, around six such collaborative meetings took place. In addition, a SMART handbook was developed in Year 3, incorporating environmental cases for recording, monitoring, and reporting crime scenes

Output 2 Reduction of poaching at key identified peri-urban source sites and of IWT products at urban hotspots (markets, transport hubs) is achieved through highly trained, up-scaled EPD detector dog units (DDU), working in partnership with the Professional Union of Detector Dogs (PUDD) to promote DDU standards that increase efficiency in tackling environmental and IWT-related crimes.

Significant progress has been made in enhancing the EPD's detection of IWT through detector dog (DD) use in urban and peri-urban hotspots like city entry points and peri-urban PAs. **Baseline 2.1:** Initially, the EPD lacked experience in utilizing DD patrols in peri-urban protected areas, therefore poaching incidents intercepted is 0. **Change recorded:** The project successfully identified key urban and peri-urban sites for DD patrols and conducted four EPD led DD patrols. As a result, EPD led DD patrols detected 16 IWT violations in Year 3, which is an increase of 200% compared to the baseline (*against target of 10% increase by Year 3*). The project facilitated collaboration between EPD and NPA DD unit to enhance their effectiveness in intercepting poaching and IWT.

To achieve these results, the project equipped DDUs of the Police and Internal Troops Training Centre under NPA with kennels, laboratory rooms, dog transportation vehicles uniforms, dog supplies, and 2 breeding dogs. Similarly, CGA, NEMA and PUDD also received equipment and supplies. **Baseline 2.2:** Initially, there was no DD unit support or supplies. **Change recorded:** The project supplied LE DD units of various agencies with equipment valued at MNT 106,064,043 All completed by the end of Year 1 as specified in indicator 2.2 ([Annex 4, photo 6](#))

The EPD's collaboration with other LE agencies, including NEMA, CGA, and the PUDD has significantly advanced, not only with the provision of essential equipment, but also skills training provided by the UK expert. **Baseline 2.3:** Initially, there was no UK K9 expert-led training for Mongolian police dog instructors. **Change recorded:** By end of Year 2, a UK expert trained 17 instructors (*against target 15 dog instructors*) from seven organizations (50% of total).

To enhance the skills of trained trainers and disseminate the K9 training best practices, trainers then trained DD handlers of LE organizations who participated from provinces. **Baseline 2.4:** There were no DD units trained by newly trained national K9 instructors. **Change recorded:** The project, in collaboration with DD unit and PUDD instructors, trained 42 dog handlers (against *target of 30 dog handlers*) from seven organizations (70% of total). ([Annex 4, photo7](#))

The development and implementation of a "Detector Dog Standard for Instructors and Handlers" that provides framework for the DD training program was developed by PUDD and K9 LE organizations through a series of consultations. **Baseline 2.5:** Initially, there was no DD training standards in Mongolia. **Change recorded:** Collaborating with ZSL, K9 LE organizations developed a "Detector Dog Standard for Instructors and Handlers," in Year 2 and shared with all K9 organizations and the Committee of DD Organizations in Year 3. At the onset, it was assumed that the Mongolian Agency for Standardization and Metrology will approve the standards, however the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection has approved the Standards, and the Occupation Standard and Human Development Institute developed the standards as per new regulations. ([Annex 4, photo 8](#))

In Year 3, the project carried out post-training evaluation of DD training. **Baseline 2.6:** Initially, Mongolian DD instructors and handlers were unfamiliar with Western K9 training approaches before the training. **Change recorded:** Detector Dog trainer and handlers' post-training evaluation revealed that 95.8% of participants are still using the acquired knowledge and skills in practice, with 87.5% noting a positive change in attitude/approach due to the training, exceeding the target of 80%. ([Annex 4, photo 10](#))

Well-equipped and trained DDUs jointly with EPD conducted patrols to detect environmental infringements, particularly IWT. **Baseline 2.7:** DD patrols conducted in Ulaanbaatar urban hot spots and vulnerable protected areas by end of Year 3. **Change recorded:** EPD led DD patrols were conducted four times in Ulaanbaatar checkpoints and three special PAs. In Year 1, a twelve-day patrol was conducted in December of 2021 at six posts of Ulaanbaatar and a second 12-day patrol in three national special protected areas near Ulaanbaatar in March 2022. In year 2, a ten-day patrol was conducted in Sep 2022 at five city entry points and the Bogd Khan Mountain strictly protected area in the south of Ulaanbaatar. In Year 3, a two-week patrol was conducted in October 2023 at Ulaanbaatar check points and unofficial patrol routes. Overall, on average 1.3 days was spent on patrol per month by the end of year 3 (*against target of 1 per month*). The use of DD patrols across urban and peri-urban areas has resulted in efficient preventive actions and decreased IWT incidences over the project period. ([Annex 4, photo 9](#))

Output 3. A scalable model of effective integrated law enforcement demonstrated through an Ecological Police Department and Community partnership supporting community natural resource governance institutions in pilot Arkhangai communities.

Output 3 highlights the successful establishment of the Community Stewardship Support Group (CSSG) in collaboration with the Arkhangai EPD, facilitating effective integrated LE practices with Arkhangai communities. The project succeeded creating a model for effective integrated law enforcement at KMGT LPA through partnerships between nine local government institutions represented at CSSG and 20 Community based organizations (CBOs). **Baseline 3.1:** Initially, there was no EPD-led CSSG established and operational working with herder households. **Change recorded:** CSSG was established in Year 1, organizing quarterly meetings, and conducting joint training and patrols. CSSG implements the annual work plan and works closely with UCC, represented by 20 CBOs and with 351 households (against 400 target). CSSG members provide herders with environmental protection and educational training who in turn also help reduce environmental violations at LPA. Two voluntary rangers (VRs) were trained by the project to conduct SMART patrols in their CBO territories. Together with CSSG members, they strengthened their skills learning SMART app and participating in biodiversity monitoring.

The important aspect of CSSG partnership with herders was methodological support to Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLAs) established and supported by the project. **Baseline 3.2:** Originally, there were no VSLAs represented through the UCC. The indicator calls for 60% of community members to be VSLA members with 70% benefitting from loans, 30% benefitting from Social Funds by the end of Year 3 and Multidimensional Poverty Index of the local community to decrease by 0.034 units by end of Year 3. **Change recorded:** The number of CBOs grew to 20 with 599 members, with a high VSLA participation rate of 83.4% (*against target of 60%*), 85.6% of VSLA members benefited accessing loans (*against target of 70%*) and about 25% of the members received support from Social Fund (*against target of 30%*). The Multidimensional Poverty Index increased from 0.054 to 0.081 (0.027 point increase) by end of Y3. Various factors contributed to the poverty rate increase such as LPA herders experienced harsh winters during the

project, in 2023 losing about 15% of their livestock. In addition, unfavorable economic conditions experienced by many after Covid-19 pandemic also affected nomadic communities.

To reduce demand for IWT among LPA herders, the project facilitated the creation of Livestock Cooperative focused on livestock product development and marketing. Through this, cooperative herders access better deals for marketing livestock products and disaster risk reduction (hay making & forage production). **Baseline 3.3:** 40% of members with diversified income sources (at least four sources) and the average income increase by at least 20% by end of Year 3. **Change recorded:** CBOs established a “Shine Bulgan Sor” cooperative in Year 2, diversified their income sources, profited from forest cleaning, and explored eco-tourism, without significant average income change. According to the socio-economic survey, 8.5% of LPA households engage in farming, 100% in livestock husbandry, 1.8% in subsidiary farming, 52.2% in logging, and natural resource use. The latter is increased by 15.5% in a 3-year period. Cooperative members’ income has been steady with 8,7 million MNT in 2022 and 8,4 million MNT in 2023, boosting household incomes by 200,000 MNT. Another income-generation activity is the forest cleaning, which became a tradition for UCC members to earn additional cash while helping natural forest regeneration ([Annex 4, photo 11](#)). Annually UCC members together with CSSG clean 10-hectares of forest area, transport timber to local market and sell to local communities at 50% discount (due to wood quality) and donate timber to support poor families. In 2021, 32 households increased their income by an average of 580,000 MNT, in 2022, 52 households increased their income by an average of 432,000 MNT and in 2023, 70 households increased their income by an average of 600,000 MNT. This suggests 3.4% increase in income from forest cleaning activity (against target 20%) for 20% of households (against 40% members).

The project trained 40 VRs or community rangers in SMART environmental patrolling and monitoring of LPA. VRs were supported by CSSG during joint SMART patrols. Herders carrying out SMART patrols have become an innovation in Mongolia since this tool is being used by employed rangers only. Despite the limited education, VRs are slowly learning to use the tool during their regular patrol thanks to continuous training by the project and cost recovery incentives for petrol used. VR SMART patrol is more frequent compared to demand-driven joint patrol by CSSG members. **Baseline 3.4:** EPD-coordinated community SMART patrols conducted monthly (11 units) by end of Year 1. Change recorded: By end of year 3, SMART patrols conducted 297 times which is 12 times monthly (against target 11 units monthly). These include joint SMART patrols organized by CSSG with VRs, which occurred four times. ([Annex 4, photo 12](#)). SMART patrol is one of the key factors contributing to the decline in illegal logging and poaching.

Enhanced community support for environmental protection, and sustainable natural resource utilization is measured by baseline and endline assessment. **Baseline 3.5:** The baseline social survey to assess community perception regarding natural resource protection was conducted. The proportion of communities who support protection and sustainable use of natural resources increased to 70% by the end of Year 3. **Change recorded:** By the end of Year 3, the community's support increased significantly, with a notable rise in the perceived importance of community involvement in environmental conservation efforts. In the end-line assessment, 70.4% respondents said there was improvement (against target 70%), 6.2% responded as deteriorated and 23.5% said no change. This is 15.4% increase compared to baseline in number of community members who report improved protection and sustainable use of natural resources. ([Annex 4, photo 13](#))

The CSSG's collaborative efforts, along with improved income diversification report zero poaching and 5 illegal logging cases in 2023. **Baseline 3.6:** Originally set at near-zero poaching and a 70% reduction in illegal logging for KMGT LPA by the end of Year 3. **Change recorded:** Zero poaching incidents were reported in 2023 at KMGT LPA, although illegal logging cases increased by 50% compared to baseline, underscoring the complexities in addressing illegal logging activities.

Output 4. [Mongolian public recognise EPD as the leading IWT-focal agency, with public-generated intelligence on IWT activity being reported directly to the EPD, stimulated through a national awareness campaign leveraging ZSL's successful IWT awareness raising campaigns and partnerships in Mongolia.](#)

The project has contributed to enhancing public awareness of IWT in Mongolia through collaboration with EPD, CSSG and ECPSC. Through the development and dissemination of educational materials, including videos, social posters, and podcasts for raising awareness about IWT and EPD's visibility as the primary agency focused on combating IWT has also been heightened. **Baseline 4.1:** Previously, no awareness

materials on IWT had been developed and approved by the EPD. **Change recorded:** In year 1, the project financed the production of 24 videos as awareness-raising materials of 2-3 minutes in length describing the importance of 24 species of birds, mammals, and reptiles. ([Annex 4, photo 14](#)). The following year, the project sponsored the production of 4 educational videos on tree planting and in year 3 the project developed 50 social posters and 3 podcasts focusing on raising legal awareness on IWT and promoting community-based conservation.

All videos produced in Year 1 and 2, were used for EPD led environmental awareness raising campaigns. **Baseline 4.2:** Proportion of national population reached by EPD awareness-raising campaign 30% by end of Year 2 and 40% by end of Year 3. **Change recorded:** The project supported EPD-led social media campaign in Year 2 and Year 3 with dissemination of videos. The campaign preventing poaching and IWT reached 116 million in Year 1, 60 million in Year 2, and 50 million in Year 3. As an example, a video produced by the project as part of the “Everyone can be a ranger” campaign that shows message on prevention of IWT species gathered 891k views, 9.7k likes and 176 comments (as of April, 2024) on EPD’s Facebook page. However, the EPD’s public awareness campaigns take place using other platforms such as TV channels, FM radio, Ad boards in the city and along rural roads across the country, in print and text messages. In addition, the project collaborated with two local TV channels in Arkhangai province to report project activities, produce podcasts via Facebook channels and broadcast short videos via live TV. Three podcasts that promoted the work of the CSSG were aired on Tamir TV reaching 53,600 people, whereas informative videos about CITES and IUCN-listed species were shown on ABTV reaching approximately 48,000 locals including herders. ([Annex 4, photo 15](#))

With more public awareness, it is anticipated that public-generated intelligence on IWT activities and reporting to authorities increases, contributing to the goal of establishing the EPD as the leading IWT-focal agency in Mongolia. To measure the effectiveness of campaigns, a separate KAP survey was conducted in Year 3. ([Annex 4, table1](#)) **Baseline 4.3:** Previously, no surveys had been conducted on public awareness about IWT and EPD image. Public awareness of IWT as a crime, legal framework and environmental impact increases by 25% by the end of year 3. **Change recorded:** A KAP survey showed varying awareness levels among Mongolian public on IWT. While many recognize poaching as a crime, detailed knowledge on IWT is limited. Results suggest that public awareness about IWT increased in the past 3 years, from 2.7% of respondents having good knowledge about IWT in Y1, to an average of 47.4% in Y3. The percentage difference is 44.7% (against 25% increase). **Baseline 4.4:** Public awareness of EPD as the IWT –focal agency increases by 25% by the end of Y3. **Change recorded:** A KAP survey suggest that awareness of EPD and IWT is primarily through social media and TV. Public awareness about EPD was minimal at the beginning of the project as it was established new but around 66% respondents answered that they watched EPD content. The KAP survey results show that 77.1% of respondents have some knowledge about EPD with 53.2% knowing that EPD is the leading organization that tackles IWT. However, visibility of EPD's actions and sanctions for IWT crimes is lower, indicating a need for more publicity on enforcement efforts. In addition, the socio-economic survey undertaken in Arkhangai LPA where project intervention took place also confirm the increase of knowledge by the public where there is an increase of 24.3% of herders knowing where to report IWT and poaching incidents (against *target of 25%*)

Baseline 4.5: IWT crime reports received by EPD from the public increases by 20% by Year 2 and 30% by Year 3. **Change recorded:** According to EPD records, public reports of environmental crimes to the EPD increased by 20% with 2223 reports in 2023 compared to 1828 reports in 2020 (target 30%). There was a 19% increase in calls with 2216 reports in 2022 compared to 1828 reports in 2020 (target 20%). In 2023, out of 472 crimes registered, 22.6% were related to IWT, while in 2020, out of 622 crimes registered, 18% were IWT-related crimes.

3.2 Outcome

Over the course of the project, key outcome indicators were closely monitored to gauge the impact of initiatives aimed at improving IWT enforcement and community well-being in Mongolian hotspots. The results highlight significant strides towards achieving the outcome targets as well as areas needing further attention. **Indicator 1** targeted a 30% increase in IWT detections and seizures. Instead, a downturn was observed, with registered IWT cases falling from 112 to 103, an 8.3% decrease, and reported seizures dropping by 36%, from 43 incidents down to 30. This decline, juxtaposed against the overarching goal of decreasing overall crime rates in Mongolia, might suggest a positive underlying trend: as the EPD’s

capacity increased with increased public outreach on crime prevention, broader environmental crime rates fell, pointing towards an indirect but impactful success. The trend supported the project assumption that IWT detections and seizures will increase until a certain point before decreasing as evidenced in the EPD 5-year data. ([Annex 4, photo 16](#)) **Indicator 2** focused on augmenting the number of EPD-led IWT investigations submitted for prosecution by 30%. This goal was not met; there was a 14% reduction in cases reaching prosecution, mirroring trends noted in Indicator 1. For **Indicator 3**, the initial assessment of EPD's institutional needs by UK experts guided project actions for supporting EPD's operational abilities through training and upgraded equipment. In 2023, the complimentary assessment by the national expert identified the improved EPD performance with more effective handling of cases, with a significant uplift in detection rates to 71.5% and a stabilizing trend in crime rates. **Indicator 4** set forth a target to cut unsanctioned harvesting activities in the Arkhangai LPA by 20%. The outcome here exceeded expectations, achieving zero poaching incidents in 2023 and a 62.5% reduction in environmental infringements related to forest resource harvesting. There was increase in illegal logging, driven primarily by external actors, and this marked a minor setback. While the detection rate increased overall, with Arkhangai ranking in top 5 with highest occurrence of poaching (55) and illegal logging (55) occurring outside of the project site, thanks to the improved performance of CSSG. ([Annex 4, photo17](#)). Lastly, **Indicator 5** aimed to elevate community well-being in Arkhangai by 30%. By the end of Year 3, community well-being had improved by 15.4% compared to baseline, as evidenced by increased satisfaction with local livelihood opportunities among LPA community members. In conclusion, significant progress was made in enhancing the EPD's capacity, controlling illegal activities in protected areas, and importantly, improving the standard of living for local communities. The decline in direct measures of IWT crime detections and prosecutions signals a need for continued efforts and possibly new strategies to adapt to evolving challenges in wildlife protection and legal enforcement.

Baseline 01: 112 IWT detections. **Change recorded to date 01:** EPD records show that IWT cases registered in 2023 was 103 with an 8.3% decrease in IWT cases. However, the MET responsible for consolidating statistics on IWT, recorded 43 IWT seizures in 2020 against 30 incidences in 2023 with a 36% decrease in the three-year period. **Baseline 02:** 133 cases. **Change recorded to date 02:** EPD records show that 117 cases were submitted for prosecution in 2023 with a decrease of 14%. **Baseline 03:** No EPD institutional capacity assessment. **Change recorded to date 03:** The UK consultants conducted a capacity needs assessment in Y1, and additional national assessment was conducted to finalize report that was shared with EPD in Y3. ([Annex 4, photo18](#)). **Baseline 04:** Unsanctioned harvesting of wildlife-1 and illegal timber logging - 3. **Change recorded to date 04:** No incidence of unsanctioned harvesting of wildlife in 2023, illegal logging 5 in 2023. However, Arkhangai EDTA reported a 62.5% decline in environmental infringements in the LPA related to harvesting of forest natural resources from 2020 to 2023. **Baseline 05:** life satisfaction 3.8; multi-dimensional poverty index (MPI) 0.05; household average income: 5,9 million MNT. **Change recorded to date 04:** The end-line assessment results: life satisfaction 4.2, MPI: 0.08, household average income: 7,4 million MNT. ([Annex 4, photo 13](#))

3.3 Monitoring of assumptions

Outcome assumption 01-02: It is assumed that IWT detections and seizures will continue to increase but already during the lifespan of the project the environmental crimes, including IWT, decreased with a mirroring decrease in the detection rate. **Outcome assumption 03:** EPD capacity assessment was designed to use the UNODC wildlife and forest tool kit. However, ZSL as an organisation adopted the Competency Conservation Assessments standards, thus, to fully align our business activities, these standards were used. **Outcome assumption 04, 05, 06 and 07:** The assumptions still hold true.

Output assumption 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5 and 1.6: all still hold true.

Output assumption 2.1: Still holds true. **Output assumption 2.2:** As explained in prior reports, the DD unit is run by the Police and Internal Troops Training Centre, another Dept. of NPA, thus the project upgraded the dog training facilities of this training center. **Output assumption 2.3:** Still holds true. **Output assumption 2.4:** There was a slight change. Instead of the Mongolian Agency for Standardization and Metrology assumed, the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection approved the Standards for detector dog handlers and detector dog instructors developed by the Occupation Standard and Human Development Institute as per new regulations. **Output assumptions 2.5 and 2.6:** Senior managers of both EPD and the Police and Internal Troops Training Centre continue to support cooperation of the two dept. for tackling IWT. They jointly organized four patrols in peri-urban areas.

Output assumption 3.1 and 3.2: Still hold true. **Output assumption 3.3:** LPA herders experienced harsh winter in 2023 and lost about 15% of livestock. It may have negatively impacted community members' livelihood in the longer term. **Output assumption 3.4 and 3.5:** These assumptions hold true.

Output assumption 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, 4.5, 4.6 and 4.7: These statements hold true.

3.4 Impact

Impact on IWT: In the original project application, the envisioned impact encompassed strengthening the EPD's operational capacity through equipment provision and enhanced training opportunities, ultimately contributing to the larger goals of combating IWT and supporting poverty reduction. The project has significantly bolstered the EPD's capabilities by supplying crucial tools such as laptops, drones, GPS devices, night vision binoculars, smartphones, the freezer container, and public awareness materials, empowering them to conduct effective monitoring, investigations and prevention. This support yielded concrete outcomes, evidenced by the decline in environmental crimes, including IWT infringements both in Arkhangai LPA and nationwide.

Moreover, the project's investment in training EPD officers, UIA instructors, rangers and relevant agencies in critical areas like forensics, intelligence gathering, CITES, and SMART applications has been transformative. Participants lauded the training as invaluable and practical, with post-training evaluations in Year 3 affirming the application of acquired knowledge and skills in their daily work ([Annex 4, table 2](#)). Noteworthy progress includes enhanced investigation tactics, improved resolution rates of infringements, and the adept use of SMART technology for evidence collection and monitoring, demonstrating a tangible increase in EPD and CSSG's operational effectiveness.

The project's influence on IWT detection and seizures in Ulaanbaatar and the Arkhangai project site underscores the efficacy of collaborative law enforcement efforts, bolstered by tools like DD patrols, SMART system use and CSSG collaboration. Furthermore, the project's emphasis on sustainability is evidenced by ongoing partnership efforts with the PUDD and the Committee of DD Organizations, who continue to uphold standards for K9 training and conduct new and recurrent training sessions. The EPD has seen the inspiring results of empowering local communities for LE at the KMGT LPA which almost doubled its size (from 137k to 243k ha) capturing a larger habitat of IWT-vulnerable species like musk deer and united more CBOs (20 in total ([Annex 4, photo19](#))). The socio-economic survey show that LPA herders report increased wellbeing and satisfaction with their increased participation in conservation.

Impact on poverty alleviation: The project has significantly impacted poverty alleviation by facilitating income diversification and resource management for herders through VSLAs and provision of equipment like forage making tools. Forest cleaning generated an income increase from 200,000 to 400,000 MNT per household, with the sale of discounted timber saving communities around 42 million MNT, particularly aiding those affected by severe winters. In Year 1, 36 trucks or 108m³ of wood was given to 36 elderly people without any payment (worth by 10,800,000 MNT). Every year more households participate in forest cleaning to earn extra income. In 2021, 32 households, in 2022 52 households and in 2023 70 households participated in the forest cleaning.

In Year 1, an all-members meeting of UCC organized its first meeting to discuss the establishment of the cooperative where herders can supply livestock raw materials, plant trees, engage in subsistence farming, and running activities related with eco-tourism. In Years 2 and 3, "New Bulgan Sor" cooperative worked profitably with net profits ranging from 8.4 million and 8.7 million, boosting household incomes by 200,000 MNT. Also, the cooperative purchased 10,000 kg of fodder and 1,000 bales of hay and sold them to 70 member families at discounted price (20-30% lower than the market price). It helped the herders to survive the harsh winter disaster with less livestock loss.

The establishment of VSLAs and provision of equipment such as grass cutting, and forage preparation enabled herders of conservation communities to diversify their income source and better management of pasture. CBOs were empowered with knowledge of the ecosystem, wildlife, legal knowledge, animal husbandry and started applying livestock planning, rangeland management to support the natural resource protection and livelihood improvement.

These initiatives, in conjunction with enhanced law enforcement and community collaboration efforts, effectively eradicated poaching in 2023, showcasing a symbiotic relationship between sustainable resource use and increased community income as highlighted in socio-economic surveys.

4. Contribution to IWT Challenge Fund Programme Objectives

4.1 Thematic focus

The project aligns with the theme of "Strengthening law enforcement" and "Developing sustainable livelihoods to benefit people directly affected by IWT". Notable achievements in strengthening LE include training of 646 EPD officers, 93 LE officers and 97 rangers in specialized training and application of SMART technology, successful implementation of DD patrols with 43 IWT products/shipments detected.

97 days of joint SMART patrols conducted by LE were supported through the project. For this, the project developed a SMART handbook, useful for practitioners and adapted to EPD operations. Effective work of the CSSG spurred the reactivation of the province's ECPSC, showcasing collaborative efforts in environmental protection and law enforcement oversight.

With regards to developing sustainable livelihoods, the project achievements include the establishment of 20 sustainable livelihood enterprises (CBOs), 18 credit and savings groups (VSLAs) and 1 cooperative established. These contributed to increasing herders' access to loans and promotion of income-generating and income diversifying activities like forest cleaning and fodder preparation. A total of 1416 (F:608, M:808) herders received training in sustainable livelihood skills. ([Annex 4, photo 20](#))

The CBO meeting provided a platform for herders to exchange ideas, share best practices and learn from experts in livestock and rangeland management, environmental protections and biodiversity and cooperative sustainability. A total of 990 (F:415, M:575) community members received other education/training, and 1 improved site management plan available and endorsed (KMGT LPA management plan).

4.2 Impact on species in focus

Biological monitoring at the LPA covering the target species (except snow leopard) revealed promising trends for key species like musk deer (25% increase), Siberian marmots (with a population of $n=745\pm 70$), successful breeding rates for steppe eagles (30%), and saker falcons (100%), with a commendable combined nestling success rate of 77% for various raptor species ([Annex 4, photo21](#)). However, challenges surfaced when 179 marmots were relocated by the Bulgan district governor's office, resulting in low survival rates due to insufficient habitat research and stressful introduction techniques ([Annex 4, photo22](#)). The project's aim to reduce poaching and illegal logging levels in LPA saw a commendable achievement with zero poaching incidents in 2023. On the nationwide scale, DDU patrols near Ulaanbaatar doubled their interception rate reaching 200% compared to the baseline (indicator 2.1). Notably, in patrols carried out in 2023 patrols 20 marmots were detected and seized, indicating active poaching intervention.

In Year 2, the biologist with 7 VRs conducted musk deer monitoring using footprints and faeces to record the population size. A preliminary estimate concluded that there could be a total of 35 individuals in the LPA. However, in Year 3, Musk deer monitoring results show that population increased by 30% compared to 2020. (31 in 2024 and 23 in 2020). In addition, the habitat for musk deer increased 2.4 times and reached 384.2 square miles. ([Annex 4, photo23](#))

4.3 Project support to poverty reduction

The project targeted poverty reduction in the KMGT LPA herders in Bulgan, Arkhangai. Achievements include 20 CBOs being strengthened by accessing environmental training and 18 CBOs trained in VSLAs, and collective learning being integrated into UCC activities such forest cleaning, selling firewood, protecting natural resources such as rangeland, water, forest etc. These initiatives generated additional incomes, aided town residents with affordable firewood, and funded UCC's conservation work. The VSLAs also improved their performance and expanded the scale offering low-interest loans to 83.4% of CBO members. The "New Bulgan Sor" cooperative, comprising 28 members, has increased income through sales of livestock products, and plans for expansion and improved facilities to further enhance members' economic prospects and local food supply chains. However, the endline perception survey revealed a slight increase in MPI from 0.05 to 0.08 where major contributing factors included drought and harsh winters in 2022 and 2023, and negative changes in family members' employment. Despite this, the average life satisfaction reported by herders increased from 3.8 to 4.2 in 2023. Furthermore, ecosystem

services have seen tangible improvements, supporting poverty reduction efforts. The same socio-economic surveys documented positive outcomes, with increased wildlife populations, and improved forest resources. Additionally, community engagement in conservation activities saw significant participation growth, indicating enhanced environmental stewardship. The increased membership in the UCC further underscores successful community governance and LPA management, highlighting sustainable practices for poverty alleviation and conservation efforts.

4.4 Gender equality and social inclusion

Please quantify the proportion of women on the Project Board ² .	ZSL project team is 50% women.
Please quantify the proportion of project partners that are led by women, or which have a senior leadership team consisting of at least 50% women ³ .	All project partners except City of London Police Forensics Science Services has male leaders due to their masculine dominant nature of LE work.

GESI Scale	Description	Put X where you think your project is on the scale
Not yet sensitive	The GESI context may have been considered but the project isn't quite meeting the requirements of a 'sensitive' approach	
Sensitive	The GESI context has been considered and project activities take this into account in their design and implementation. The project addresses basic needs and vulnerabilities of women and marginalised groups and the project will not contribute to or create further inequalities.	X
Empowering	The project has all the characteristics of a 'sensitive' approach whilst also increasing equal access to assets, resources and capabilities for women and marginalised groups	X
Transformative	The project has all the characteristics of an 'empowering' approach whilst also addressing unequal power relationships and seeking institutional and societal change	

The project incorporated GESI principles by actively involving women and marginalized groups in all project activities. Participation of women in project training events increased by approximately 5-7% in 3 year period. The cooperative saw a rise in female membership to 50%, with husbands reinvesting dividends on behalf of their spouses. Women played a crucial role in income generation through natural resource utilization, such as harvesting wild fruits, cedar nuts, and processing livestock products, highlighting their economic contributions. Decision-making roles within CBOs have seen positive strides, with an increase in female leaders and secretaries, making up 40% of CBO membership.

The project supported female members of the CBOs to improve their livelihood by renting a dairy stall at a local market to sell milk products in Arkhangai province, supplied with UCC branded packaging ([Annex4, phot25](#)).

While the project aims for gender parity across CBOs, VSLAs, and the cooperative at 50%, traditional gender roles can inhibit women's full participation. About 20% of loans taken by CBO members often support family caretaking needs, highlighting the importance of equitable financial access. Marginalized

² A Project Board has overall authority for the project, is accountable for its success or failure, and supports the senior project manager to successfully deliver the project.

³ Partners that have formal governance role in the project, and a formal relationship with the project that may involve staff costs and/or budget management responsibilities.

groups also benefited from project activities, with participating CBOs donating timber (two trucks) to elderly individuals in the town community to foster inclusivity and support marginalized groups. LE efforts prioritized reducing gender inequality and ensuring equitable access to natural resources, with a focus on preventing infringements and providing legal guidance to vulnerable individuals. To further enhance GESI awareness, the project's communication materials, such as social posters, were gender-sensitive, reflecting a commitment to promoting inclusivity and gender equality throughout project implementation.

The socio-economic end-survey showed that out of 83 households surveyed, 173 members work for living and 81 or 46.8% are women, and 50% of income generating sources are provided by women.

5. Monitoring and evaluation

The project places significant emphasis on internal M&E processes to ensure progress alignment with project outcomes and impact goals. ZSL utilizes tools like weekly meetings with the Mongolia Country Director to review project progress and adapt plans as needed. The development and adoption of a Work Plan with the EPD along with M&E indicators, enabling data collection at output and outcome levels. The CSSG also contributes data on illegal activities, enhancing monitoring efficacy through collaborative efforts and regular information sharing during meetings, workshops, and written reports. A template was created and disseminated to field staff for consistent data collection on specific indicators tied to project outputs. Biological monitoring of key species is made a special focus to gauge project conservation impacts qualitatively. Through partner meetings, best practices and lessons learned are shared to enrich qualitative assessment, documented in podcasts to link actual outcomes with project indicators. Milestone completion is tracked against the workplan and logical framework, with monthly reports submitted through ZSL's web-based systems for activity, indicator, and financial tracking. Half-yearly and annual reports aligning with M&E benchmarks provide a robust assessment of project progress and offer insights for continuous improvement.

During January 2023, a mid-term evaluation was performed by a team of evaluators from NIRAS and Biodiversity Challenge Funds in Ulaanbaatar and Arkhangai province. ([Annex 4,photo 24](#))

While the current monitoring approach is thorough and collaborative, potential areas for enhancement could include refining data collection templates for clarity and consistency, enhancing integration of qualitative and quantitative data for comprehensive analysis, and streamlining communication channels to optimize information sharing among partners for broader insights into project impacts and outcomes. This holistic review process can bolster M&E effectiveness, ensuring project activities lead to measurable outcomes supporting the project's overarching goals.

6. Lessons learnt

Failures/challenges:

Weather conditions (harsh winter) and last minute changes in key personnel was challenging for the project. The biological monitoring of musk deer faced difficulties due to harsh winter conditions and low participation from community rangers, primarily attributed to timing conflicts with winter workload peaks. The project managed to contract from a list of experts (keeping a list is essential) who were able to perform the job of the biologist/ecologist.

The introduction of SMART system for the EPD operations was challenging due to credibility of the information storage as the data collected for SMART patrols were stored in the ZSL server but law enforcement organizations in Mongolia wanted to manage the data. This is something that is still open for discussion.

Online training provided to stakeholders in Year 2 which included the involvement of experts connecting from abroad (SMART ToT training) was challenging to keep the attendance levels high and fully capture the audience because it was 5 -day training and delivered with translation. Therefore ZSL SMART expert learned many of the intricacies of SMART system, advanced knowledge in Cambodia SMART training and delivered series of SMART beginners and advanced training to EPD and rangers.

Lessons learned:

Communication and stakeholder engagement is important in organizing events in Arkhangai. The project experienced low attendance of herders in some events, but VIP visits in some. To improve this in the future, adjust timing for weather conditions, direct communication with herders via telephone will ensure timely information dissemination and enhanced participation in monitoring activities.

Strategic planning and stakeholder engagement in Arkhangai province proved fruitful, with advance courtesy meetings yielding tentative approval, support, and additional funding for planned activities. This proactive advocacy approach is recommended for future projects engaging provincial partners, as it strengthens collaboration, secures resources, and fosters future partnerships. The positive outcomes, including welcomed collaboration from Arkhangai province's governor's office, exhibit the value of proactive engagement, setting a precedent for sustained cooperation and potential joint endeavors in upcoming projects. Incorporating these lessons learned into project planning and implementation will enhance future activities, focusing on improved communication strategies, engaging events, theme-driven meeting structures, and proactive stakeholder collaborations.

7. Actions taken in response to Annual Report reviews

The project has been responsive to feedback from the 2022 Annual Report addressing key areas for improvement. Firstly, enhanced details on partner coordination and communication were provided to clarify how relations are maintained across the project. Baselines were completed, and progress against indicators was reported, with achievements cross-referenced with the log frame for clarity. To further reinforce project elements, additional evidence such as feedback from evaluations, participant registration lists, graphs, and excerpts from reports was included. In August 2023, extensive meetings were held with Arkhangai partners to update progress, complemented by regular contact from the local project coordinator with the district and aimag governor's offices to ensure effective communication and alignment on meeting outcomes.

8. Sustainability and legacy

To ensure a sustained legacy of the project outcomes, various strategic approaches have been implemented to foster long-term impact across social, economic, ecological, and technical dimensions:

Project Profile and Promotion: The project has actively engaged in public profile-raising activities, partnering with national TV programs like "Green Label" and collaborating with international organizations to organize joint initiatives, enhancing visibility and advocacy for wildlife protection efforts.

Collaboration and Knowledge Sharing: Collaborations with NGOs like WWF, UNDP, and the Hans Seidel Foundation have facilitated best practice sharing, focusing on environmental law enforcement and community-based conservation. Participation in workshops, ranger forums, and conservation activities promotes knowledge exchange and strengthens partnerships towards sustainable conservation efforts.

Public Awareness and Engagement: The development of public awareness materials and active participation in events like World Wildlife Day have showcased project activities and key messages surrounding IWT, promoting conservation principles and community engagement.

Sustainable Strategies: Encouraging economic sustainability, the project focuses on capacity building through DD training programs and upgrading training facilities. Initiatives like VSLA and cooperative funding for environmental activities aim for self-sustainability, inspiring local government support and reinvestment in conservation efforts. Collaboration between CBOs and local government, supported by annual work plans and integrated activities, ensures ongoing funding and effective community engagement.

Conservation Education: The implementation of participatory training programs like "Nomadic Trunk" instills conservation values within communities, educating herders and younger generations on flora and fauna conservation practices for long-term sustainability.

Empowering Volunteer Rangers: Continued engagement with VRs in SMART patrolling and biological monitoring ensures ecosystem protection post-project, supported by local government and the ETDA. By

empowering rangers through skills enhancement and accessing local government support, ongoing monitoring and conservation activities can be maintained effectively.

9. IWT Challenge Fund Identity

The IWT Challenge Fund identity was acknowledged in below ways:

- The handbook on “Procedure to investigate environmental crimes and infringements using SMART system”, 2024. The project developed a handbook for EPD and IUA and printed 300 copies. 50 copies of the handbook were distributed during workshop attendees and copies were sent to EPD and IUA.
- Awareness raising podcasts and posters. Fifty social posters promoting IWT awareness, related laws and roles of LE officers. Twenty-four videos with 2-3 minutes length describing 24 species of bird, mammal and reptiles were completed and IWT Challenge Fund logo is depicted at the end of the videos. Three podcasts that promote the work of CSSG and community based conservation in Arkhangai depicted logo and project summary at the end of the segment.
- Training banners, and biological monitoring reports have IWT Challenge Fund logo and was shared with ETDA.
- ZSL Mongolia has Facebook account where all content and news about donor funded projects are shown and shared.

10. Risk Management

The project successfully managed any identified risks, with no major threats encountered. Nevertheless, the project made a few adaptations to the project design.

1. ZSL became a member of the Environmental Crime Prevention Sub-Council, under the Crime Prevention Coordination Council that by mandate leads the coordination of LE and other organizations working in tackling environmental crime. The Sub-Council convenes regular stakeholder meetings to draft, approve and implement Integrated National Plan with the goal to reduce environmental crimes and increase prevention including from IWT. The Sub-Council provides oversight and multilateral coordination, higher than EPD could achieve bilaterally.
2. The initial plan to create Detector Dog Unit under EPD to tackle IWT was changed to the capacity building and cooperation with the existing Detector Dog Training Center of the NPA. The project then ensured close collaboration between EPD and the DD Training Center to work on pilot DD patrolling in the urban and peri-urban hotspots.
3. There was a need to refine the EPD assessment report due to certain deficiencies. The initial assessment faced challenges related to data analysis, as the questionnaire originally utilized was not tailored for LE personnel but rather suited environmental protection professionals as per Durrell conservation standards. Additionally, personal competency questionnaires administered to 100 police officers were inaccurately completed, resulting in inconclusive outcomes. To address these shortcomings, the project team collaborated with the EPD to rectify the situation by opting for a fresh assessment using a redesigned survey. To ensure thorough expert input, a national consultant was engaged to conduct the revised assessment, enabling a comprehensive evaluation of the EPD personnel more aligned with law enforcement criteria, consequently enhancing the accuracy and effectiveness of the assessment process.

11. Safeguarding

Has your Safeguarding Policy been updated in the past 12 months?	Yes
Have any concerns been reported in the past 12 months	Yes
Does your project have a Safeguarding focal point?	Yes Batbayar [REDACTED], Driver, Procurement & Safeguarding officer

Has the focal point attended any formal training in the last 12 months?	Yes/ No However, there was a online session provided by ZSL London Health & Safety staff. Also FAIRER approach information session to all staff provided by ZSL HQ foacl personnel
What proportion (and number) of project staff have received formal training on Safeguarding?	Past: 33% [2/6] Planned: 100% [6]
Has there been any lessons learnt or challenges on Safeguarding in the past 12 months? Please ensure no sensitive data is included within responses. N/A	
Does the project have any developments or activities planned around Safeguarding in the coming 12 months? If so please specify. N/A	
Please describe any community sensitisation that has taken place over the past 12 months; include topics covered and number of participants. N/A	
Have there been any concerns around Health, Safety and Security of your project over the past year? If yes, please outline how this was resolved. N/A	

12. Finance and administration

12.1 Project expenditure

Project spend (indicative) since last Annual Report	2023/24 Grant (£)	2023/24 Total actual IWTCF Costs (£)	Variance %	Comments (please explain significant variances)
Staff costs (see below)				
Consultancy costs				
Overhead Costs				
Travel and subsistence				
Operating Costs				
Capital items (see below)				
Others (see below)				
TOTAL	£135,537	£135,422		

Staff employed (Name and position)	Cost (£)
Country Director-Tungalag Ulambayar	
Project Coordinator Mongolia-Aaron Foy and Katherine Secoy	
Project officer IWT-Odonchimeg Sukhbaatar	
Finance Office-Munkhzaya Myagmarjav	
Conservation Biologist- Bilguun Batkhuyag	
Law Enforcement Advisor-Grant Miller	
VSLA & Community officer-Munkhtuvshin Nergui	
UCC Manager-Batdorj Tolya	
TOTAL	£65,316

Capital items – description	Capital items – cost (£)
TOTAL	

Other items – description	Other items – cost (£)
Stationary	
Vehicle Maintenance	
TOTAL	£2,165

12.2 Additional funds or in-kind contributions secured

Matched funding leveraged by the partners to deliver the project	Total (£)
Hanns Seidel Foundation in Mongolia	
TOTAL	

Total additional finance mobilised for new activities occurring outside of the project, building on evidence, best practices and the project	Total (£)
TOTAL	

12.3 Value for Money

The project provided good value for money by following ZSL procurement policies and complying with donor requirements for high value for money spent and competitive quotes sought for goods and consultant services.

Wherever possible, the project implemented cost-saving measures without compromising quality, optimizing expenditures for greater value. For example, project combined biological monitoring travel with Arkhangai workshop travel to save cost on the travel and ensure participation of key project personnel in the workshop. Local team in Arkhangai organized all community training sessions to coincide with VSLA meeting of CBOs as herders are busy but curious community. It is effective to save time for herders to learn more about the ecosystem and why they are raising funds to protect the environment. Similarly, CBO annual meetings are good opportunity for the project and the newly established cooperative to update on developments, attract more herders to join the cooperative. The investment made for the empowering herders to join cooperative for profit generation and livelihood improvement paid off as the Government launched “New Cooperative - Wealthy Herder” Program that promotes cooperatives in line with Mongolia’s

development plan, aimed at improving the supply chain and reducing seasonal price fluctuations for livestock products. It also hopes to develop sustainable livestock production that is environmentally friendly, innovative, and meets green criteria. Long term goal is to increase herder's income but reduce the detrimental effects caused by climate change.

Careful budgeting translated to minimizing administrative costs and directing the majority of funds towards program implementation, especially to travel costs as the recurrent travel in the LPA area is necessary and herders benefit with first hand encounters more than online sessions by experts. The social survey conducted in the community also demonstrated that project's contribution is valued as number of people who think their household's livelihood level increased because of the international project's influence was up by 6.5%.

The project received 46,769 GBP from Segre Foundation on detection dog capacity building. And in the final year of the project, Hanns Seidel Foundation provided £3,004 co-funding in the organization of the LE partnership workshop that shared best practices in environmental enforcement. Hanns Seidel Foundation is a respected NGO among justice sector organizations, by providing needs-based and timely capacity development funds for partners to implement. For IWT project, it is imperative to work with NGOs and INGOs that have proven track record with successful interventions made in the justice sector, not only in the environmental sector.

13. Other comments on progress not covered elsewhere

The collaboration among the members of the CSSG facilitated by the project has been instrumental over the year. These meetings, supported by the project's local team, have evolved to play a pivotal role in exchanging vital information, discussing legislative changes, and ensuring a unified understanding in LE application. The CSSG members have been upskilled in their roles, implementing tested crime prevention strategies and enhancing operational effectiveness. Through persistent advocacy efforts by the project and CSSG members, significant milestones were achieved, including the unanimous allocation of a provincial budget by the Crime Prevention Sub-council of Arkhangai to sustain CSSG operations. The CSSG's impactful community engagement in environmental protection has captured the attention of key decision-makers, leading to increased support from local government bodies.

Notably, efforts to streamline the use of the SMART system across the province have gained momentum, with support from external donors like UNDP's ENSURE project. Further strides were made in promoting the SMART app within the EPD by providing tailored training sessions for officers and developing a customized handbook for EPD usage. The potential adoption of SMART in environmental crime patrolling and investigation by the EPD, subject to NPA's approval, could result in significant advancements in LE monitoring and response strategies, paving the way for joint LE and environmental rangers for biodiversity conservation efforts.

14. OPTIONAL: Outstanding achievements of your project (300-400 words maximum). This section may be used for publicity purposes

I agree for the Biodiversity Challenge Funds Secretariat to publish the content of this section.

Please limit text to 400 words.

The project has achieved outstanding milestones that underscore its impact and success in environmental protection and biodiversity conservation: 1) Empowering the Crime Prevention Coordination Sub-group (CSSG): The CSSG, supported by the project, has emerged as a dynamic partnership embodying effective LE collaboration, innovative technology utilization (SMART system), and robust community engagement strategies. This model partnership has delivered tangible outcomes within Bulgan district, earning commendation from the provincial Government for its significant contributions to environmental protection efforts. 2) Community Engagement and Local Government Partnership: A notable achievement lies in the genuine participation of LPA herders in combating IWT activities, fostering trust with the Bulgan Government. This is exemplified by the LPA expansion to 243,000 hectares, providing enhanced habitat conservation for target species. Furthermore, the project's initiatives have united more herders under the UCC conservation movement, driving positive behavioral changes and fostering a deepened commitment to wildlife conservation. 3) Enhancing EPD Capabilities: The project's support has been instrumental in

advancing the EPD's capabilities, positioning it as a key agency in combating environmental crimes, particularly IWT. Through equipment provision, comprehensive training, and proactive prevention measures, the EPD has become capable to address environmental threats effectively, contributing significantly to biodiversity protection efforts in Mongolia. These achievements exemplify the project's commitment to fostering sustainable partnerships, empowering local communities, and enhancing law enforcement capabilities for environmental conservation.

Image, Video or Graphic Information:

File Type (Image / Video / Graphic)	File Name or File Location	Caption, country and credit	Online accounts to be tagged (leave blank if none)	Consent of subjects received (delete as necessary)
				Yes / No
				Yes / No
				Yes / No
				Yes / No
				Yes / No

Annex 1 Report of progress and achievements against logframe for the life of the project

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements
<p>Impact</p> <p>Poaching, trafficking and transiting of wildlife products in Mongolia is reduced through strengthened environmental law enforcement, integrated with improved community stewardship of vulnerable IWT species and ecosystem protection.</p>		<p>The project introduced a SMART patrolling app, purchased SMART monitoring app devices (101 smartphones) to EPD police officers in 21 provinces while supplying them with necessary equipment. The UK and national consultants conducted EPD capacity assessment and report with recommendation was produced on how to develop further organization capacity.</p> <p>Detector dog patrolling led by EPD was successfully conducted four times and detected IWT cases, confiscated possession of illegal firearms, illegal logging. In Arkhangai, CSSG sanctioned harvesters of cedar nut during illegal harvesting season, intercepted potential risk of spring fire occurrence, and shared awareness and precautionary messages with the local community.</p> <p>Initial steps for creating a partnership model for the local community and ecological police were laid out by signing MoU between the IWT stakeholders. The project produced public outreach materials that were used during EPD led environmental campaign and shared IWT legal awareness raising posters and podcasts.</p> <p>The local herder community members of Bulgan district, Arkhangai received biodiversity and ecosystem service training. Also, the project trained the voluntary rangers of the LPA on biodiversity monitoring, SMART patrolling and supplied them with patrolling equipment and field uniforms. Herders received forage-making devices for improving their livelihoods and diversifying income sources.</p>
<p>Outcome</p> <p>Interception of Mongolian IWT increases as highly-trained Ecological Police Department lead counter-IWT efforts, using state-of-the-art approaches while integrating enforcement with community-led environmental stewardship, improving local wellbeing and public engagement.</p>	<p>0.1 IWT detections and seizures in Mongolian IWT hotspots increase by 30% (baseline 112 IWT cases registered and 43 IWT seizures) by end year three (Y3).</p> <p>0.2 EPD-led IWT investigations submitted to trial for prosecution increase by 30% (baseline 133 cases in 2020) by end of Y3.</p> <p>0.3 EPD institutional performance improves based on key criteria of the UNoDC Forest and Wildlife Crime</p>	<p>Project strengthened EPD by expert-led training (in CITES, Forensics, SMART, and Intelligence management) and equipped EPD with necessary tools (Output 1) and trained Detector Dog Unit of the National Police Administration (NPA) (Output 2), and joining forces with EPD and CCCP raised public awareness about IWT (Output 4). This contributed to the 8.3% decrease in IWT cases registered and 36% decrease in IWT seizures vs target 30% increase by year three. (0.1) And IWT cases submitted for prosecution decreased by 14% in year three compared to baseline, against the target of 30% increase by year three (0.2)</p> <p>EPD became the key government institution contributing to the coordinated efforts by the Environmental Crime Prevention Sub-council under the Coordination Council for Crime Prevention (CCCP) of the Ministry of Justice and Home Affairs through an Integrated National Plan by exchanging/reporting bi-annually.</p> <p>As per indicator 0.3, EPD capacity assessment was carried out in year one and three, and full report with EPD capacity gaps, training needs and recommendation for institutional improvement was shared with EPD. Project's interventions using output</p>

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	<p>Analytical Toolkit and UKBF Dog Handler Accreditation programme, respectively, by end of Y3 (baseline=no specialized training is in place and no technology or equipment is used by EPD at the start of the project in Y1).</p> <p>0.4 Unsanctioned harvesting of wildlife/timber in Arkhangai pilot site decreases by 20% by Y3 (baseline illegal harvesting of wildlife/timber= 3).</p> <p>0.5 Arkhangai community (demonstration site) wellbeing increases by 30% by end of Y3.</p>	<p>1,2 and SMART pilot in output 3, contributed to improved EPD performance as illustrated by decrease in environmental crimes in the past 5 years and increase in case resolution rate.</p> <p>EPD has successfully piloted a partnership model with provincial and district-level environmental stakeholders and herder communities in Bulgan district LPA, with positive biodiversity and social outcomes (Output 3). By Year 3, the project shared the success of the partnership model with other special protected areas, international organizations, NGOs, local government partners including the Arkhangai Sub-council on Crime Prevention Coordination. EPD data show, unsanctioned harvesting of wildlife/timber increased (6 in 2023) by 67% (0.4). However, environmental infringements in the LPA related to harvesting of forest natural resources decreased by 62.5% from 2020 to 2023, according to EDTA.</p> <p>The project commissioned the end-line assessment to measure outcome 0.5. According to end-line assessment the well-being of the Arkhangai community increased by 15.4% (against target of 30%) compared to baseline as demonstrated by the survey response on how satisfied communities are with their livelihood.</p>
<p>Output 1.</p> <p>The newly established Ecological Police Department (EPD) staff are well-equipped and highly trained, and utilising global best practices in forensic intelligence gathering, SMART and intelligence sharing to enable long-term effective inter-agency efforts to reduce and prosecute IWT crime in Mongolia.</p>	<p>1.1 Adoption of EPD-led Integrated National Plan of Action, for inter-agency IWT law enforcement, by EPD head by end Y1.</p> <p>1.2 Upgraded EPD specimen storage facility and officers equipped based on recommendations by Veterans for Wildlife and ZSL by end of Y1.</p> <p>1.3. EPD officers and UIA instructors trained and equipped in forensics (30 officers), intelligence gathering (15 officers), and CITES and SMART (70 officers) and training curriculum (3 instructors), with</p>	<p>In Year 1 and 2, EPD benefited from the project in terms of its technical and human resource capacity building, which was otherwise not possible with restricted budget in the post COVID-economic downturn in Mongolia. Thanks to proactive work of the Coordination Council on Crimes Prevention (CCCP), the Environmental Crime Prevention Sub-Council continued to organize bi-annual meeting (2022&2023) to agree on an INP, coordinating all government agencies and associated projects and report on the implementation status (1.1) and information exchanges. The project contributed 6 activities in 2022 INP and 3 activities in 2023 INP agreed upon cooperating and integrating similar activities with the CCCP member organizations.</p> <p>EPD was equipped with a 20-ton freezing container for specimen storage, two drones for tackling illegal miners, 15-night vision binoculars (fighting poaching), 12 GPS units, 101 smart phones (SMART patrol) worth of MNT 188,519,030 (1.2).</p> <p>In Year 2, EPD officers received three UK expert-led training, including CITES, basic forensics, and intelligence management (1.3). A two-day CITES and crime investigation training attracted 99 participants (93 EPD officers, and six from other law enforcement agencies: <i>against target 70</i>), while London Police expert-run forensics training for three days brought 38 national forensic professionals (<i>against target 30</i>) from four organizations (NUM, UIA, NFI and National Center for Public Health). February Intelligence Management training (three days) conducted by Thistle & Roses</p>

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	<p>70% of trainees passing assessment criteria, by end of Y2.</p> <p>1.4 Curriculum at the University of Internal Affairs includes pilot modules on forensics, intelligence, SMART and CITES by end of Y2, and adopts them by end of Y3.</p> <p>1.5 New EPD skills used by 70% of trained law enforcement officers, as identified by UNoDC capacity gap needs assessment, (baseline TBD in year one) by end Y3.</p> <p>1.6 Bi-annual meetings for collaborative investigative, intelligence and analytical case-sharing held 6 times, led by EPD officials, by end of Y3.</p>	<p>brought together 25 officers (<i>against target 15</i>) from five law enforcement institutions. Lastly, Basic SMART training by ZSL instructor included 160 EPD officers. Also, two EPD officers attended the online ToT SMART training by Artio conservation NGO. Following SMART pilot that gathered data from patrols, 41 EPD officers received SMART advanced level training.</p> <p>UIA instructors developed academic curricula “Ecological Security” at the Police School and approved the programme to be introduced in the Fall 2024 semester. It includes content on CITES and investigation of IWT crimes and infringements. A handbook “Procedure for investigation of environmental crimes and infringements using SMART system” was developed by the project, printed and shared with the Police School to supplement the curriculum. (1.4).</p> <p>In line with EPD assessment carried out in Year 3, post-evaluation of ZSL training was conducted. Out of 503 participants who received project training (1 or more of 6 trainings offered by the project) 380 (75%) was surveyed and 100% confirmed applying knowledge and skills in their work. This meets the 70% target (1.5)</p> <p>CCCP-led bi-annual meeting served as a platform to bring the environmental crime cases where participating parties share their experiences of successful and failed cases during the Council meeting (1.6). In year 1, the project supported a competition on analytical cases and results presentation amongst EPD police officers.</p>
<p>Activity 1.1 Assessment of EPD conducted by Veterans for Wildlife and ZSL Law Enforcement Advisor to identify appropriateness of its current structure and capacity gaps to meet the mission, division of roles and responsibilities, and necessary resources (human, technical and financial) by end of year one.</p>		<p>In Year 1, ZSL Law enforcement advisor and IWT expert Grant Miller and consultant Michael Brewer conducted “capacity needs assessment” of EPD. During the visit consultants visited EPD and conducted interviews, visited Police and Internal Troops Training Center, Forensics Institute and local police offices in central Mongolia. In Year 3, additional assessment was carried out by the National consultant who assessed the human resources capacity against current rules and legislations by reviewing ToRs, current training programs and composed survey to identify gaps and training needs. The report found that EPD expanded by adding 3 more departments, increased its human resources from 170 to 252 officers, but 95.2% of the force was changed since its establishment (121 promoted or moved to different position, 78 retired or left). Training needs were identified and ZSL training were evaluated based on participant’s feedback.</p>
<p>Activity 1.2 Upgrading of EPD specimen storage facility and equipping of officers with necessary personnel gear, and law enforcement tools as identified by assessment by end of year one.</p>		<p>In Year 1, the project purchased 25 laptops and 101 SMART monitoring app devices (smartphones) for EPD officers. The purchase was conducted based on the needs assessment. These were distributed to police officers from 21 provinces and 65</p>

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		districts in rural areas of Mongolia where branches of the EPD operate. This will be used for SMART patrolling to collect wildlife and crimes/infringement data for monitoring purposes. Also, drones, printers, night vision binoculars, GPS equipment, specimen storage container etc were provided.
Activity 1.3 City of London Police Forensics Department basic forensics training delivered to 3 instructors from the Mongolia University of Internal Affairs (UIA) and 30 EPD officers (14 % of total) by end of year two.		In Year 2, from June 29th to July 1st of 2022 (for three days), Grant Miller (ZSL Law Enforcement advisor), Tracy Alexander (Head of Forensics Service, City of London Police), and Marc Granville (Senior environmental investigator from National Crime Agency) delivered training on Basic forensics and wildlife crime scene investigation to 38 Mongolian officers from the National Institute of Forensics, National University of Mongolia and University of Internal Affairs and 100% of the participants provided positive feedback.
Activity 1.4 Five-day training on intelligence gathering for 15 EPD officers (6 % of total) on how to collect information, enhance into an intelligence product and disseminate to an evidential standard in partnership with UIA instructors by end of year two.		In Year 1, Michael Brewer a consultant from “Veterans for Wildlife” NGO delivered half day training for 56 EPD officers on Intelligence data analysis during his visit to Mongolia in February 2022. In year 2, Gordon Kelly, UK Thistle & Rose Consultancy jointly with Mr. Grant Miller, ZSL Advisor delivered a 5-day Intelligence Management training for 25 officers of the Ecological Police Department, National Forensics Agency, General Administration of Intelligence, University of Internal Affairs and DDU unit of NPA. The training was conducted on 13-17 February 2023. The training evaluation revealed positive feedback from the participants, ranging 79-95% satisfaction for usefulness, understanding and timing of training.
Activity 1.5 ZSL Law Enforcement Advisor and UIA training delivered on CITES to 100 EPD field officers from 68 soums (43% of total) by end of year two.		In Year 1, Grant Miller, ZSL IWT expert delivered half-day training for 56 ecological police officers on CITES in February, 2022. In Year 2, a more comprehensive CITES training was provided by Grant Miller from 27-28 July 2022 prior to Activity 1.3 to 99 participants, 93 police officers from EPD and regional offices, 4 instructors from UIA, 1 person from National University of Mongolia and 1 person from CCCP.
Activity 1.6 Annual training of 100 EPD officers on application of SMART patrolling (43% of total) by the end of the year three.		In Year 1, SMART regional two-day training was delivered for 87 EPD officers across Mongolia and 101 SMART phones were provided with SMART app instructions. In Year 2, ZSL Mongolia and EPD jointly organized the ToT between October 24-28, 2022 bringing 27 people representing SMART user organizations (WWF, WCS, SLCF, ENSURE project, EPD, MET). Then on November 28-29, 2022, ZSL Mongolia Biologist provided basic training to 160 EPD officers during annual gathering on how

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		<p>to use SMART during patrols. The event was jointly organized by WWF Mongolia and Hanns-Seidel Foundation.</p> <p>Following up on the SMART patrol testing in February, ZSL Biologist organized results-sharing and feedback session on March 22-23, 2023, which included some advanced features of SMART involving 41 EPD officers.</p> <p>In year 3, the project team was invited back to the Annual gathering of EPD and delivered a session on importance of using SMART system in EPD operations to 142 EPD officers and introduced SMART handbook for the crime and infringement investigation procedure.</p>
<p>Activity 1.7 Six bi-annual coordination meetings led by EPD officials with Mongolia law enforcement agencies and stakeholders to develop and implement an INP of Action by end of year three.</p>		<p>ZSL as a member of the Environmental Crime Prevention Sub-council under CCCP, updates the sub-council on project activities. The ZSL Country director made a presentation at CCCP about the project in 2021 and 2022, IWT Program Officer made presentation in 2023 meeting. ZSL continually contributed to the CCCP Annual work plans and participated in bi-annual meetings.</p> <p>The project renewed its MoU with EPD and had productive meetings with management (new deputy head, head of the infringement investigation division and new head of Prevention and Cooperation division) to share experiences and coordinate future work. EPD's 2024 mission is to expand foreign cooperation and focus more on prevention of environmental crimes, as well as introducing new technologies. EPD Inspectors and investigators in Arkhangai as members of the CSSG, are invited to project events to deliver up-to date information about EPD's activities related to Arkhangai.</p>
<p>Output 2. Reduction of poaching at key identified peri-urban source sites and of IWT products at urban hotspots (markets, transport hubs) is achieved through highly trained, up-scaled EPD detector dog units (DDU), working in partnership with the Professional Union of Detector Dogs (PUDD) to promote DDU standards that increase efficiency in tackling environmental and IWT-related crimes.</p>	<p>2.1 Poaching incidents intercepted (seizures, arrests) by DD (baseline 0) at key peri-urban and urban sites (to be identified in Y1) increase by 10% by Y3.</p> <p>2.2 EPD DDU facilities are assessed and upgraded by end of Y1.</p> <p>2.3 Mongolian dog unit instructors trained as trainers, by UKBF dog expert: programme</p>	<p>This output has been achieved by demonstrating the effectiveness of using detector dogs for intercepting IWT at hotspots like city entry points and peri-urban PAs. By Year 3, EPD led DD units detected/seized 16 violations of IWT compared to 12 IWT related violations in year 1, which is increase by 20%. Compared to baseline (0 in 2020), poaching incidents intercepted show increase of 200% as prior to the project, EPD being established newly did not conduct IWT DD checks in urban and peri-urban sites (2.1).</p> <p>To achieve these results, the project equipped DDUs of Police and Internal Troops training centre under NPA, CGA, NEMA and PUDD with kennels, laboratory rooms, dog transportation vehicles uniforms, dog supplies, and 2 breeding dogs were provided with value of MNT 106,064,043 (2.2).</p> <p>In June, 17 Mongolian K9 officers (<i>against target 15</i>) from seven law enforcement organizations strengthened their competency through UK K9 instructor's two-week long ToT in June (2.3). In August, these trainers taught newly learned skills and dog</p>

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	<p>developed by end of Y1; and 15 trained (50% of total) by end Y1.</p> <p>2.4 EPD detector dog units trained by newly trained EPD and the PUDD instructors, 30 (70% of total) by end of Y2.</p> <p>2.5 Detector dog training programme finalised and agreed by the Mongolian Agency for Standardization and Metrology by the end of Y3.</p> <p>2.6 New DDU skills used by 80% of 45 training attendees in their jobs by Y3.</p> <p>2.7 DDU patrols conducted in Ulaanbaatar urban hotspots (i.e. transport checkpoints, open markets, shops) and in surrounding vulnerable Protected Areas increase to 1 per month by end of Y3.</p>	<p>training methods to 42 dog handlers (<i>against target 30</i>) mostly from remote border stations (2.4). Series of consultation for developing first-ever Standards for Detector Dog Instructors and Handlers resulted in the approval of them by the Minister of Labor and Social Protection in February 2022 (2.5).</p> <p>In year three, project carried out post-training evaluation of DD training carried out in year one. (2.6) In the evaluation, 95.8% of participants responded that they are using the knowledge and skills obtained from the training in practice, 87.5% responded that their attitude/approach has changed because of the training.</p> <p>Well-equipped and trained DDUs jointly with EPD conducted patrols. In year one, detector dog patrols were also conducted for 12 days in December of 2021 at six posts of Ulaanbaatar and second 12-day detector dog patrol in three national special protected areas nearby Ulaanbaatar city in March 2022.</p> <p>In year two, ten-day patrol was conducted in Sep 2022 at five city entry points and the Bogd Khan Mountain strictly protected area in the south of Ulaanbaatar city. In year three, 14 -day patrol was conducted in October 2023 at Ulaanbaatar check points and unofficial patrol routes. Overall, on average 1.3 days was spent on patrol per month by end of year three. (2.7)</p>
<p>Activity 2.1 Upgrade EPD detector dog facility (kennels, scent lab, training equipment, dog and handler gear) by end of year one.</p>		<p>In Year 1, the police DD training center of NPA 80m2 laboratory facility was renovated and equipped with with carousel equipment, bricks, dog supplies, 7 sets of dog handler uniforms, seven kennels. The project provided police with 2 breeding dogs.</p> <p>In Year 2, the project handed over a detector dog transportation vehicle with an installed portable dog kennel to the Police and the National Emergency Agency's Rescue Brigade's detector dog team. At the request of Customs General Administration's Detector Dog training centre, project procured a special laboratory table at the scent lab.</p>
<p>Activity 2.2 UIA and EPD led desk-based research and stakeholder meeting to identify key IWT hotspots for targeted detector dog patrols by end of year one.</p>		<p>In Year 1, the project team consulted with the partners and identified hot spots for dog patrol including Ulaanbaatar entry posts and three special protected areas nearby Ulaanbaatar city.</p>

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<p>Activity 2.3 Training of 15 Mongolian dog instructors (50 % of total) by the UKBF dog expert by end of year two; subsequent training of 30 EPD detector dog units (70% of total) by newly trained EPD & the Professional Union of Detector Dogs (PUDD) instructors by end of year two.</p>		<p>In Year 2, UK Detector dog instructor delivered Detector Dog Instructor Training of Trainers (ToT) between June 13 -24 for 17 canine law enforcement officers from 7 government organizations and PUDD. This constitutes 57% of dog instructors trained.</p> <p>The project jointly with PUDD & Customs organized a follow-up national level detector dog training involving 42 dog handlers from 7 government organizations between August 22-26 of 2022 for five days in Ulaanbaatar city, Mongolia. Of 42 handlers 25 were from the remote border areas of Mongolia. This constitutes 93% of dog handlers trained by year two.</p>
<p>Activity 2.4 Monthly EPD patrols conducted in Ulaanbaatar urban hotspots (transport checkpoints, open markets, shops) and in surrounding vulnerable protected areas in partnership with PUDD by end of year three.</p>		<p>In Year 1, the project co-organized the first a 12-day detector dog patrolling between December 14 and December 26 of 2021 in cooperation with EPD and DDU of NPA. The project organized the second detector dog patrol in three national special protected areas nearby Ulaanbaatar city between March 25th to April 5th 2022.</p> <p>In Year 2, the project supported the third detector dog patrol between September 14 to 23 of 2022 at five city entry points and the Bogd Khan Mountain strictly protected area in the south of Ulaanbaatar city. The 10-day patrol was conducted jointly by EPD, Police and Internal Troop training center, National Emergency Management Agency's National Rescue Team in partnership with PUDD.</p> <p>In Year 3, the fourth detector dog patrol, in combination with SMART application was conducted from Oct 1-15, 2023 on main city check points and unofficial patrol routes.</p>
<p>Activity 2.5 PUDD led development of Operational Manual for use of detector dogs for IWT by detector dog experts and organisations by end of year three.</p>		<p>The project-commissioned Occupation Standard and Human Development Institute to develop Standards on Detector dog Instructors and Detector dog handlers jointly with Canine LE organizations, including PUDD. The First National K9 Forum reviewed/commented on the draft standards on 19 October 2022. The Ministry of Labour and Social Protection approved the standards in February 2023.</p>
<p>Output 3. A scalable model of effective integrated law enforcement demonstrated through an Ecological Police Department and Community partnership supporting community natural resource governance institutions in pilot Arkhangai communities.</p>	<p>3.1 EPD-led Community Stewardship Support Group (CSSG) represented by multi-stakeholders and ca. 400 households (TBC), established in Y1; and meeting quarterly each year by end of Y2.</p> <p>3.2 Village Savings & Loan Associations (VSLAs) integrate effectively represented through Union of</p>	<p>The project succeeded creating a model for effective integrated law enforcement at KMGT LPA through partnerships between nine local government institutions and 20 CBOs with 351 households (<i>against 400 target</i>). The CSSG's regular exchanges to implement the annual work plan and close collaboration with UCC providing herders with law enforcement support and educational training (3.1) helped in reducing environmental violations at LPA. CSSG joint patrols were particularly effective, bringing all law enforcement and professional bodies in one team and addressing the most violation cases on the spot without unnecessary bureaucracies. The members also strengthened their skills learning SMART app and participating in biodiversity monitoring.</p>

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	<p>Conservation Communities (UCC) at CSSG, 60% of total residents of pilot communities are VSLA members (109 households), 70% benefitting from loans (127 households), 30% benefitting from Social Funds (55 vulnerable households) by end of Y2, <u>and a Multidimensional Poverty Index of the local community is decreased by 0.034 unit from the baseline in 2020 by end of Y3.</u></p> <p>3.3 Cooperative conservation enterprises integrate effectively, as represented by UCC at CSSG, with 40% members with <u>diversified income sources (at least four sources) and the average income increase by at least 20%</u> by end Y3.</p> <p>3.4 EPD-coordinated community SMART patrols conducted monthly (11 units) by end year Y1.</p> <p>3.5 Proportion of community who support protection and sustainable use of natural resources increases to 70% by end of Y3 (baseline= 55% of community report improvement in Y1).</p> <p>3.6 Poaching and illegal logging levels decline to near-zero (less than five incidents) and by 70% respectively in</p>	<p>The important aspect of CSSG partnership with herders was methodological support to VSLAs. By year two, 85,6% of UCC members joined VSLAs (<i>against 60% target</i>), 85.6% of VSLA members benefited accessing loans (<i>against 70% target</i>) and about 25% of the members received support from Social Fund (<i>against 30% target</i>) (3.2). Multidimensional Poverty Index increased from 0.054 to 0.081 (0.027 point increase) by end of Y3.</p> <p>To reduce demand for IWT among LPA herders, the project facilitated the creation of Livestock Cooperative (Shine Bulgan Sor) focused on livestock product development and marketing. Through this, cooperative herders access better deals for marketing livestock products, disaster risk reduction (hay making & forage production) (3.3). And according to the socio-economic survey, 8.5% of households engage in farming, 100% in livestock husbandry, 1.8% in subsidiary farming, 52.2% in logging, and natural resource use. The latter is increased by 15.5%. Another income-generation activity is the forest cleaning, which becomes a signature tradition for UCC to earn additional cash while helping natural forest regeneration. SMART patrol by 40 VRs and CSSG members is becoming a routine across LPA. Herders (VRs) doing SMART patrol has become an innovation in Mongolia since this tool is being used by employed rangers only. Despite the limited education, VRs are slowly learning to use the tool during their regular patrol thanks to a continued training by the project and cost recovery incentives for petrol used. VR smart patrol is more frequent compared to demand-driven joint patrol by CSSG members (3.4). SMART patrol is one of the key factors contributing to the decline in illegal logging and poaching. By end of year 3, altogether SMART patrols conducted 297 times which is 12 times monthly (against target 11 units monthly).</p> <p>The endline assessment measured the proportion of community who supported protection and sustainable use of natural resources. The end-line results show overall 70.4% respondents said there was improvement, 6.2% responded as deteriorated and 23.5% said no change. Compared to baseline there was 15.4% increase in number of community members who report improvement of protection and sustainable use of natural resources. It also meets the target of 70% (3.5)</p> <p>EPD reports zero poaching in 2023 and illegal logging 5 cases, that is increase of 50% from 2020 in illegal logging.</p>

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	<p>Khoid Mogoin Gol Teel Community protected areas by the end of Y3 (baseline poaching 0, illegal logging=3 cases in Y1).</p>	
<p>Activity 3.1 EPD led development of community stewardship support group (CSSG) represented by multi-stakeholders, including Arkhangai Environment & Tourism Dept, Arkhangai Specialized Inspection Dept. and Bulgan district Government to coordinate community partnership against IWT established in year one; to meet quarterly by end of year two.</p>		<p>In Year 1, CSSG was established with 9 members with a mission to reduce environmental crime in Arkhangai. MoU was signed with partner organizations where members agreed to meet quarterly, adopt annual work plan.</p> <p>In Year 2, the CSSG met three times, and discussed SMART system and adapting it to the needs of local users, including volunteer rangers, soum rangers and state environment inspectors (SMART Connection 7.5.3). CSSG agreed to conduct Joint Patrol at KMGT LPA during violation/hunting seasons and organize a Provincial Ranger Forum. On the occasion of World Wildlife Day (March 3, 2023), CSSG co-organized Arkhangai Provincial Ranger Forum bringing rangers and environment officers from 19 soums/districts. At the forum, the project provided training on CITES, Convention implementation in Mongolia, and its Annexes 1,2 and 3 and the introduction to the SMART system. AETD decided to pilot the SMART system across Arkhangai districts involving all provincial rangers.</p> <p>In Year 3, one meeting of the CSSG organized to discuss workplan which included joint SMART patrols to take place in September 2023 to prevent premature cedar nut picking, forest regeneration activity in December 2023 and forest cleaning in January 2024 to support income generation for herders and provide timber for the community. CSSG members also benefited from the experience sharing workshop organized in March 2024, to discuss CSSG successes, lessons learned and next steps.</p>
<p>Activity 3.2 Annual EPD and community led wildlife monitoring surveys of frequently targeted IWT species (Siberian marmot, musk deer, and saker falcon) in year one, two and three.</p>		<p>In Year 1, the project team established the baseline count of marmot burrows with the aim to study the Mongolian marmot population. It also aimed to investigate the crime of digging holes. The project team conducted a study of animal footprints and the installation of surveillance cameras to study the size of the musk deer. Based on the information from the rangers' monitoring survey and their own observations, 3 musk deer were found at the survey observation point. According to the research methodology 21 automatic cameras were installed at 4 points.</p> <p>In Year 2, the project jointly with VRs and some CSSG members conducted monitoring of marmots, musk deer and bird species. The team counted marmot burrows according to animal tracing methods for identifying the marmot population trends, and to investigate the crime of digging holes. Around 496 Siberian marmots</p>

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		<p>acoutned. Simultaneously, the ornithologist from Saraana Conservation conducted bird monitoring in the LPA: 2 saker falcon, 5 steppe eagles were counted.</p> <p>In January 2023, the biologist with 7 VRs conducted musk deer monitoring using footprints and feaces to record the population size. A preliminary estimate concluded that there could be a total of 35 individuals in the LPA's extended part. The study learned that nine out of 21 automatic cameras deployed were stolen by cedar nut pickers. Due to the high cedar nut yield in 2022, automatic cameras were removed to prevent loss of cameras.</p> <p>In Year 3, bird monitoring was conducted in May and August 2023 to study the birds' nesting and breeding success. The first monitoring was conducted to determine the nesting of birds of prey at the beginning of the breeding season and the second monitoring was conducted at the end of the breeding season. In total 47 nests were identified including 14 active nests and 33 non-active nests. The breeding success of birds of prey at KMGT-LPA is 68%. The nestling success of steppe eagle is 40% and its breeding success is 30% in KMGT-LPA. The saker falcon's nestling success was 100%. Seven volunteer rangers participated in bird monitoring.</p> <p>A biologist conducted marmot biological monitoring with 3 volunteer rangers in August 2023. The count of survey Mongolian marmot (<i>Marmota sibirica</i>) population in KMGT LPA resulted in a successful determination of $n=745\pm70$ individuals. Juveniles constitute 20%, 2-year-old individuals account for 25%, 3-year-olds make up 9%, and adults represent 36% of the overall population. As of 2023, the marmot population in the area remains stable.</p> <p>Musk deer monitoring was conducted by a team of biologists and volunteer rangers in February 2024 and results show that population increased by 30% compared to 2023 results (31 in 2024 and 23 in 2020). Also, the habitat for musk deer increased 2.4 times and reached 384.2 square miles.</p>
<p>Activity 3.3 EPD trained by ZSL SMART specialist to manage existing community SMART patrols by end of year one; eleven community SMART units conducting monthly patrols with coordination by local EPD officer by end of year two.</p>		<p>In Year 1, project team conducted SMART app training 2 times for volunteer rangers (VRs) from 17 CBOs, Bulgan district rangers and rangers from AETD. Joint SMART patrols led by EPD were conducted twice by two teams of 9 people in 4 areas covering 137,018 hectares of land in Bulgan district. In 2021, because of joint patrols, 15 environmental violations recorded (2 using SMART).</p> <p>In Year 2, the project organized SMART system refresher training and on-site practice, involving 47 local rangers, including VRs. In May 2022, the project provided 20 mobile phones to support SMART app use by CSSG members, rangers and VRs with the latest 7.5.3 version of the SMART installed. The project provided 34 VRs with winter and seasonal field uniforms to ensure their field safety and health security. As per the</p>

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		<p>project facilitation, the Bulgan Soum Governor signed cooperation agreements with 34 VRs of 17 CBOs and issued VR ID cards to enable their patrolling duties.</p> <p>As part of the CSSG plan, joint patrol using the SMART app was conducted twice (September, 2022 and February, 2023). A ten-day September patrol coincided with major cedar nut harvesting time thus involving CSSG team, consisting of four EPD officers, three specialized inspectors, and 13 rangers. The patrol stopped illegal nut harvesting by 500 people, briefed them with the ecological importance of cedars. Also 15 people were charged for violations of environmental regulations. In 2022 18 violations recorded (3 using SMART).</p> <p>February SMART patrol involved five EPD officers, three specialized inspectors, and 14 rangers for seven days. The patrol checked 408 vehicles, charged 28 people for traffic safety violations and detected two cases of illegal logging.</p> <p>During the joint patrol, one case of illegal logging were detected, and the perpetrators were prosecuted.</p> <p>By end of Year 2, 34 VRs independently conducted monthly SMART patrols 185 times across LPAs.</p> <p>In Year 3, one joint patrol using the SMART app was conducted by CSSG in September 2023. Two weeks patrol was organized to prevent premature harvesting of cedar nuts and destroying of forest. During the patrol, 178 citizens were checked at the inspection point, and they were given warnings and legal information about the cedar tree and its degradation. 59 people who collected cedar nuts were charged with infringement, 2148kg cedar nut was seized, compensation of 1652.7 thousand MNT was estimated according to the ecological and economic assessment and a fine of 5100.0 thousand MNT was imposed. By end of Year 3, 112 SMART patrols conducted covering 3253km and 523 days by Vrs and CSSG members. Altogether 65 persons actively used SMART to monitor LPA for biological monitoring and environmental enforcement. In 2023, 66 violations recorded (4 using SMART).</p>
<p>Activity 3.4 EPD led CSSG conducted an environmental education and awareness raising program among local herders (74% total residents, at least 50% female) bi-annually by the end of year one.</p>		<p>In Year 1, 561 (F:226, M:335) herders received training on VSLA, biodiversity and ecological services. EPD also provided legal awareness about poaching and IWT. CITES short videos were featured on local TV that reached 91,000 people.</p> <p>In Year 2, 967 herders (F: 393, M: 574) herders participated in environmental education training that included ecosystem of carnivore birds, and EPD also provided legal awareness raising information. On occasion of Biodiversity Day, project presented ZSL conservation work to herders focusing on IWT and SMART patrolling system and the role of volunteer rangers. In year two, two local TV stations were contracted again to provide three educational ads on CITES, hunting regulation and traditional hunting taboos.</p>

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements
		<p>In Year 3, 19 CBOs received environmental education training from project team. This is 439 participants (M: 237, F:202) who received “Nomadic trunk” training. Nomadic trunk is a training series with participatory exercises designed to raise awareness about wildlife in Khangai region.</p> <p>During this time, CSSG members while visiting CBO meetings, held talks with herders on Forest management, and prevention from environmental crimes. In addition, CBOs such as Bayan-Undur and Gurvyn Davaa Tavan mod, Urd mogoi, Jirkh ar bulan and Maanit received ecological training on “Community based conservation” and “Eco-herder” and conservation of bird species in the LPA.</p> <p>In December, 2023 project team organized all member CBO meeting No.5 in Bulgan district. The focus of the meeting was the importance of the cooperative and its relation to conservation.</p> <p>The project continued cooperated with two local TV stations and provided them with wildlife education videos and podcasts to broadcast to local communities.</p>
<p>Activity 3.5 ZSL partnered with the EPD led CSSG to reduce local IWT demand through livelihood support, including strengthening of the existing Village Savings and Loan Associations (498 members, 75 million MNT loans, 7 million MNT Social Funds, 478 beneficiaries), and fostering small community businesses (8,7 million MNT net profit, 3.4% members with incomes) by end of year two.</p>		<p>By end of Year 2, the UCC had 582 members, of which 85.6% joined VSLAs. As of March 2023, VSLAs have MNT 75 million in the Loan fund, 96% of the members received loans (MNT 110 million for 6 months). The VSLAs’ Social funds have MNT 7 million, and about MNT 1.4 million has been spent to support members, and MNT 2.3 million was used for environment protection activities.</p> <p>By the end of Year 2, the cooperative made a net profit of MNT 8.7 million and increased the income of 40 households by about MNT 200,000.</p> <p>By end of Year 3, the UCC increased its members to 599 members (351 households) from 20 CBOs, of which 83.4% joined VSLAs. And 18 CBOs or 500 members are utilizing VSLA methodology.</p> <p>As of Jan 2024, CBOs have 117.5 million MNT in the loan fund, 208 herders or 72% of the total members received loans of 117.8 million MNT. The social funds have 17.7 million MNT, and about 2.5 million MNT has been spent on direct support to 60 members, 3.2 million MNT was used for environment protection activities.</p> <p>In year three, the annual forest cleaning activity was organized in January, 2024 where 70 members of the CBO participated in the cleaning of 10-ha area of forest and transported 240 truck of timber to be sold at 50% discount rate (42mill MNT was saved by community) and provide profit of 42 mill MNT to CBO members. This is approximately 600k MNT profit per CBO member.</p>

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements
		<p>The process of UCC herders joining the new Bulgan Cooperative is ongoing. As of the last meeting of the “Shine Bulgan sor” collective in January, 2024, member of the cooperative concluded that 2023 sales were 183,800,700 MNT of which net profit was 8,440,510MNT. Cooperative divided 6,341,850 MNT among 28 members. This means 5% of CBO members profited from collective actions.</p> <p>The remaining money 700,675MNT was saved to Environmental fund and 1,401,350MNT was saved in the Risk fund.</p>
<p>Activity 3.6 70% of community members support protection of natural resources and engagement with EPD by end of year three (compared to the baseline set in year one).</p>		<p>In Year 1, the project collected the baseline data on socio-economic conditions and perception about wildlife, rangeland, forests and sustainable use of natural resources. The pre-project survey included 81 herder households and post-project survey covered 83 households to measure changes in community behaviors and attitudes.</p> <p>Overall, 70.4% respondents said there was improvement in the protection and rehabilitation of natural resources, 6.2% responded as deteriorated and 23.5% said no change. This is 15.4% increase in number of community members who report improvement of protection and sustainable use of natural resources.</p> <p>The results also show that the 27.7% of respondents think forest natural resources have improved (increased by 15.5%), 83.5% think that wildlife population increased (increase by 25.3%).</p> <p>Also, 64.6% of respondents know about legal accountability in cases of poaching and IWT (increased by 34.2%), 88.6% know that IWT incidences should be reported to LE authorities (increased by 11.1%) and 91.8% know who and where to report (EPD, rangers) for IWT incidents (increased to 24.3%). Therefore, communities are well aware about EPD led environmental protection and enforcement.</p>
<p>Activity 3.7 Zero or near-zero poaching and 70% decline in illegal logging in Khoid Mogoin Gol Teel Community protected areas by the end of year three.</p>		<p>In year one (2021), one case of deer poaching, and 6 cases of illegal logging registered in Bulgan district. In year two (2022), zero poaching and 3 cases of illegal logging were registered. In year three (2023), zero poaching cases with 5 cases of illegal logging were recorded. This is decrease of illegal logging by 18% compared to the start of the project (against target 70%)</p>
<p>Output 4. Mongolian public recognise EPD as the leading IWT-focal agency, with public-generated intelligence on IWT activity being reported directly to the EPD, stimulated through a national awareness campaign leveraging ZSL’s successful IWT awareness</p>	<p>4.1 Awareness materials developed and approved by EPD and Police Administration by end Y1.</p> <p>4.2 Proportion of national population reached by EPD IWT awareness-raising</p>	<p>EPD is becoming a leading environmental law enforcement agency for tackling environmental crimes including IWT with close collaboration with Enviromental Crime Prevention Sub-Council, CCCP. EPD’s public awareness campaigns and prevention measures take place through social media platforms via both EPD and CCCP webpages and facebook groups, TV channels, display Ad boards in the city and along rural roads across the country, text messages and in print. The project annually contributes to the public awareness campaigns and INP activities, primarily funding the production social media content. For example:</p>

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements
<p>raising campaigns and partnerships in Mongolia.</p>	<p>campaign 30 % by end of Y2, 40% by end Y3.</p> <p>4.3 Public awareness of IWT crimes, legal framework and environmental impact increases by 25% (baseline= 2.7% in year one) by end of Y3.</p> <p>4.4 Public awareness of EPD as the IWT-focal agency increases by 25% (baseline=66% of respondents) by end of Y3.</p> <p>4.5 IWT crime reports received by EPD from public increased by 20% by Y2 and 30% by end Y3 (baseline 1828 reports and 112 IWT cases registered in 2020).</p>	<p>In year one, the project financed the production of 24 videos as awareness-raising materials of 2-3 minutes in length describing the importance of 24 species of birds, mammals, and reptiles. In July 2022, the public awareness campaign used these videos on social media. In year three, project developed 50 social posters and 3 podcasts (4.1).</p> <p>According to EPD annual statistics, IWT associated campaign reached 50 million people, with 1 million likes, 2.8 million shares and 107k comments in Year 3 (4.2). This is 14 times the size of the population. The most active year of campaigning was in 2021 (Y1), when 116 million people reached by EPD (34 times the size of population)</p> <p>A separate KAP survey was conducted in Year 3, to measure indicators 4.3 and 4.4. The survey results asked respondents if there were changes in the last 2-3 year about IWT, and 18% of respondents responded that IWT decreased. In addition, they survey results suggest that public awareness about IWT increased in the past 3 years, increased from 2.7% of respondents having good knowledge about IWT in Y1, to an average of 47.4% in Y3. The percentage difference is 44.7% , exceeding the target of 25%. Public awareness about EPD was minimal at the beginning of the project as it was established new but around 66% respondents answered that they watched EPD content. KAP survey results show that 77.1% of respondents have some knowledge about EPD with 53.2% knowing that EPD is the leading organizations that tackles IWT. In addition, socio-economic survey taken in Arkhangai LPA where project intervention took place also confirm the increase of knowledge by the public where there is an increase of 24.3% of herders knowing where to report IWT and poaching incidents (against target of 25%)</p> <p>In year three, public report of environmental crimes to EPD in Year 3 was 2223 reports compared to 1828 reports in 2020 (increase of 20%). Crime reports by end of year 2 was 2216 (19% increase)</p> <p>In IWT cases registered in 2023 was 103 compared to baseline 112 cases in 2020. This is an 8.3% decrease in IWT cases. (4.5)</p>
<p>Activity 4.1 EPD development of IWT national awareness raising campaign to build on existing environmental public engagement strategy by end of year one.</p>		<p>By end of Year 1, twenty-four awareness raising videos about wildlife (endangered birds, mammals, reptiles) to raise knowledge about CITES species and legal implications for IWT and poaching. It was produced for the EPD campaign. as part of the series of 2-3 min wildlife videos. In year 3, the videos were aired on Arkhangai ABTV over 60 times monthly which reached approx. 48,000 people in Arkhangai aimag, including herders.</p>

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements
		<p>In Year 2, project supported EPD campaign by producing four tree planting videos. The campaign was co-organized with Environmental Crime Prevention Sub-Council.</p> <p>In Year 3, project produced 50 social posters to raise legal awareness about IWT, illegal logging, promote the role of LE including EPD and rangers. The social posters were disseminated on social platforms of partners of CSSG and Mongolian Association of Rangers.</p> <p>Three podcasts were made in cooperation with Arkhangai Tamir TV about the work of CSSG, the role of environmental stewards such as rangers, community rangers and EPD. Tamir TV aired 3 podcasts 9 times monthly which reached approx. 53,600 people in Arkhangai aimag and shared on their Facebook channel.</p>
<p>Activity 4.2 EPD piloting of IWT awareness campaign (i.e. social media, TV) in Ulaanbaatar by end of year one; updated EPD IWT awareness raising campaign implemented nationally by end of year two.</p>		<p>By end of Year 1, twenty-four awareness raising videos about wildlife including CITES species was featured on EPD campaign. The videos were also shown in Arkhangai on local TV.</p> <p>In Year 2, project produced tree planting awareness raising videos was shown on EPD and Environmental Crime Prevention Sub-Council's social platforms and reached 110.2 thousand views by the Sub-Council. According to EPD report for 2022, the video contents were featured on 66 advertising video screens across the country, shown on 44 local TV stations (57 times) and 33 FM radios (for 28 days).</p> <p>In year 3, as part of EPD-led public awareness campaign "Everyone can be a ranger", the project sponsored the development of video on prevention of IWT species and gathered gathered 891k views, 9.7k likes and 176 comments (as of April, 2024).</p>
<p>Activity 4.3 Public awareness of IWT increase by 40% (baseline 2.7% in year 1) by project year three.</p>		<p>In year three, KAP survey reported that public's knowledge about IWT improved by average 44% (47% on average know currently vs 2.7% knew)</p> <p>In addition, socio-economic study conducted in Arkhangai project site produced concrete results on increased public's awareness among beneficiaries. There is 34.2% increase in number of herders who know about IWT and legal implications, 11.1% increase in herders who are willing to report IWT incidents to LE authorities and 24.3% increase in herders who know that EPD, rangers are the authority to report IWT. The positive results are due to project's intervention by provision of environmental trainings and organizing meetings (22% increase participation among community members compared to baseline)</p>

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements
Activity 4.4 Public reports of IWT associated crimes to EPD increase by 30% (compared to baseline year one), by project year three.		In year three, public report of environmental crimes to EPD in 2023 was 2223 reports compared to 1828 reports (baseline in 2020) This is 20% increase. In 2023, 472 crimes registered out of which 22.6% was IWT. In the year 2020, 622 crimes were registered and 18% was IWT crimes.

Annex 2. Project's full current logframe as presented in the application form (unless changes have been agreed)

Project Summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of Verification	Important Assumptions
Impact: Poaching, trafficking and transiting of wildlife products in Mongolia is reduced through strengthened environmental law enforcement, integrated with improved community stewardship of vulnerable IWT species and ecosystem protection.			
Outcome: Interception of Mongolian IWT increases as highly-trained Ecological Police Department lead counter-IWT efforts, using state-of -	0.1 IWT detections and seizures in Mongolian IWT hotspots increase by 30% (baseline TBD in year one) by end-year three (Y3).	0.1 EPD official records; PUDD and Protected Area Administration records.	It is assumed that IWT detections and seizures will continue to increase during the lifespan of the project before declining as the effect of the deterrent is felt.

<p>the-art approaches while integrating enforcement with community-led environmental stewardship, improving local wellbeing and public engagement.</p>	<p>0.2 EPD-led IWT investigations submitted to trial for prosecution increased by 30% (baseline TBD in year one) by end of Y3.</p> <p>0.3 EPD institutional performance improves based on key criteria of the UNoDC Forest and Wildlife Crime Analytical Toolkit and UKBF Dog Handler Accreditation programme, respectively, by end of Y3 (baseline TBD in Y1).</p> <p>0.4 Unsanctioned harvesting of wildlife/timber in Arkhangai pilot site decreases by 20% by Y3 (baseline TBD in Y1).</p> <p>0.5 Arkhangai community (demonstration site) wellbeing increases by 30% by end of Y3.</p>	<p>0.2 EPD official records; Generalised Agency for Specialised Investigation records.</p> <p>0.3 UNoDC Assessment Toolkit results report; UKBF Dog Handler Accreditation Programme Assessment Results report.</p> <p>0.4 EPD Community SMART patrol reports; PUDD patrol reports.</p> <p>0.5 ZSL social survey, self-perception questions.</p>	<p>The assumed projected increase is based on current and reliable law enforcement data on current prosecution levels and expert advice on the effect of training in evidence gathering and on successful prosecutions.</p> <p>UNoDC Forest and Wildlife Crime Analytical Toolkit criteria are sufficiently representative of local Mongolian conditions to assess operational improvements.</p> <p>The assumed projected declines in illegal wildlife and timber harvesting is based on the current capacity of SMART patrolling in the Arkhangai LPA site.</p> <p>The assumed projected increase is based on baseline levels to be determined at the project start, and on ZSL’s existing community engagement and needs assessment results with communities at the LPA site.</p> <p>Senior UIA officials continue to remain receptive to working with international agencies to developing and adopting best practices in IWT training and curriculum development.</p> <p>The short-medium term impacts of COVID on all stakeholders, government and communities continue to be assessed and integrated into project planning, delivery, and sustainability.</p>
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<p>Output 1.</p> <p>The newly established Ecological Police Department (EPD) staff are well-equipped and highly trained, and utilising global best practices in forensic intelligence gathering, SMART and intelligence sharing to enable long-term effective inter-agency efforts to reduce and prosecute IWT crime in Mongolia.</p>	<p>1.1 Adoption of EPD-led Integrated National Plan of Action, for inter-agency IWT law enforcement, by EPD head by end Y1.</p> <p>1.2 Upgraded EPD specimen storage facility and officers equipped based on recommendations by Veterans for Wildlife and ZSL by end of Y1.</p> <p>1.3. EPD officers and UIA instructors trained and equipped in forensics (30 officers), intelligence gathering (15 officers), and CITES and SMART (70 officers) and training curriculum (3 instructors), with 70% of trainees passing assessment criteria, by end of Y2.</p> <p>1.4 Curriculum at University of Internal Affairs includes pilot modules on forensics, intelligence, SMART and CITES by end of Y2, and adopts them by end of Y3.</p> <p>1.5 New EPD skills used by 70% of trained law enforcement officers, as identified by UNoDC capacity gap needs assessment, (baseline TBD in year one) by end Y3.</p> <p>1.6 Bi-annual meetings for collaborative investigative, intelligence and analytical case-sharing held 6 times, led by EPD officials, by end of Y3.</p>	<p>1.1 IWT National Plan; IWT national plan workshop presentation; meeting minutes; attendance list, Approved plan by EPD head.</p> <p>1.2 UNODC Forestry and Wildlife Crime Toolkit Assessment report produced with detailed recommendations for capacity building of EPD; EPD unit facility and equipment upgrade/transfer records; upgrade photographs.</p> <p>1.3 Post-training EPD, UIA and City of London Police Forensics Department assessment records; SMART training attendance sheets, training attendance sheet; training materials.</p> <p>1.4 Updated UIA curriculum including topics on forensics, intelligence and CITES.</p> <p>1.5 UNODC Forestry and Wildlife Crime Toolkit assessment results; EPD training records.</p> <p>1.6 EPD intelligence sharing meeting minutes; lists of attendees.</p>	<p>The EPD continue to play leading role in environmental and IWT enforcement in Mongolia, with officials continuing to remain receptive to working with international agencies to developing and adopting best practices in environmental and IWT law enforcement.</p> <p>EPD continue to have the resources for facility upgrades and equipment are maintained and utilised beyond the project.</p> <p>City of London Police Forensics Department training programme is able to identify at least three suitable University of Internal Affairs instructors that have the skills and capacity to deliver training to EPD officers independently.</p> <p>EPD remain engaged in implementing SMART as part of their patrolling data management, with capacity to use it continually and adaptively going forward.</p> <p>Senior University of Internal Affairs remain receptive to incorporating international best practice into national training curriculum for Mongolian law enforcement agencies.</p> <p>The EPD will continue to play the leading role in environmental and IWT enforcement in Mongolia.</p>
<p>Output 2.</p>	<p>2.1 Poaching incidents intercepted (seizures, arrests) by DD (baseline to be set in Y1) at key peri-urban and</p>	<p>2.1 EPD official records; PUDD and Protected Area Administration records.</p>	<p>EPD remains receptive to collaborating with international agencies and national partners for</p>

<p>Reduction of poaching at key identified peri-urban source sites and of IWT products at urban hotspots (markets, transport hubs) is achieved through highly trained, up-scaled EPD detector dog units (DDU), working in partnership with the Professional Union of Detector Dogs (PUDD) to promote DDU standards that increase efficiency in tackling environmental and IWT-related crimes.</p>	<p>urban sites (to be identified in Y1) increase by 10% by Y3.</p> <p>2.2 EPD DDU facilities are assessed and upgraded by end of Y1.</p> <p>2.3 Mongolian dog unit instructors trained as trainers, by UKBF dog expert: programme developed by end of Y1; and 15 trained (50% of total) by end Y1.</p> <p>2.4 EPD detector dog units trained by newly trained EPD and the PUDD instructors, 30 (70% of total) by end of Y2.</p> <p>2.5 Detector dog training programme finalised and agreed by the Mongolian Agency for Standardization and Metrology by the end of Y3.</p> <p>2.6 New DDU skills used by 80% of 45 training attendees in their jobs by Y3.</p> <p>2.7 DDU patrols conducted in Ulaanbaatar urban hotspots (i.e. transport checkpoints, open markets, shops) and in surrounding vulnerable Protected Areas increase to 1 per month by end of Y3.</p>	<p>2.2 EPD unit facility and equipment upgrade records; upgrade photographs; post-training assessment records; training attendance sheet; training materials.</p> <p>2.3 UKBF Dog Handler Accreditation Programme Assessment Results; EPD training records, self-report.</p> <p>2.4 PUDD operational manual; notes of stakeholder workshop to approve the manual.</p> <p>2.5 Submission letter to the Standards and Measurement Authority of Mongolia.</p> <p>2.6. UKBF Dog Handler Accreditation Programme Assessment Results; EPD training records, self-report.</p> <p>2.7 Monthly EPD patrol records; PUDD protected area patrol records; SMART patrol reports.</p>	<p>adopting best practice techniques to combat IWT through DD units.</p> <p>EPD has continued resources to maintain improved dog training facilities are maintained and utilised beyond the project.</p> <p>UKBF dog expert able to identify at least 15 suitable Mongolian DD instructors that have the skills and capacity to deliver training to EPD detector dog units independently.</p> <p>Mongolian Agency for Standardization and Metrology, remains engagement and fully supportive along with EPD and other Law enforcement agencies in the development of a harmonised high standards of DD usage, for Mongolia to become an example of best practice for other countries in the region.</p> <p>EPD DD units continue to have the support of EPD senior management to utilise their training.</p> <p>EPD DD handlers continue to have the support of EPD senior management to use DD to greatly increase resources for tackling IWT and other environmental crime.</p>
<p>Output 3.</p> <p>A scalable model of effective integrated law enforcement demonstrated through an Ecological Police Department and Community partnership supporting community</p>	<p>3.1 EPD-led Community Stewardship Support Group (CSSG) represented by multi-stakeholders and ca. 400 households (TBC), established in Y1; and meeting quarterly each year by end of Y2.</p>	<p>3.1 EPD-Community Stewardship Support Group member list which will include Arkhangai Environment & Tourism Dept, Arkhangai Specialized Inspection Dept. and Bulgan district Government, Union of Conservation Communities (UCC); quarterly meeting</p>	<p>CSSG key stakeholders continue to have a positive relationship with ZSL and remain committed to working with EPD and meeting quarterly at CSSG meetings.</p>

<p>natural resource governance institutions in pilot Arkhangai communities.</p>	<p>3.2 Village Savings & Loan Associations (VSLAs) integrate effectively represented through Union of Conservation Communities (UCC) at CSSG, 60% of total residents of pilot communities are VSLA members <u>(109 households)</u>, 70% benefitting from loans <u>(127 households)</u>, 30% benefitting from Social Funds <u>(55 vulnerable households)</u> by end of Y2 <u>and a Multidimensional Poverty Index of the local community is decreased by 0.034 unit from the baseline in 2020 by end of Y3.</u></p> <p>3.3 Cooperative conservation enterprises integrate effectively, as represented by UCC at CSSG, with 40% members with <u>diversified income sources (at least four sources)</u> and the <u>average income increase by at least 20%</u> by end Y3.</p> <p>3.4 EPD-coordinated community SMART patrols conducted monthly (11 units) by end year Y1.</p> <p>3.5 Proportion of community who support protection and sustainable use of natural resources increases to 70% by end of Y3 (baseline set in Y1).</p> <p>3.6 Poaching and illegal logging levels decline to near-zero (less than five incidents) and by 70% respectively in Khoid Mogoin Gol Teel Community protected areas by the end of Y3 (baseline confirmed in Y1).</p>	<p>minutes; quarterly meeting attendee lists.</p> <p>3.2 UCC annual report on community natural resource governance activities; UCC participation records; records of law enforcement institutions listed in 3.1.</p> <p>3.3, 3.5 Social surveys conducted in year one and three, detailing community members' successes and support for the model of community stewardship supported by EPD engagement.</p> <p>3.4 SMART reports showing patrol frequency, coverage and composition.</p> <p>3.6 Aimag soum Police, Specialized Inspection, and Environmental Ranger records, annual and final project reports of biodiversity monitoring surveys; SMART patrol reports.</p>	<p>The established UCC VSLA and small business development programme continues to yield livelihood improvements for members to negate any IWT associated market demands for wildlife and timber products. EPD and existing community SMART units remain committed to conducting regular patrols alongside daily personal livelihood responsibilities.</p> <p>No natural disasters, such as forest fires, or particularly, harsh winters (<i>dzud</i>) significantly negatively impact community members or wildlife populations.</p> <p>The assumed projected decline in poaching and illegal logging is based on baseline levels to be determined at project start, and on ZSL's existing community SMART patrol reports and needs assessments results with local government, environmental protection agencies, police and communities at project site.</p> <p>Communities are being fully supported in post-COVID recovery with engagement in conservation and additional security providing enabling conditions for them to do so.</p> <p>Economic conditions (post COVID) continue to enable suitable incentive framework is futureproofed across the trail sites for beyond the life span of the project.</p>
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<p>Output 4.</p> <p>Mongolian public recognise EPD as the leading IWT-focal agency, with public-generated intelligence on IWT activity being reported directly to the EPD, stimulated through a national awareness campaign leveraging ZSL's successful IWT awareness raising campaigns and partnerships in Mongolia.</p>	<p>4.1 Awareness materials developed and approved by EPD and Police Administration by end Y1.</p> <p>4.2 Proportion of national population reached by EPD IWT awareness-raising campaign 30 % by end of Y2, 40% by end Y3.</p> <p>4.3 Public awareness of IWT crimes, legal framework and environmental impact increases by 25% (baseline TBD in year one) by end of Y3.</p> <p>4.4 Public awareness of EPD as the IWT-focal agency increases by 25% (baseline TBD in year one) by end of Y3.</p> <p>4.5 IWT crime reports received by EPD from public increased by 20% by Y2 and 30% by end Y3 (baseline TBD in Y1).</p>	<p>4.1 EPD pilot awareness campaign materials; media statistics.</p> <p>4.2 Media consultant engagement strategy report; EPD awareness campaign materials; media statistics.</p> <p>4.3, 4.4 Visibility measured through social media statistics, TV and print viewership, random survey of IWT message retention based on past ZSL experience of social media awareness-raising.</p> <p>4.5 EPD and GASl records.</p>	<p>EPD awareness raising efforts are able to successfully build on the pre-existing reporting approach for other environmental crimes being established by the EPD.</p> <p>EPD remain committed to engaging the public locally and nationally across different media platforms.</p> <p>Different media platforms (i.e. social media, TV, print) remain a cost-effective and accessible means of engaging Mongolia's public.</p> <p>Mongolia's public are engaged in protecting natural heritage to a degree to report local environmental and IWT associated crimes.</p> <p>Awareness materials focus on intrinsic value and penalties and avoid publicising commercial values.</p> <p>Proven awareness-raising methods are drawing on existing EPD staff skills and capacity, and ZSL's experience with IWT awareness-raising in Mongolia.</p> <p>Reports demonstrate understanding of awareness raising messages.</p>
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Annex 3 Standard Indicators

Table 1 Project Standard Indicators

IWTCF Indicator number	Name of indicator	Units	Disaggregation	Year 1 Total	Year 2 Total	Year 3 Total	Total to date	Total planned during the project
IWTCF-A01	E.g. Number of people who received training in sustainable livelihood skills	People/number trained	Men, women	478 (F:196, M:282)	499 (F:210, M:289)	439 (M:237, F:202)	1416 (F:608, M:808)	
IWTCF-D10	Number of people who received other forms of education/training (which does not fall into the above category)	People/Number trained	Gender; Local Communities, Environmental education training	83 herders (F:30, M:53)	468 herders (F:183, M:285)	439 (M:237, F:202)	990 (F:415, M:575)	
IWTCF-A03	Number of cooperatives established	Number of cooperatives	Gender owner/owners; Type of cooperative should be outlined	0	1 (28 members, 1 male executive director, selling livestock products)	0	1	
IWTCF-A08	Number of sustainable livelihoods enterprises established	Number		10 (community based organizations)	19	1	20	
IWTCF-A05	Number of credit and savings groups established	Number	All sizes of enterprise should be captured (i.e. micro, small, and medium enterprises)	8 (Village loan and saving associations)	18	18	18	

IWTCF Indicator number	Name of indicator	Units	Disaggregation	Year 1 Total	Year 2 Total	Year 3 Total	Total to date	Total planned during the project
IWTCF-B02	E.g. Number of new or improved site management plans available and endorsed	Number	Languages (local/other); Type of management plans (i.e. enforcement protocols).	1 LPA management plan, Mongolian	0	0	1	
TCF-B01	Number of people trained in law enforcement skills.	Number	Gender; Age Group; Stakeholder group: Indigenous Peoples, Local Communities, Nationals, public sector, civil society, private sector; Type of Law Enforcement training should be outlined.	143 EPD SMART, CITES, Intelligence 34 rangers Public sector and civil society	503 EPD SMART, CITES, Intelligence, Forensics 93 LE (DD units, forensic services, UIA lecturers, University and NGOs) 63 rangers Public sector and civil society	0	646 EPD (gender not available) 93 LE (gender not available) 97 rangers (male)	163
IWTCF-B07	Number of illegal wildlife products/shipments detected.	Number		11 (DD unit)	16	16	43	

IWTCF Indicator number	Name of indicator	Units	Disaggregation	Year 1 Total	Year 2 Total	Year 3 Total	Total to date	Total planned during the project
				shipments detected)				
IWTCF-B09	Duration or frequency of patrols by law enforcement rangers supported through the project.	Duration (hours or days)8		20 days (joint patrols)	47 days	30 days	97 days	

In addition to reporting any information on publications under relevant standard indicators, in Table 2, provide full details of all publications and material produced over the last year that can be publicly accessed, e.g. title, name of publisher, contact details, cost. Mark with an asterisk (*) all publications and other material that you have included with this report.

Table 2 Publications

Title	Type (e.g. journals, best practice manual, blog post, online videos, podcasts, CDs)	Detail (authors, year)	Gender of Lead Author	Nationality of Lead Author	Publishers (name, city)	Available from (e.g. weblink or publisher if not available online)
Procedure for investigation of environmental crimes and infringements using SMART system	Handbook	2024. B. Bilguun, B. Erdenebat	Male	Mongolian	Munkhiin Useg	ZSL
Project work with CBOs and crime prevention	News report	2022, N. Munkhtuvshin	Male	mongolian	Tamir TV	https://fb.watch/kpLDIIDtEA/
SMART in environmental patrol and training "IWT offences are decreasing since herders started patrolling and protecting environment."	News report	2022, N. Munkhtuvshin	male	Mongolian	Tamir TV	https://fb.watch/kpM1M9auHD/

Title	Type (e.g. journals, best practice manual, blog post, online videos, podcasts, CDs)	Detail (authors, year)	Gender of Lead Author	Nationality of Lead Author	Publishers (name, city)	Available from (e.g. weblink or publisher if not available online)
Gobi herders are visiting Bayanbulag CBO	News report	2022, N.Munkhtuvshin	Male	Mongolian	Tamir TV	https://fb.watch/kpMouVdEIA/
Public awareness on what are the consequences of collecting nuts before harvesting time	News report	2022, N.Munkhtuvshin	Male	Mongolian	Tamir TV	https://fb.watch/kpMDmR3LsF/
Interview with U.Tungalag about work in LPA	TV programme	2022, N.Munkhtuvshin	Male	Mongolian	Tamir TV	https://fb.watch/kpLuVSKJ3D/
Nut harvesting precautions	News report	2022, N.Munkhtuvshin	Male	Mongolian	MNB	https://fb.watch/kpMO_uQ8i-/
World WildLife Day event in Arkanangai	News programme	2023, N. Munkhtuvshin	Male	Mongolian	AB news	(20+) Video Facebook
The role of ranger	podcast	2023, Altangerel ranger		Mongolian	Tamir TV	(20+) Video Facebook
Forest ecosystem, and sustainable management of forest natural resources	podcast	2023, N. Munkhtuvshin		Mongolian	Tamir TV	(20+) Facebook
Environmental protection and CSSG operations	podcast	2023, N. Munkhtuvshin		Mongolian	Tamir TV	(20+) Facebook
Best practice of the CSSG and community based conservation	News program, report	2023, N. Munkhtuvshin		Mongolian	AB TV	(20+) Facebook
Everyone is a ranger	video	2023, Ecological Police		Mongolian	Ecological Police	(20+) Video Facebook

Title	Type (e.g. journals, best practice manual, blog post, online videos, podcasts, CDs)	Detail (authors, year)	Gender of Lead Author	Nationality of Lead Author	Publishers (name, city)	Available from (e.g. weblink or publisher if not available online)
Long Eared hedgehog (<i>Hemiechinus auritus</i>)	video	2022, Ecological Police			Ecological Police	https://fb.watch/koajXpB8wr/
Mongolian Ground (<i>Podoces hendersoni</i>)	video	2022, Ecological Police			Ecological Police	https://fb.watch/koarWffZPJ/
Penduline Tit (<i>Remiz pendulinus</i>)	video	2022, Ecological Police			Ecological Police	https://fb.watch/koaHMs-Elj/
Tatar sand boa (<i>Eryx tataricus</i>)	video	2022, Ecological Police			Ecological Police	https://fb.watch/koaWry1f9Q/
Ruddy Shelduck (<i>Tadorna ferruginea</i>)	video	2022, Ecological Police			Ecological Police	https://fb.watch/koa-70N858/
Gobi naked-toed gecko (<i>Cyrtapodion elongatus</i>)	video	2022, Ecological Police			Ecological Police	https://fb.watch/kppXOsjoG/

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?	
Is the report less than 10MB? If so, please email to BCF-Reports@niras.com putting the project number in the Subject line.	
Is your report more than 10MB? If so, please discuss with BCF-Reports@niras.com about the best way to deliver the report, putting the project number in the Subject line. All supporting material should be submitted in a way that can be accessed and downloaded as one complete package.	
If you are submitting photos for publicity purposes, do these meet the outlined requirements (see section 14)?	
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.	
Have you involved your partners in preparation of the report and named the main contributors?	
Have you completed the Project Expenditure table fully?	
Do not include claim forms or other communications with this report.	