

Illegal Wildlife Trade (IWT) Challenge Fund Annual Report

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

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

Submission Deadline: 30th April 2023

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● IWT Challenge Fund Project Information

Project reference	IWT097
Project title	Building long term capacity to combat IWT in Sri Lanka
Country/ies	Sri Lanka
Lead Partner	Environmental Foundation (Guarantee) Limited (EFL)
Project partner(s)	Sri Lanka Department of Wildlife Conservation (DWC) Born Free Foundation (BFF)
IWTCF grant value	£89,812.00
Start/end dates of project	3rd, November 2021 - 31 st , December 2023
Reporting period (e.g. April 2022-Mar 2023) and number (e.g. Annual Report 1, 2, 3)	April 2022-Mar 2023 Annual Report 2
Project Leader name	Mr. Anandalal Nanayakkara
Project website/blog/social media	https://efl.lk/portfolio/building-long-term-capacity-to-combat-iwt-in-sri-lanka/ First Programme Development Meeting with Focal Points of SLaWEN - Link IWT 10- Day workshop for SLaWEN officers - Session 01 , Session 02 , Session 03
Report author(s) and date	Environmental Foundation (Guarantee) Limited 15 th May 2023

1. Project summary

Sri Lanka is a biodiversity-rich country with high endemism, which makes it a heaven for wildlife traffickers, who exploit the unique biodiversity of the island for illicit international markets. The national law enforcement response requires strengthening of its investigative and prosecutorial capacity in order to address IWT at a national level, and better coordinate within South Asia and beyond.

Fauna such as reptiles have high endemism (62%) and are highly vulnerable. For example, 14 of the 17 agamid lizards found in Sri Lanka are endemic and in high demand in the pet trade in

Europe and North America, with regular advertisements for Sri Lankan reptiles offered online (TRAFFIC 2019). Sri Lanka remains the largest source for gill plates of manta and devil rays for use in traditional Chinese medicine (Jabado, 2020). Plants are also illegally traded, with agarwood (*Aquilaria* spp) used in fragrances the taxon most commonly smuggled from the country - with multiple hauls seized by the Sri Lankan authorities since 2012. Most recently, in August 2020 126.95 kg, and in July 2020 39.98 kg of *Gyrinops walla* were seized (Sri Lanka Customs, 2020).

Records of wildlife traded in international markets and seized at national borders have highlighted Sri Lanka as a significant source for illegally caught and exported wildlife, as well as a transit country for smuggled wildlife. For example, 3,130-star tortoises (*Geochelone elegans*) were seized between 2015 and 2017, and 124 non-native black-spotted turtles (*Geoclemys hamiltonii*) were confiscated by local law enforcement authorities in 2015 while in transit. While the extent of the local prosecutorial response to IWT sourced both domestically and abroad remains unassessed, it is anticipated to be inadequate.

The communities most vulnerable to IWT in Sri Lanka remain the demographically reside in close proximity to wildlife-rich areas, the source for the fauna and flora in demand. Removal and destruction of wildlife in these areas affect the sustainable livelihoods of communities that depend on ecosystems to be maintained in an optimal state.

Sri Lanka has a relatively strong legal framework for the protection of wild fauna and flora with existing laws including the Fauna and Flora Protection Ordinance, Forest Conservation Ordinance, Customs Ordinance, and Regulations. However, lacking technical personnel and institutional capacities have meant the issue of IWT is not effectively addressed in a coordinated manner by the agencies mandated with the protection of wildlife, which include the DWC, Forest Department, Attorney General's Department, Police, and Customs.

Therefore, the project aim is to address the lack of a coordinated approach on the part of the prosecution and enforcement agencies – identified by the DWC as a critical limitation to hold accountable those associated with IWT in Sri Lanka effectively and to block the potential of using Sri Lanka as a transit point for IWT.

2. Project stakeholders/ partners

Department of Wildlife Conservation

Sri Lanka Wildlife Enforcement Network (SLaWEN) was established in 2011. The goal of SLaWEN is to foster communication and collaboration among relevant authorities through information dissemination, intelligence sharing, awareness building, and capacity building to curb IWT. However, in recent years SLaWEN has been dormant. Given the timespan involved and resultant turnover in key personnel, the requisite dialogue requires a stimulus.

Sri Lanka Department of Wildlife Conservation (DWC) will be the government focal point in facilitating the coordination of project activities and between the SLaWEN member institutions

Further, the DWC as the national coordinator of SLaWEN is mandated to hold regular intelligence briefings and meetings amongst SLaWEN offices and to supervise the identification & detection of trafficked wildlife, apprehension of traffickers, and investigate and prosecute those indicted in IWT in Sri Lanka.

Therefore, EFL initiated discussions with the DWC, the agency leading SLaWEN, to revive the WEN and equip it with the technical capacity and coordination required to function as the apex body to address wildlife crime.

Frequent meetings with DWC were held to coordinate project activities and formal correspondence with SLaWEN member institutions. DWC hosted some of the initial stakeholder meetings, including one with the Sri Lanka Police.

The formal invitations for the first, program development meeting with the focal points of the SLaWEN were made through DWC, and the original objectives in the formation of the SLaWEN in Sri Lanka, current progress, and future prospects of the SLaWEN were explained and discussed with the participation of Mr. Ranjan Marasinghe, DWC's Director of Operations, and Mr. Dissanayake Weerasinghe, Assistant Director Law Enforcement.

Based on the recommendations made at the Program Development Meeting, it was decided to add three more stakeholders to SLaWEN, taking into account their contribution to combating wildlife trafficking within the country and their mandate to act against it. The Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Technology (DFAR), the Sri Lanka Navy, and the Sri Lanka Coast Guard were among the new stakeholders. The formal notification that their respective institution has been added to the SLaWEN, as well as an invitation to attend the 10-day workshop for SLaWEN officers, was sent via DWC.

Bornfree Foundation

Born Free Foundation's Sri Lankan Country Representative Ms. Manori Gunawardena provides in-country technical support to EFL in project development and implementation, and insight on issues surrounding IWT within the local context. Mr. Gabriel Fava is a Senior Policy Advisor to Born Free, has been integral to developing the project concept, and will be a consultant providing guidance and technical expertise during project implementation, and insight regarding the global context of IWT.

Over the past year, Ms. Manori Gunawardena has demonstrated her valuable contributions to the project by attending internal progress review meetings, consultant meetings, and providing guidance to the project team in planning and monitoring activities. Additionally, during her participation in the Program Development Meeting, she presented the project and its objectives to the guests and actively contributed to the Focus group discussion on the SLaWEN Action Plan.

Stakeholders (SLaWEN institutions) (Annex 06 - Summary of SLaWEN institutions)

Contact points were established within the Central Environmental Authority, the Department of Archaeology, the Department of Immigration and Emigration, the Department of National Zoological Gardens, the Department of Wildlife Conservation and the Forest Department and a new contact point was established within Sri Lanka Police due to the transfer taken place within the Police Department and an extra contact point was established within Sri Lanka Customs out of the 15 SLaWEN member institutions (Annex 07). From them, during the past initial meetings were held with Department of National Botanical Gardens, Coast Conservation Department, Central Environmental Authority, Forest Department, Department of Immigration and Emigration, Department of National Museums, Department of National Zoological Gardens, Geological Survey and Mines Bureau, and Sri Lanka Police and their institutional structure, training systems, established interagency collaboration, and current CWT-related capacity and

training were discussed and official requests have been made to obtain the required data (Annex 08).

Twelve institutions attended the Program Development meeting for focal points of SLaWEN institutions, and all of them actively participated in bringing their suggestions and comments for the future of SLaWEN to the table.

14 participants representing 13 institutions joined for the 10 - day training programme held for the SLaWEN officers. (Please refer to Annex 05 -10-day SLaWEN report)

Sri Lanka Customs, which is a key stakeholder of the project could not authorize a formal meeting as of the end of March, with the focal points to discuss IWT cases and any CWT trainings due to the absence of a provision for data sharing in the Customs Ordinance and the confidentiality issues in sharing data with an outside party. However, focal point from Sri Lanka Customs participated at both the Program Development and the 10- Day training for SLaWEN officers.

The project team's experts exhibited active participation in both major events held during the past year. Technical experts hailing from diverse fields offered their valuable knowledge, shared their experiences, and facilitated brainstorming sessions during the 10-day training. Notably, the training was attended by esteemed members of the Attorney General's Department. (Please refer to Annex 05 10-day report).

3. Project progress

3.1 Progress in carrying out project Activities

1.2 Report will be drafted detailing the findings of the analysis – identifying gaps stalling the legal process. These findings will be presented at the SLaWEN and Judicial Training workshops.

The Situational Analysis Report Final Draft (Annex 09) was completed in three parts:

Part 1: Situational Analysis on Illegal Wildlife Trafficking of Terrestrial and Marine Fauna in Sri Lanka

Part 2: Situational Analysis on Current Status of Prosecution of Illegal Wildlife Trade Cases in Sri Lanka

Part 3: Recommendations during the past year taking into account the discussions / interview records of SLaWEN members on existing situation and the survey/ case records of existing situation of existing IWT prosecutions in Sri Lanka.

These findings were presented at the Program Development Meeting with the focal points of SLaWEN institutions, and the gist was considered during the delivery of the 10-day SLaWEN officers.

2.1 Ethics questionnaire will be circulated amongst SLaWEN institutes – and feedback / comments addressed.

The legal team and project leader collaborated to thoroughly evaluate and revise the ethics questionnaire, which will be disseminated to stakeholder institutions in the upcoming quarter. This updated questionnaire aims to identify the potential challenges that stakeholders may encounter with regard to data sharing and related issues.

2.3 Development of the Wildlife Trafficking and Conservation Course for SLaWEN Officers and network building and assessments by a curriculum development expert.

The Curriculum Development Specialist developed the curriculum for SLaWEN officers after conducting a brief needs assessment of the SLaWEN institutions' training requirements for investigating, enforcing, prosecuting, or providing scientific evidence for the prosecution of IWT cases in Sri Lanka. Furthermore, the individual mandate of each SLaWEN institution was taken into account in the development of the training curriculum. (Annex 10)

The content of the curriculum was composed of 3 major parts: Legal and Scientific background to IWT, Law Enforcement, and onsite training.

Furthermore, the expert prepared evaluations based on the components covered each day, and these were designed to cover 8 hours of evaluations. (Annex 05)

2.4 Conducting a 10-day intensive training on wildlife conservation, trafficking of fauna and flora and the legal recourse available to address IWT and assessments for the assigned SLaWEN officers.

Given the effectiveness and practical difficulties faced by SLaWEN officers in requesting 10 days leave at a stretch to attend the trainings, the team and the experts determined that holding the training in three sessions with breaks in the middle would be more effective. It was decided to hold two sessions in Colombo (the capital), and the other in Wilpattu National Park, a wildlife-rich area. The latter session was primarily for onsite training and strengthening the network for SLaWEN officers. Based on these considerations, the agenda was developed, and external technical experts were identified to deliver particular components of the training.

A draft workshop report, including the agenda, session briefs, participant evaluation sheets, feedback, attendance records, certificates issued, and photographs, is attached. (Annex 05). All formal correspondence with stakeholder institutions was done through DWC, and a WhatsApp group was formed to keep all of the participants, trainers, and project team on track throughout the training. Participants were given the opportunity to use this group as a platform to share their experiences in IWT, news updates, information sharing, global trends in trafficking, and even to seek assistance and expert knowledge from one another when they come across any illegal trade or trafficking-related cases. This group has been very active in terms of the above activities to the date, which is one of the project's most significant accomplishments in terms of network building among SLaWEN institutes and officers. (see annex 05 for few snaps from the group)

2.5 Three program development meetings with the identified SLaWEN institute focal points during year 2 and 3.

The very first Programme Development meetings with the identified SLaWEN institute focal points was held in January, 2023 with the participation of focal points from 11 stakeholder institutions namely: Department of Wildlife Conservation, Sri Lanka Police, Sri Lanka Customs, Forest Department, Central Environmental Authority, Coast Conservation Department, Department of Archaeology, Department of Zoological Gardens, Department of National Museums, Geological Survey, and Mines Bureau, and Department of Immigration and Emigration.

Mr. Ranjan Marasinghe, the Director of Operations at DWC, introduced the initial objectives and formation of the SLaWEN network, while Ms. Manori Gunawardena from the Bornfree Foundation provided an introduction to the project to the audience. Following this, the technical experts of the relevant projects provided briefings that summarized their findings on the Situational Analysis of Illegal Wildlife Trade (IWT) in Sri Lanka.

Subsequently, Mr. Marasinghe and the team leader led a focused group discussion on SLaWEN's future course of action. All technical experts and participants provided their suggestions, which were recorded in a working paper that initiated the process of developing SLaWEN's future action plan.

During the meeting, all SLaWEN focal points were able to identify gaps against Illegal Wildlife Trade (IWT) in Sri Lanka. Additionally, they discussed ways in which they could contribute to restarting the conversation and agreed to share their respective institutes' capabilities to aid in the development of the working paper. (Annex 11)

3.1 Identifying 25 judicial officers representing the 25 districts in Sri Lanka for the programme.

The program was discussed with the Deputy Director and Academic Director of the Judges Training Institute (JTI). They agreed to appoint the senior Magistrate from each of the 25 districts. They were excited to participate in a three-day field workshop in a wildlife-rich area and suggested Sinharaja as a potential location. Furthermore, it was suggested that the workshop be held during the August court vacations.

In the coming quarter, a proposal will be submitted to the committee chaired by the Chief Justice for approval, including the venue, workshop program, biographies of the resource persons, and other pertinent details.

3.2 Conducting a 3-day field-based workshop in a wildlife rich area for 25 judicial officers. The workshop will expose the judicial officers to the importance of sustainable natural resource management and also galvanize officers creating an appreciation for wildlife protection.

The workshop will take place in August, as suggested by the JTI.

3.2 Progress towards project Outputs

<p>Output 1</p> <p>Situational analysis report on prosecution of IWT in Sri Lanka produced.</p>	<p>1.1 Number of records collected to setup baseline of existing wildlife trafficking in the country (up till 2021) by 3rd quarter of project. Records will be aggregated based on where they were recorded and variables including gender, district, and taxon trafficked will be catalogued.</p> <p>1.2 Number of discussions with key institutions to identify trends of trafficking, predictions on the baseline, etc) by 3rd quarter of project.</p>	<p>1.1 Survey/ case records of existing situation until 2021-baseline of existing IWT prosecutions in Sri Lanka.</p> <p>1.2 Discussion / interview records of SLaWEN members on existing situation (with regard to highest trafficked species, volume of trafficking, frequency, etc)</p>
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Output 1 - Situational analysis report on prosecution of IWT in Sri Lanka produced.

Except for the newly added three institutions, discussions were held with all 12 SLaWEN institutions, and formal requests were made to share their existing IWT cases based on the template provided by us. These data were shared with EFL by some of the institutions. Furthermore, the EFL team visited the DWC Hortain Plains Range Office to interview and discuss two of the major IWT cases recorded in Sri Lanka in recent years. The Situational Analysis was developed using these discussions, case records, a database created by students at Sri Jayawardenapura University, and online data sources such as custom tender notices and research publications. Part 01 of this report includes the most commonly trafficked terrestrial and marine faunal species, as well as trafficking trends observed during the years of concern.

Part 2 of the Situational Analysis titled, ‘Current Status of Prosecution of Illegal Wildlife Trade Cases in Sri Lanka’ covers the principal laws and discusses the role of the enforcement agencies that are mandated to enforce these laws. Furthermore, it outlines the operational gaps and the legal and policy gaps identified in the enforcement. With an analysis on the prosecution records available and sentencing records, the situational analysis concludes that backed with staunch State policy and improved laws, the long-awaited revival of SLaWEN could address the issues highlighted in the Situational Analysis to combat wildlife trafficking with increased vigour. Additionally, upgrading the facilities, employing skilled personnel and facilitating robust coordination between the SLaWEN stakeholders would also be beneficial to Sri Lanka.

<p>Output 2</p> <p>Wildlife Trafficking and Conservation Course for SLaWEN Officers and network building established.</p>	<p>2.1 Representation from the 11 SLaWEN institutions in the course by the end of year 2.</p> <p>2.2 Developed training tools, including a Wildlife Trafficking and Conservation curriculum by quarter 6.</p> <p>2.3 48 hours of training and 8 hours of assessments for the course participants by quarter 7.</p> <p>2.4 Certified IWT officers – represented in the 11 SLaWEN Institutions by year 3.</p>	<p>2.1 Attendance records</p> <p>2.2 Certificate issuance records</p> <p>2.3 Participant evaluation sheets.</p> <p>2.4 Validation of the certification by representative institution.</p>
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Output 2 - Wildlife Trafficking and Conservation Course for SLaWEN Officers and network building established.

The Wildlife Trafficking and Conservation Course for SLaWEN Officers was successfully completed with the participation of 13 SLaWEN institutions (including the new additions). The curriculum was created in response to the expert's identification of training needs in relation to IWT in Sri Lanka. Evaluations were completed at the end of each session using questions based on each day's delivery for all five days. The second session dedicated to on-site training, sensitization, and building the network. The certificate was awarded upon completion of the training program, and 80% attendance had to be achieved to certify the officers. 14 SLaWEN officers completed the training and were certified as IWT officers.

The training was delivered by the project experts and a few other technical expats who were identified. In addition to the in-house expertise, the program was delivered by a marine expert, a flora specialist, and a genetic expert. Furthermore, the requirement to collaborate with the Attorney General's Department was identified for the delivery of IWT session 03, which was focused on law enforcement. Following a discussion at the Attorney General's Department, formal requests were made to the Attorney General's Department to appoint ideal officers to deliver these components. Following the designation, Mr. Madawa Tennakoon, of the Attorney General's Department, made a guest appearance at the workshop and led an interesting session on "Tackling cybercrimes using other evidence, collecting electronic evidence and evidence" which was remarkable. The presence of Mr. Ranjan Marasinghe, Director - Operations of DWC, and the award ceremony distinguished the closing ceremony.

3.3 Progress towards the project Outcome

Project Outcome: Improved law enforcement and prosecution of IWT incidents through enhanced technical capacity within and between SLaWEN member institutions.

<p>Outcome:</p> <p>Improved law enforcement and prosecution of IWT incidents through enhanced technical capacity within and between SLaWEN member institutions.</p>	<p>0.1 Currently dormant SLaWEN – will hold Quarterly strategy development meetings with high-level officials at SLaWEN member institutions.</p> <p>0.2 Currently dormant SLaWEN – will hold Quarterly intelligence exchange meetings with designated IWT officers at SLaWEN member institutions.</p> <p>0.3 At least 40% increase in case record of IWT incidence, with a focus on significant (large numbers, endangered species, etc) and transnational cases by end of Year 3.</p> <p>0.4 Increased cooperation and synergy among SLaWEN institutions, allowing for sharing of information - resulting in a reduction in timeframe for prosecution of IWT cases by end of Year 3.</p>
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0.2 Currently dormant SLaWEN – will hold Quarterly intelligence exchange meetings with designated IWT officers at SLaWEN member institutions.

The first Programme Development meeting was held with the designated SLaWEN points, and the project experts briefed the participants on the situation of IWT related cases of Terrestrial and Marine species, the trend and current status of prosecution of Illegal Wildlife Trade Cases in Sri Lanka, and the participants shared their own experiences, ideas, and suggestions in relation to this study.

During the focused group discussion, strategies for the network's progress and the next steps were identified. Furthermore, the responsibilities of the designated SLaWEN officers and EFL were identified, which are to be carried out before the next meeting, which will take place during the next quarter. All SLaWEN officers were held accountable in this manner, and EFL is acting as a facilitator in the process of reviving the network, which had been dormant for more than a decade since its inception.

0.4 Increased cooperation and synergy among SLaWEN institutions, allowing for sharing of information - resulting in a reduction in timeframe for prosecution of IWT cases by end of Year 3.

The constraints and possibility of sharing IWT data within institutions were discussed during the program development meeting and the 10-day training for SLaWEN officers. This information sharing between institutions will be formally discussed following the distribution and finalization of the SLaWEN working paper at the next Programme Development meeting, which is scheduled for May.

As explained in section 3.1, the two events paved the way for them to form relationships with one another, and their network was strengthened further by the field training and the groups formed, which serve as informal channels of information sharing for them.

3.4 Monitoring of assumptions

Outcome level assumptions -

0.1 Relevant agencies are willing to improve communication streams with each other. -
Based on the outcomes of the program development meeting, this assumption remains valid.

0.2 Online meetings are viable should Covid-19 restrictions render face-to-face meetings impossible & 0.4 Subject to the delays posed by ongoing Covid-19 restrictions -

During this year of the project, the covid 19 restrictions were not a major impediment, and most meetings were held in person. However, there were delays in contacting government institutions due to the economic crisis and civil unrest that lasted from March to July. Due to the fuel crisis, public transportation was limited, resulting on Friday being a holiday for government officials and working according to rosters. This had a significant impact on the collection of IWT data because not all institutions kept up-to-date databases or archives of IWT cases.

However, multiple follow-ups were conducted, and the project experts were given written permission from DWC to visit the stakeholder institutions in order to interview the officers and collect the necessary data for the Situational Analysis Report.

0.3 The reports and decentralized and ease of access to case reports due to Covid – 19 restrictions -

Output 01 Assumptions

1.1 Prosecution records of possession / trading wildlife will be available & 1.2 Ease of accessing records – state and systemized archives (electronic records may not be available) -

As previously stated, not all institutions maintain up-to-date databases or archives of IWT case records because it is not a key obligation within their purview. The institutions were required to

compile IWT-related cases from their records, which took some time, and multiple follow-up visits were made to encourage them in this case.

Output 02 Assumptions

2.1 SLaWEN institutes will cooperate and assign necessary human resources for IWT Training -

This was truer to a greater extent as 13 out of 15 institutions attended the training. As they are based out of Colombo and a staffing shortage, the Department of Botanical Gardens informed the organizers that they would be unable to attend the training.

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

The intended impact of the project is the revival of SLaWEN as the networking body for an improved law enforcement response to wildlife trafficking from and through Sri Lanka. This project intends to facilitate the development of the dormant national WEN. SLaWEN was established in 2011 under the leadership of the DWC, Police, and Customs but has been dormant for some time. The revival of this network will have long-term positive impacts on addressing IWT in the country and in creating increased surveillance and enhanced awareness of the scale of IWT in Sri Lanka among all stakeholders.

The situational analysis report will establish a baseline on the number of IWT incidents that occur and the status in prosecuting such incidents. Based on the understanding that the process is stalling due to a lack of technical capacity, awareness, and synergy amongst the relevant parties - the project will address this through training for the SLaWEN and the judiciary officials. Having developed capacity and networking capabilities amongst the sectors of prosecution, enforcement and judiciary the project will be the catalyst for the revival of the SLaWEN to operate as the apex networking body to address IWT in Sri Lanka. An award scheme will be developed to acknowledge excellence, which will encourage and motivate officers to be the best in the field.

A subset of individuals engages in illegal activities including feeding IWT supply chains. The project will address these patterns, striving to promote the ultimate goals of sustainable use of terrestrial and marine ecosystems. In promoting sustainable natural resource management and deterring illegal activity – the local communities dependent on legitimate natural resource related livelihoods will directly benefit. The nature of the projects makes it difficult to pin down the number of households that will benefit. However, the communities resident within the wildlife-rich areas and most dependent upon optimal ecological conditions will be a group of critical beneficiaries.

Additionally, the collation of the baseline prosecution data (For situation analysis under Output 1, Activity 1.1) will assist in understanding the current state of IWT in the country, thereby providing stakeholders with information to determine the potential status of deterrence, socio-economic drivers behind IWT, and mitigatory and redress mechanisms.

4. Thematic focus

Two key thematic areas; strengthening law enforcement and ensuring effective legal frameworks and deterrents are aimed to be addressed by this project.

The project's goal is to improve the national response to wildlife trafficking by government institutions all along the criminal justice system. Improved outcomes would include increased collaboration among law enforcement agencies for more effective investigations, as well as an increase in prosecutions brought to court. If trafficking is reduced, supply into demand countries will be reduced.

The tailored 10-day training conducted during the past year is thought to have resulted in a significant increase in understanding and capability among government officers, including law enforcement personnel.

Strengthening law enforcement acting against IWT was addressed during the 10-day intensive training on wildlife conservation, trafficking of fauna and flora and the legal recourse available to address IWT. As was assumed the SLaWEN institutes cooperated and assigned the necessary human resources for this training which also ensures effective legal frameworks and deterrents.

The comprehensive study carried out during the drafting of the Situational Analysis Report which outlines the operational gaps and the legal and policy gaps that identified in the enforcement along with the recommendations (Part 2 of the Situational Analysis Report – Annex 09) was summarized during the program development meeting held for the SLaWEN focal points which further contributes to the project's thematic areas of focus.

5. Impact on species in focus

Output 1 was a situational analysis report based on discussions held (Indicator 1.2) and IWT data gathered from stakeholder institutions, university of Sri Jayawardenapura, scientific publications etc. (indicator 1.1) that determined the most trafficked terrestrial and marine fauna species and trends in trafficking over the previous years, which was also used as a baseline to develop curricula for the SLaWEN institutes and to brief the SLaWEN focal points.

Through the 2 events organized based enhanced the protection of threatened species by raising awareness and sensitising officers to the importance of protecting them. The curriculum developed for the training of SLaWEN officers focused on identifying species in trade in all forms, smuggling methods, and the national and international legislative frameworks mandating their protection.

The expected long-term impact of the work is increased protection of the aforementioned species - which allows for the recovery of wild populations. The mobilisation of SLaWEN and enhanced synergy amongst judiciary, enforcement, and prosecutors will allow for gaps to be further identified and addressed in the existing legal frameworks. In the long term, it is expected that these shortcomings will be addressed via strengthened national laws and regulations. In addition, the improved knowledge of the status of IWT in Sri Lanka will encourage Sri Lanka to lobby for enhanced protection of target species at CITES, CMS, and other relevant international fora.

6. Project support to poverty reduction

The local communities dependent on legitimate natural resource-related livelihoods e.g., artisanal fishers will directly benefit. Moreover, the community's residents within the wildlife-rich areas and most dependent upon optimal ecological conditions will be a group of critical beneficiaries.

The project will address the patterns of IWT, striving to promote the ultimate goals of sustainable use of terrestrial and marine ecosystems deterring illegal activity. Strengthening of institutions through enhanced capabilities to implement their mandates will benefit communities and facilitate the role of officers mandated with the protection of fauna and flora. Robust and efficient responses to incidents of IWT by the prosecutorial, enforcement, and judicial services will be a strong motivational impetus for wildlife officers. At a community level, this will act as a deterrent to those who take part in IWT, helping strengthen both environmental and social safeguards within the developmental sphere.

7. Gender equality and social inclusion

Please quantify the proportion of women on the Project Board ¹ .	Out of the 15 members of the project board, 9 are women and 7 are men
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 ² .	From the project partners which is Bornfree, Manori Gunawardena is on the leadership team.

The impacts of land-intensive and development-driven activity are equivalent for both men and women. Nevertheless, both legal and illegal wildlife trading is considered one of the areas in which actors and stakeholders are highly gender differentiated. It is evident that there are only a very few numbers of studies that have incorporated the gender dimension in analysing wildlife trade and there exists a significant gap in identifying key links between gender and IWT. Specifically, there is a lack of insight into the nuances of women's participation in poaching, trafficking, and selling illegal wildlife products, either directly, in supporting roles or as managers. However, according to the interviews we conducted with stakeholder institutions, data such as convict names or genders were not disclosed to a third party.

However, the degree of participation and involvement in combating IWT by different genders as conservation biologists, criminologists, prosecutors, legal professionals, and other stakeholders was assessed based on the attendance records (Annex 05 and 11). It is believed that the separation of available data by gender will not only fill a significant knowledge gap but will also suggest possible avenues for future research, opportunities to fill data gaps, opportunities for conservation practitioners, and to inform counter trafficking interventions through gender mainstreaming.

This project will contribute to reducing gender inequality by trying to determine the role of gender in the field of wildlife trafficking by disaggregating available information related to offenses and prosecutions by gender.

8. Monitoring and evaluation

The Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Plan of the project did not change over the reporting period. The Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) of the project will encompass two dimensions. First, measuring project performance to ensure that project activities are conducted efficiently and effectively within laid out timeframes, that outputs are delivered to a high quality, and that

¹ 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.

² 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.

project implementation constraints are identified and addressed in a timely way. Second, project impact will be evaluated throughout the project - assessing the progress in reviving the SLaWEN as the chief networking body for a better-coordinated response to IWT resulting in increased prosecution and accountability to IWT in Sri Lanka. Accordingly, there is an evaluation and feedback summary that is provided in this report for the 10-day workshop for SLaWEN officers. Greater performance of the officers in the assessments indicate the impact of the programme. Also, the participant evaluation forms along with the feedback forms are essential indicators in understanding the value of the training, what went well and the room for improvement.

These aspects of the project were monitored closely by EFL– by holding monthly meetings to assess the progress or weekly meetings if there is anything urgent to be discussed, with the core project team, headed by the team lead and with the participation of Manori Gunawardana representation the Bornfree Foundation. Additionally, a method of communication was developed for the SLaWEN agencies through the formation of a WhatsApp group. Through this medium SLaWEN agency representatives were able to share ideas, and information related to illegal wildlife trade.

Project finance is monitored to ensure finances are managed responsibly and disbursed as per the approved budget. Monitoring of project finances is conducted by the office administration team led by the EFL CEO.

The project indicators identified in the log frame and methodology have so far helped in monitoring of the project performance and impact.

For the second output, the wildlife trafficking and conservation course – the participation of 13 SLaWEN institutions out of 15 indicates a greater project performance.

Motivation amongst officers will be evaluated to ensure the continued impact of the project outcome in the long term.

9. Lessons learnt

The two events made it clear that all of the SLaWEN member institutions are very excited about the project and that most of them are willing to provide their full support in order to improve the response of law enforcement to wildlife trafficking, as well as to build the network cohesion within and among the SLaWEN member institutions.

The 10-day workshop clearly revived the network and synergy between the SLaWEN members, particularly during the field session, where they had the opportunity to interact with each other more than in a classroom setting. This is recommended for similar projects because this bond may lead them to act as a team and sensitize them to the urgent need to combat IWT rather than making them one of their obligations through formal channels.

It is also recommended that budgets fund external trainers to deliver content for which we do not have in-house capacity, as this is greatly understood during the course of action. One such example is receiving one of the Deputy Solicitor General from the Attorney General's Department to deliver a session on Tackling cybercrimes using other evidence, collecting electronic evidence and evidence which was eye-opening in many ways for the participants.

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

2 Comments and queries for Project Leader

No.	Comment	Discuss with IWT	Next half year report	Next Annual Report	No response needed
1	Clarify exactly which entities are members of SLaWEN, and (where necessary to abbreviate) use consistent abbreviations. You should also address the inconsistencies in number of institutions that participated under activity 2.2.			X	
2	Devise an Outcome-level indicator to capture any livelihoods benefits and regularise through an official Change Request.	X			
3	SMARTen the Output indicators where necessary – some are not measurable, 4.1 and 5.1 read as activities.	X			
4	Ensure progress towards Outcome level indicators is reporting on even if they aren't expected to be achieved by project end.			X	
5	Revise the project timetable to reflect Change Request CR22-007 of 23/3/2022 – some activities are currently shown as occurring after the project is due to end. If in doubt, clarify the project end-date with IWT.	X		X	
6	You have not provided comment on the feedback from the IWTAG when the project was awarded		X		

Query 2 and 3 - The queries that needed to be discussed with IWT were addressed, and a change request was submitted and approved by IWT.

Query 6 was addressed through the last half year report.

Query 1 is addressed in this report and an annex explaining the structure of the SLaWEN and the purview of each institution with regard to IWT is briefly explained based on the team's initial interviews.

Query 4 is addressed under the section 3.3 of this report.

Query 5 was addressed.

11. Risk Management

Sri Lanka is currently experiencing an economic crisis, which has resulted in a shortage of several essential commodities, including fuel. This has led to civil unrest in the country, spanning from March to July 2022. The scarcity of resources has made transportation challenging, while daily power outages have significantly affected daily operations. As a precautionary measure, the government declared Fridays as a holiday for public sector employees, with the remaining days being managed on a roster system. The impediment caused by the situation is evident in the collection of illegal wildlife trade (IWT) data from government institutions, as not all establishments have maintained updated databases or archives of such cases.

Despite the prevailing challenges, the Environmental Foundation Limited (EFL) implemented alternative arrangements such as remote work, which ensured that most activities were completed with minimal delays. In line with this, the Department of Wildlife Conservation (DWC) granted written permission to project experts to visit stakeholder institutions to conduct interviews and collect necessary data for the Situational Analysis Report. However, due to the constraints experienced, workshops originally scheduled for the project had to be rescheduled to 2023. Despite these challenges, the project has made significant progress in completing the activities planned thus far, and the team remains committed to continuing the project activities with the same level of dedication and focus.

In late January 2023 the government announced that local provincial elections are scheduled for the 3rd week in March 2023. The local provincial elections required that government officials and

heads be on standby and be available for all election related matters. In accordance with elections, government heads and officers are routinely transferred from their posts, post elections and therefore the institutional heads we were dealing with could be transferred to different posts. This would mean that we would need to restart the process in terms of getting the SLaWEN institutional heads on board for meetings. Due to this reason, most of the heads of the SLaWEN institutions were reluctant to work with us because they did not know if they would still be in their positions post March 2023. This necessitated us to postpone the SLaWEN heads meetings as we did not know who would be appointed as the new heads of the relevant SLaWEN institutions. In addition, after the IMF Staff Level Agreement was approved mid-March and SL Government. Received the 1st tranche of the loan, the SL Rupee appreciated from over Rs.450/- to Rs.410/- but prices are still high. Hence, the amount of GBP now required is more than pre-March requirement.

12. Other comments on progress not covered elsewhere

Not applicable

13. Sustainability and legacy

The ultimate goal of the project is to provide SLaWEN with the much-needed boost to reignite the communication streams between member institutes and propel the network to function as the national WEN. The management of the WEN will be the responsibility of the DWC –critically, the project will provide the necessary skill sets and network building for operations to function smoothly and efficiently. The DWC will be an integral partner in project implementation and continuation following the end of formal external funding for this project.

The Program Development Meeting held in January 2023 with the participation of all the member institutions (which was 12, before the addition of the new 3 members), was able to revive the communication network among the SLaWEN institutions which had otherwise been dormant for the past few years. All the representatives were able to put forward their suggestions and ideas about the CWT in Sri Lanka and restore the long-lost conversation on Counter Wildlife Trafficking and sensitise the long felt need to tackle this issue with a much-harmonised approach among the institutes.

Moreover, the working paper which will be developed to be tabled in the next meeting will entail the way forward of the SLaWEN and the contribution of each SLaWEN institution towards the continuous progress and sustainability of the SLAWEN.

The training of SLaWEN officers integrated components to encourage knowledge sharing within agencies to enhance internal capacities and inspire committed action on IWT. Additionally, the training curriculum developed for the training is available for use, and DWC will be encouraged to conduct refresher training to keep up momentum every three years to account for staff turnover at SLaWEN institutions. Sri Lanka Law college will be consulted and encouraged to integrate components of IWT into its formal training. Materials prepared for the judiciary workshops will be made available as educational material for wider distribution.

14. IWT Challenge Fund identity

The IWT Challenge Fund Logo was used at the SLaWEN 10-day workshop as well the programme development meeting for the SLaWEN officers. Among government officials that attended on behalf of SLaWEN the IWT challenge fund was promoted as a potential for future illegal wildlife trade programme funding opportunities.

During the programme development meeting and the opening and closing ceremony of the 10-day training the team lead mentioned and talked about the IWT fund and its contribution to the project, as well as thanking the challenge fund for enabling the project to move forward.

The project was recognized as a distinct project with a clear identity, with a potential for the activities carried out to be sustained in the future.

The topic of illegal wildlife trade is still being advanced in wider societal networks and is not a common theme yet. Therefore, the IWT challenge fund while growing in popularity and familiarity is not at a household level yet. That being said, among the Government and those involved with SLAWEN the fund is well known.

15. Safeguarding

Has your Safeguarding Policy been updated in the past 12 months?	Yes
Have any concerns been investigated in the past 12 months	No
Does your project have a Safeguarding focal point?	No [<i>If yes, please provide their name and email</i>]
Has the focal point attended any formal training in the last 12 months?	No [<i>If yes, please provide date and details of training</i>]
What proportion (and number) of project staff have received formal training on Safeguarding?	Past: % [and number] Planned: % [and number]
<p>Has there been any lessons learnt or challenges on Safeguarding in the past 12 months? Please ensure no sensitive data is included within responses. As per the current project activities there have been no challenges concerning safeguarding that have been identified. However, EFL does have policies related to whistleblowing, employee harassment, and employee wellbeing.</p>	
<p>Does the project have any developments or activities planned around Safeguarding in the coming 12 months? If so please specify. No, the project does not have any planned safeguarding activities planned in the next 12 months</p>	

16. Project expenditure

■ Table 1: Project expenditure during the reporting period (April 2022-March 2023)

Project spend (indicative) since last Annual Report	2022/23 Grant (£)	2022/23 Total actual IWT 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	47913.00	28,991.39		

17. OPTIONAL: Outstanding achievements or progress of your project so far (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.

A comprehensive situational analysis report on illegal wildlife trafficking in Sri Lanka was completed after a series of interviews and discussions with stakeholders. Divided into three parts, the report covered the current state of illegal wildlife trafficking of terrestrial and marine fauna in Sri Lanka, the status of prosecutions related to illegal wildlife trade cases, and recommendations based on the existing situation, discussions, interviews, and survey/case records of existing IWT prosecutions in the country.

Following the completion of the situational analysis report, a Programme Development meeting was organized with designated SLaWEN points to identify strategies for the network's progress and future steps. During the meeting, participants discussed the obstacles and possibilities for sharing IWT data within institutions, and they agreed to extend their cooperation within the institution purview to develop a working paper for SLaWEN.

To enhance the capacity of SLaWEN officers, a Wildlife Trafficking and Conservation Course was conducted, which was successfully completed by 13 SLaWEN institutions through three sessions. The field session was particularly impactful, as it provided an opportunity for officers to interact with each other, form relationships, and strengthen their network further. The training focused on legal and scientific backgrounds to IWT, law enforcement, and on-site training based on a training needs assessment carried out. A diversified group of technical experts in biodiversity, marine fauna, gene technology, law enforcement, and prosecution delivered multifaceted training to the participants. Evaluations were carried out to assess the knowledge gained by the participants and the quality of the training program. Upon successful completion of the course, SLaWEN officers were certified.

In conclusion, the Programme Development meeting and the Wildlife Trafficking and Conservation Course have provided valuable insights and training for SLaWEN officers. These efforts have further strengthened the network and paved the way for future collaborations in addressing the pressing issue of illegal wildlife trafficking in Sri Lanka.

- **Annex 1: Report of progress and achievements against logframe for Financial Year 2022-2023**

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2022 - March 2023	Actions required/planned for next period
<p>Impact</p> <p>The revival of SLaWEN as the networking body for an improved law enforcement response to wildlife trafficking from and through Sri Lanka.</p>		-	
<p>Outcome</p> <p>Improved law enforcement and prosecution of IWT incidents through enhanced technical capacity within and between SLaWEN member institutions.</p>	<p>0.1 Currently dormant SLaWEN – will hold Quarterly strategy development meetings with high-level officials at SLaWEN member institutions.</p> <p>0.2 Currently dormant SLaWEN – will hold Quarterly intelligence exchange meetings with designated IWT officers at SLaWEN member institutions.</p> <p>0.3 At least 40% increase in case record of IWT incidence, with a focus on significant (large numbers, endangered species, etc) and transnational cases by end of Year 3.</p> <p>0.4 Increased cooperation and synergy among SLaWEN institutions, allowing for sharing of information - resulting in a reduction in time frame for prosecution of IWT cases by end of Year 3.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● First Programme Development meeting was held with the designated SLaWEN officers and strategies for the network's progress and the next steps were identified. ● Constraints and possibility of sharing IWT data within institutions were discussed during the program development meeting and the 10-day training for SLaWEN officers. ● Program development meeting and the 10-day training for SLaWEN officers paved the way for them to form relationships with one another, and their network was strengthened further by the field training and the groups formed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The initial stakeholder meetings are intended to be completed by the third quarter and based on the data collected Situational Analysis will be completed by 4th Quarter. ● Wildlife Trafficking and Conservation Course for SLaWEN Officers will be initiated by the next quarter (Q3)
<p>Output 1. Situational analysis report on prosecution of IWT in Sri Lanka produced.</p>	<p>1.1 Number of records collected to set up a baseline of existing wildlife trafficking in the country (up till 2021)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Discussions were held with the Department of National Botanical Gardens, Coast Conservation Department, Central Environmental Authority, Forest Department, Department of Immigration and Emigration, Department of 	

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2022 - March 2023	Actions required/planned for next period
	<p>by the 3rd quarter of the project. Records will be aggregated based on where they were recorded and variables including gender, district, and taxon trafficked will be catalogued.</p> <p>1.2 Number of discussions with key institutions to identify trends of trafficking, predictions on the baseline, etc) by 3rd quarter of project.</p>	<p>National Museums, Department of National Zoological Gardens, Geological Survey and Mines Bureau, and Sri Lanka Police thus far and requests have been made to provide us with the data on IWT cases they have encountered for the past 5 years.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data and case files regarding IWT was gathered from the institutions and was used as the base for the situational analysis report which identifies the main species that are being trafficked and the trends and recommendations. 	
<p>Activity 1.1 Consult with University of Sri Jayewardenepura students to gauge their findings, collate and analyse court records from DWC and other SLaWEN institutes – to establish the status of IWT related court cases.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> After consulting with the students of Sri Jayewardenepura who were engaged in developing the database for IWT cases during the years 2018 and 2019, it was noted that all the information they had collated were there in the database shared with us by the DWC (reported in the AR1). Therefore, this database was used as a baseline. Nine Institutions; Department of National Botanical Gardens, Coast Conservation Department, Central Environmental Authority, Forest Department, Department of Immigration and Emigration, Department of National Museums, Department of National Zoological Gardens, Geological Survey and Mines Bureau, and Sri Lanka Police were visited by the team and the discussions/interviews were held with 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Owing to the travel restrictions prevailed in the country from due to Covid 19 pandemic the consultation with the Sri Jayewardenepura students / academics has been postponed to the next quarter (Quarter 3)

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2022 - March 2023	Actions required/planned for next period
		<p>the participation of the legal officers and the focal points of the respective institutes. The prosecutorial and or investigative capacities and the mandates under the purview of each of these institutes regarding the IWT cases were discussed and the limitations/gaps were identified.</p>	
<p>Activity 1.2 Report will be drafted detailing the findings of the analysis – identifying gaps stalling the legal process. These findings will be presented at the SLaWEN and Judicial Training workshops.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Based on the IWT data gathered and other relevant sources the situational analysis was developed with 3 major sections. Part 1 - The situational analysis on the IWT of Terrestrial and Marine faunal species, Part 2 - Current Status of Prosecution of Illegal Wildlife Trade Cases in Sri Lanka and Part 3 - Recommendations 	
<p>Output 2. Wildlife Trafficking and Conservation Course for SLaWEN Officers and network building established.</p>	<p>2.1 Representation from the 11 SLaWEN institutions in the course by the end of year 2. 2.2 Developed training tools, including a Wildlife Trafficking and Conservation curriculum by quarter 6. 2.3 48 hours of training and 8 hours of assessments for the course participants by quarter 7. 2.4 Certified IWT officers – represented in the 11 SLaWEN Institutions by year 3.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Based on the gaps identified by the curriculum development expert in the training procedures concerning IWT in the SLaWEN member institutions, the curriculum for the Wildlife Trafficking and Conservation Course was developed The Wildlife Trafficking and Conservation Course for SLaWEN officers was carried out successfully in 3 sessions, including field sensitization with the participation of 13 institutions. Evaluations were carried out at the end of each session with evaluations for each day followed by a feedback form to analyze the quality of the programme. 14 SLaWEN officers representing 13 institutions were certified upon the successful completion of the course. 	

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2022 - March 2023	Actions required/planned for next period
Activity 2.1 Ethics questionnaire will be circulated amongst SLaWEN institutes – and feedback / comments addressed.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ethics questionnaire was revamped based on the necessities identified by the team 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It will be circulated amongst the SLaWEN institutes within the next quarter.
Activity 2.2 Inception and two program development meetings with heads of SLaWEN member institutions.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> After the working paper is developed and finalized with the SLaWEN focal points in May, it will be presented to the heads of the SLaWEN institutions during the Q7.
Activity 2.3 Development of the Wildlife Trafficking and Conservation Course for SLaWEN Officers and network building and assessments by a curriculum development expert.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Wildlife Trafficking and Conservation Course curriculum was developed based on the gaps identified by the curriculum development expert in the training systems concerning IWT in the SLaWEN member institutions. 	
Activity 2.4 Conducting a 10-day intensive training on wildlife conservation, trafficking of fauna and flora and the legal recourse available to address IWT and assessments for the assigned SLaWEN officers.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With the participation of 13 institutions, the Wildlife Trafficking and Conservation Course for SLaWEN officers was successfully completed in three sessions, including field sensitization. 	
Output 3. Judicial enhanced awareness of IWT in Sri Lanka	3.1 Judicial officers with enhanced awareness of IWT across 25 districts by end of year 3. 3.2 40% increase in number of IWT cases relating to project focus species presented in court.	Will be carried out in the 8th quarter	
3.1 Identifying 25 judicial officers representing the 25 districts in Sri Lanka for the programme.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initial discussions were held with the JTI to understand the procedures and protocols necessary to invite judicial 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A proposal will be submitted to the committee chaired by

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2022 - March 2023	Actions required/planned for next period
		officers to the workshop, as well as their availability and other logistics.	the Chief Justice of JTI for approval, including the venue, workshop program, biographies of the resource persons, and other pertinent details
3.2 Conducting a 3-day field-based workshop in a wildlife rich area for 25 judicial officers. The workshop will expose the judicial officers to the importance of sustainable natural resource management and also galvanize officers creating an appreciation for wildlife protection.		It was proposed, the workshop to be held during the court vacations in August as this is a 3-day field-based training.	Based on the JTI's suggestion the workshop will take place in August.
Output 4 Relationship building forum launched with Enforcement, Prosecutor and Judiciary representatives.	4.1 30 representatives from the three different sectors participate at the dialogue in year 3.	Will be carried out in the 9th quarter	
4.1 Round Table Forum with the presence of Enforcement, Prosecutor and Judiciary representatives.			
4.2 The comments of the dialogue are compiled and shared with participants and the SLaWEN.			
Output 5 A mechanism for excellence awards for officers from SLaWEN instigated.	5.1 Guidelines are being developed by a committee for the selection of an enforcement personnel as the awardee by August 2023. 5.2 One enforcement personnel awarded per year.	Will be carried out in the 9th quarter	
5.1 Excellence awards framework to be developed in consultation with the DWC.			
5.2 Implementation of framework / scheme in 2023.			

● **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
<p>Impact: The revival of SLaWEN as the networking body for an improved law enforcement response to wildlife trafficking from and through Sri Lanka.</p>			
<p>Outcome: Improved law enforcement and prosecution of IWT incidents through enhanced technical capacity within and between SLaWEN member institutions.</p>	<p>0.1 Currently dormant SLaWEN – will hold Quarterly strategy development meetings with high-level officials at SLaWEN member institutions.</p> <p>0.2 Currently dormant SLaWEN – will hold Quarterly intelligence exchange meetings with designated IWT officers at SLaWEN member institutions.</p> <p>0.3 At least 40% increase in case record of IWT incidence, with a focus on significant (large numbers, endangered species, etc) and transnational cases by end of Year 3.</p> <p>0.4 Increased cooperation and synergy among SLaWEN institutions, allowing for sharing of information - resulting in a reduction in timeframe for</p>	<p>0.1 Appointment of IWT focal points at SLaWEN member institutions.</p> <p>0.2 Development of a formal networking protocol among members</p> <p>0.3 Compilation and analysis of relevant reports of wildlife trade. Etc.</p> <p>0.4 Number of cases investigated on IWT by SLaWEN member institutions (as per baseline of current cases).</p> <p>0.5 Number of cases on IWT presented in courts of first incidence by joint operations of SLaWEN member institutions.</p>	<p>0.1 Relevant agencies are willing to improve communication streams with each other.</p> <p>0.2 Online meetings are viable should Covid-19 restrictions render face-to-face meetings impossible.</p> <p>0.3 The reports and decentralized and ease of access to case reports due to Covid – 19 restrictions.</p> <p>0.4 Subject to the delays posed by ongoing Covid-19 restrictions.</p>

prosecution of IWT cases by end
of Year 3.

<p>Output 1</p> <p>Situational analysis report on prosecution of IWT in Sri Lanka produced.</p>	<p>1.1 Number of records collected to setup baseline of existing wildlife trafficking in the country (up till 2021) by 3rd quarter of project. Records will be aggregated based on where they were recorded and variables including gender, district, and taxon trafficked will be catalogued.</p> <p>1.2 Number of discussions with key institutions to identify trends of trafficking, predictions on the baseline, etc) by 3rd quarter of project.</p>	<p>1.1 Survey/ case records of existing situation until 2021-baseline of existing IWT prosecutions in Sri Lanka.</p> <p>1.2 Discussion / interview records of SLaWEN members on existing situation (with regard to highest trafficked species, volume of trafficking, frequency, etc)</p>	<p>1.1 Prosecution records of possession / trading wildlife will be available.</p> <p>1.2 Ease of accessing records – state and systemized archives (electronic records may not be available).</p> <p>1.3 The University Student study will share their findings.</p> <p>1.4 Delays in access due to Covid-19 restrictions.</p>
<p>Output 2</p> <p>Wildlife Trafficking and Conservation Course for SLaWEN Officers and network building established.</p>	<p>2.1 Representation from the 11 SLaWEN institutions in the course by the end of year 2.</p> <p>2.2 Developed training tools, including a Wildlife Trafficking and Conservation curriculum by quarter 6.</p> <p>2.3 48 hours of training and 8 hours of assessments for the course participants by quarter 7.</p> <p>2.4 Certified IWT officers – represented in the 11 SLaWEN institutions by year 3.</p>	<p>2.1 Attendance records</p> <p>2.2 Certificate issuance records</p> <p>2.3 Participant evaluation sheets.</p> <p>2.4 Validation of the certification by representative institution.</p>	<p>2.1 SLaWEN institutes will cooperate and assign necessary human resources for IWT Training.</p> <p>2.2 Delays posed by Covid-19 restrictions and the ability of the participants to access online meetings</p>

<p>Output 3</p> <p>Judicial enhanced awareness of IWT in Sri Lanka</p>	<p>3.1 Judicial officers with enhanced awareness of IWT across 25 districts by end of year 3.</p> <p>3.2 40% increase in number of IWT cases relating to project focus species presented in court.</p>	<p>3.1a Attendance records</p> <p>3.1b Workshop evaluation forms</p> <p>3.1c Drafted training resources.</p> <p>3.2 Document prepared detailing outcome of IWT related cases.</p>	<p>3.1 SLaWEN institutes will recommend the sensitizing of the judiciary to IWT during their training as a next step.</p> <p>3.2 The judiciary will oblige to attending the training workshop.</p>
<p>Output 4</p> <p>Relationship building forum launched with Enforcement, Prosecutor and Judiciary representatives.</p>	<p>4.1 30 representatives from the three different sectors participate at the dialogue in year 3.</p>	<p>4.1 Attendance records, photographs, meeting minutes and decisions taken at the meeting</p>	<p>4.1 The three parties oblige to setup a mechanism for future meetings.</p>
<p>Output 5</p> <p>A mechanism for excellence awards for officers from SLaWEN instigated.</p>	<p>5.1 Guidelines are being developed by a committee for the selection of an enforcement personnel as the awardee by August 2023.</p> <p>5.2 One enforcement personnel awarded per year.</p>	<p>5.1 Excellence award guideline developed with relevant criteria.</p> <p>5.2a Number of applicants/nominees from enforcement agencies for the award</p> <p>5.2b Number of enforcement institutions represented among</p>	<p>5.1 Award scheme will inspire and motivate enforcement officers to be best in the field.</p>

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

1.1 Consult with University of Sri Jayewardenepura students to gauge their findings, collate and analyze court records from DWC and other SLaWEN institutes – to establish the status of IWT related court cases.

1.2 Report will be drafted detailing the findings of the analysis – identifying gaps stalling the legal process. These findings will be presented at the SLaWEN and Judicial Training workshops.

2.1 Ethics questionnaire will be circulated amongst SLaWEN institutes – and feedback / comments addressed.

2.2 Inception and two program development meetings with heads of SLaWEN member institutions.

2.3 Development of the Wildlife Trafficking and Conservation Course for SLaWEN Officers and network building and assessments by a curriculum development expert.

2.4 Conducting a 10-day intensive training on wildlife conservation, trafficking of fauna and flora and the legal recourse available to address IWT and assessments for the assigned SLaWEN officers.

2.5 Three program development meetings with the identified SLaWEN institute focal points during year 2 and 3.

3.1 Identifying 25 judicial officers representing the 25 districts in Sri Lanka for the programme.

3.2 Conducting a 3-day field-based workshop in a wildlife rich area for 25 judicial officers. The workshop will expose the judicial officers to the importance of sustainable natural resource management and also galvanize officers creating an appreciation for wildlife protection.

4.1 Round Table Forum with the presence of Enforcement, Prosecutor and Judiciary representatives.

4.2 The comments of the dialogue are compiled and shared with participants and the SLaWEN.

5.1 Excellence awards framework to be developed in consultation with the DWC.

5.2 Implementation of framework / scheme in 2023.

- **Annex 3 Standard Indicators**

Not Applicable

- **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.	×
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.	√
Do you have hard copies of material you need to submit with the report? If so, please make this clear in the covering email and ensure all material is marked with the project number. However, we would expect that most material will now be electronic.	×
If you are submitting photos for publicity purposes, do these meet the outlined requirements (see section 17)?	N/A
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.	