

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: May 12th

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IWT Challenge Fund Project Information

Project reference	IWT104
Project title	Enhancing enforcement to reduce tiger trafficking in the Mekong
Country/ies	Thailand, Lao PDR, Vietnam, China, Myanmar, China
Lead Partner	Environmental Investigation Agency (EIA)
Project partner(s)	Education for Nature Vietnam (ENV), Wildlife Friends Foundation Thailand (WFFT)
IWTCF grant value	£550,000
Start/end dates of project	15 November 2021 / 31 March 2024
Reporting period (e.g. April 2022-Mar 2023) and number (e.g. Annual Report 1, 2, 3)	April 1 st 2022 – March 31 st 2023; Annual Report 2
Project Leader name	Debbie Banks
Project website/blog/social media	<p>EIA does not have separate websites or social media accounts for individual projects as yet, but will seek to update this multi-media page for the purposes of the project going forward https://reports.eia-international.org/tiger-trade-trail/</p> <p>Otherwise, EIA’s main website and social media accounts are as follows:</p> <p>https://eia-international.org/</p> <p>https://www.facebook.com/environmentalinvestigationagency</p> <p>https://mobile.twitter.com/EIA_News</p> <p>https://www.linkedin.com/company/environmental-investigation-agency/</p> <p>https://www.instagram.com/eia_news/?hl=en</p>

Report author(s) and date	EIA: Vicky Dauncey, Debbie Banks, Edwin Pickard, Avinash Basker WFFT: Field Operative (name withheld for security reasons), Tom Taylor ENV: Douglas Hendrie 12/05/2023
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1. Project summary

The project addresses the trafficking of tiger parts and derivatives as a primary threat to the survival of wild tiger populations, the need for more effective disruption of criminal networks by traditional law enforcement and the private sector, and strengthened legislation to implement CITES, including the phase out of tiger farms as a source of tiger parts which stimulate demand.

There are as few as 4,000 wild tigers remaining and demand for their body parts for luxury and medicinal use is the biggest driver behind poaching. At least 3,377 tigers have been seized since 2000, 1,142 of these in the project countries. This demand is perpetuated by the supply of tiger parts from captive sources, readily accessible via social media and persistent physical markets.

Captive tiger populations have increased over the last decade to over 8,900 in four of the project countries, whilst their resident wild populations have mostly continued to decline or shown very marginal increases. The most recent IUCN Assessment (dated December 2021 and published in July 2022) confirms extinctions in Lao PDR and Vietnam and near extinction in China at approximately 20. In Thailand the wild tiger population shows signs of isolated recovery but is estimated at 145-177 and has suffered a recent flurry of poaching incidents at the beginning of 2022.

In the lead up to the military coup, a poaching onslaught had reduced Myanmar's population to 30 or less and online traders (Burmese and Burmese/Chinese) apparently based in Myanmar are more prevalent since the coup. No independent verification has been possible, and the IUCN Red List still refers to the 2018 estimate of >22. During year 2, the project field operatives have documented several more online traders operating out of Myanmar offering tiger.

Amongst other factors, preference among some consumers for wild tiger and the higher price of captive-bred specimens means tigers in India, Myanmar, Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia are still targeted by transnational criminal networks to feed this demand; their body parts converging in the Mekong and China supply chains with captive tiger parts, as well as wild leopard, snow leopard and clouded leopard parts, imported African lion parts and parts from captive bred lions in southeast Asia, and even the teeth and claws of jaguar all destined for the same end market. Leopards have suffered an 85% range decline in Asia and are the most heavily traded of the big cats. Combined, at least 7,189 Asian leopards, snow leopards and clouded leopards have been seized from illegal trade since 2000. Trafficking and sale of big cat parts is conducted by individuals also engaged in the trade of pangolin, ivory, rhino, bear, rosewood, and other illegal wildlife, including from Africa, destined for Chinese and Vietnamese consumers in Vietnam, China, Myanmar, and Lao PDR.

Regulation of trade and enforcement across the region are still inadequate to contend with trade in lawless cross-border areas, politically well-connected Vietnamese and Chinese-led criminal networks operating across the region, the growth of casino-led developments that are a breeding ground for crime convergence, and regulations that create opportunities for transnational criminal networks to profit from a booming captive tiger industry.

One impact of tiger declines on rural communities in range states that still have wild tigers is reduced prospects of securing income from tiger-related tourism. [A 2017 study](#) found that ecotourism to four tiger reserves in central India generates £19.71 million, eight times more revenue compared to communities without ecotourism, and 2,525 jobs linked to ecotourism-associated lodgings alone. The loss of tigers represents a serious threat to communities' current and future opportunities for sustainable development in project countries and further afield.

The most affected communities are those living in areas where criminality and corruption associated with illegal wildlife trade persists, such as border areas, open markets, and casino-based venues. Corruption is known to affect the poor disproportionately, gives rise to inequality and leaves the poor vulnerable to exploitation including as smugglers of tiger and other contraband. Other serious crime types are often prevalent in the same venues, including convergence of human trafficking, IWT and corruption, disproportionately affecting women.

This project is transnational in nature and [Map 1 in Annex 4](#) (updated since the Year 1 annual report) illustrates some of the relevant trafficking routes, persistent trade hubs and border areas. This has been updated to reflect information gathered during Year 2 of the project and the engagement of traders in Thailand with supply chains from Indonesia and Malaysia. [Map 2 in Annex 4](#) (updated since the Year 1 annual report) shows locations of captive tiger facilities across the project countries. The map is provided in a new format and shows additional facilities identified in Thailand as well where facilities in Thailand and Vietnam have closed, and where facilities in Lao PDR have expanded.

2. Project stakeholders/ partners

[REDACTED]

The EIA, ENV and WFFT partnership is built on collaborative research, analysis and advocacy dating back to 2014, as illustrated in the report [Caged Assets](#). This was reinforced under the IWTCF project IWT046 which was developed collaboratively to build on the relationship and secure funding for field research to ground-truth trade dynamics and map the scale of captive tiger operations that were leaking or at risk of leaking tiger parts into trade. This is illustrated in our joint reports, [Cultivating Demand](#), and [Eradicating the Market for Big Cats](#) and in our collaborative hosting of an exhibition on tiger and other big cat trade at the [London Conference on IWT in 2018](#). IWT046 was a two-year project that concluded in 2019 and a hiatus in dedicated funding for the partnership followed until IWT104 was awarded in November 2021. Between 2019 and 2021, despite the lack of dedicated funding, partners continued to share information and analysis on trade, brief enforcement agencies and publish joint communications materials for example, [On the Butchers Block](#).

As reported in the Year 1 annual report, all partners were involved in designing the project, project planning and kick off, and in monitoring and evaluation processes. This level of involvement has continued into Year 2 with regular calls taking place between partners; both bi-laterally between EIA and each partner separately to discuss specific issues as required and as a consortium to discuss and review project progress as a group. In February 2023 we were delighted to be able to hold an in-person project meeting for three days in Hanoi, hosted by ENV, with colleagues from WFFT also joining in-person (see supporting document 1).

As per the Year 1 report, WFFT continued to liaise with the Thai Department of National Parks formally and informally regarding the transfer of rescue tigers to the WFFT sanctuary, the status of inspections and cases relating to captive tiger facilities of concern, and cases of illegal trade. ENV's established relationship with national law enforcement agencies in Vietnam has resulted in Vietnamese Police arresting two targets, their partners, and subordinates. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

EIA and partners have continued to liaise with key aligned stakeholders in the region including INTERPOL and USAID, and the UNODC (regarding production of a corruption risk assessment, information to support the SAFE project, as well as Vietnam and Lao PDR performance under the Financial Action Task Force evaluations). EIA and partners have met with representatives of the governments of the US, UK, and the EU mission in some of the project countries (details to follow in Section 3). Likewise, we continued to liaise with other NGO stakeholders to share information, avoid duplication of effort, deconflict to avoid impacting each other's field work, and collaborate on joint briefings and events for CITES meetings. This includes TRACE Forensics, WWF, WCS, Freeland, WJC and FOUR PAWS and Panthera.

3. Project progress

3.1 Progress in carrying out project Activities

Output 1: National and international law enforcement agencies active in the project countries, have the information needed to plan operations targeting criminal networks trafficking tigers and other illegal wildlife, and to support transboundary cooperation, including on financial investigations.

Activity progress

[Redacted]

As per activities 1.1 and 1.2, the collation of information from online sources relating to tiger crime incidents, both open-source information on seizures and court cases, as well as online trade observations, and information on the individuals and companies involved, was ongoing throughout Year 2 by all three partners. ENV keep open source records in their Wildlife Crime Incident Tracking Database and EIA centralises open source information records in our Environmental Crime Tracker which is accessible online [here](#). This includes details from seizures of convergence in trade between tigers and other wildlife, and other crime types.

Information derived from the documenting of online and social media trade observations is stored securely in separate databases in the form of intelligence reports (in EIA's case over 190 intelligence reports were filed during this reporting period). Ongoing direct engagement with the persons and companies of interest identified during the process of this research and information collation generates further details on prices, convergence between wild and captive tigers, other species and crime types, the modus operandi of those involved in trade at different points along the supply-demand chain and reports of corruption or affiliations to officials.

This information was analysed, evaluated, and prepared as tailored disseminations to inform stakeholders as appropriate (Activity 1.9, 3.1, and 3.3.). It was also used to prepare intelligence assessments and terms of reference for field research.

Whereas in Year 1 there was limited scope for field research due to COVID-related travel restrictions on key personnel, Year 2 has seen significant progress in implementing the field research elements of Activity 1.2. Given the limited timeframe for the overall project (three years condensed into two years and four months), the field research and associated download and analysis under Activity 1.5 have been priorities in year 2. The nature of the field research means that security of field operatives is another reason for focusing on field research; to maximise information gathering in Year 2 before increasing the restricted and public distribution of project findings in Year 3. Summaries of the field research trips are provided in below, but as some of the field research is wrapping up in Q1 Year 3, the content below is marked in red to signify that it is to be kept confidential at this time.

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

In year 2, there was also significant progress under Activity 1.3. In Thailand WFFT visited 31 facilities to assess which facilities were clearly operating in contravention of CITES Decision 14.69. The field research was complemented with the corporate profiling of the companies and affiliated businesses linked to facilities of concern (see section 3.2 for details). Of the 31 facilities visited, two were Department of National Park (DNP) rescue centres, 18 were re-visits to previously inspected facilities to assess changes, including one facility where it was only possible to drone survey. Four additional drone surveys were carried out at facilities not previously visited but where it was not possible to physically enter. Seven of the facilities were newly reopened in late 2021 and early 2022 after COVID. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] See Outputs section below for more information relating to the overall progress of Thai captive tiger facilities monitoring and supporting document 7 for more information on the tiger bone glue product offered for sale.

ENV also monitored captive facilities in Vietnam. At the end of year 2, there were 17 private facilities keeping tigers in Vietnam. 14 of these are zoos that are open to the public. Of these 17 facilities, six facilities are considered of special concern due to links to past or present tiger trafficking. Two of these six were actively laundering tigers through their licensed facilities, although one of these has ceased its illegal activities following the arrest of its owner (an ENV success in 2017). [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Four other facilities have historic records of selling cubs, parts, or derivatives. While ENV believes that violations at these facilities amount to little more than “leakage,” these facilities remain the focus of regular monitoring by ENV and authorities, as well as a quarterly communications campaign targeting all registered zoos, safaris, and aquariums in Vietnam aimed at securing compliance with the law. It is the unlicensed backyard and basement facilities in Nghe An province that continue to be involved in regional tiger trade.

In 2022, one facility of concern in Vietnam closed permanently, and the seven tigers at that facility were transferred to other legal establishments (two of the tigers died prior to transfer). Negotiations are underway for the closure of another facility with 11 tigers (formerly involved in laundering tigers), and a third private facility announced in 2023 that it would be closing, transferring its five tigers to a rescue centre.

EIA, WFFT and ENV include Lao PDR captive tiger facilities on the itinerary of field missions under 1.2, with ENV focusing on working back from leads within Vietnam to Lao PDR, and EIA and WFFT focusing on the linkages with Thailand and China. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Another example is the provision of information to UNODC to support implementation of their "[Safety across Asia For the global Environment](#)" (SAFE) project. The information drew on findings and analysis of this project, to highlight the kinds of businesses involved in tiger and other wildlife trade that are susceptible to criminality and corruption and which could exacerbate animal and human health risk. UNODC used this to create a risk assessment framework and the capacity building includes fostering good practice inspection protocols. WFFT also supported the UNODC by hosting the training workshops for officials from Lao PDR, Thailand, and Vietnam at their sanctuary.

Output 2: *Financial institutions and national Financial Intelligence Units (FIUs) have sufficient information to identify financial flows linked to tiger trafficking.*

Activity progress

[REDACTED]

Under activities 2.1 – 2.3, a second tiger-specific typology is in production and will be finalised and disseminated following field research in Year 3 Q1. In the interim, following an initial meeting between EIA and the Vietnam Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU) in year 2, EIA provided a list of "red flags" to assist the FIU and other financial institutions in Vietnam to detect suspicious transactions, including relating to tiger trade. In addition, two presentations describing the typology of tiger and other wildlife trade in the Mekong have been delivered. The first of these was EIA's presentation on Zhao Wei, the Kings Romans Group and the GTSEZ to United for Wildlife (UfW) in October 2022 (please see supporting document 3). Information and visuals obtained during Year 2 confirm the GTSEZ tiger and bear farm continues to operate. There were over 80 attendees, including more than 50 banks and financial institutions. Follow up requests were received for further information from three banks and intelligence on GTSEZ associated companies and individuals was shared with all participants (50+ intelligence disseminations), via UfW. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

In January 2023, EIA gave a second presentation to UFW on the wider Mekong Region and IWT / financial crime trends as derived from project findings. There were over 90 attendees, including 50+ financial sector companies. Following the presentation in January, EIA has shared actionable intelligence with two banks and engaged with one other bank, intelligence will be disseminated to all UfW in due course.

EIA consulted with anti-money laundering experts over approaches to Vietnamese banks whose customer accounts are being used to process financial flows associated with tiger and other illegal wildlife trade – and is preparing a briefing for the FIU as a conduit for sharing cases in year 3. This includes accounts of UfW member, Viet Com Bank.

Monthly submissions of relevant criminal information to “Know Your Customer” databases (activity 2.4) under [EIA’s Media Monitoring project](#) has been ongoing in year 2, see further details in section 3.2.

Output 3: *Other private sector entities who have signed on to commitments to help tackle IWT use information generated by the project to implement interventions to stop trafficking of tigers.*

Activity progress

Note: Activities 3.5, 3.6 and 3.8 have been removed as per April 2023 Change Request.

Information relevant to the transport sector (activity 3.1) is being extracted alongside information that is being used to prepare the new Mekong tiger financial typology (activities 2.1-2.3) and will be disseminated in Year 3. As noted in the Year 1 report, the three partners retain their own secure databases, sharing information as required (activity 3.2) via different platforms as per the preferences of the two partners. ENV have direct links to the relevant social media companies and to avoid duplication of effort, we channel relevant information via them.

ENV carries out at least one tiger-focused cybercrime reduction campaign each year targeting online advertising and selling of tiger parts and derivatives. In Year 2, this took place in April 2022, marking the 7th tiger-focused campaign completed by ENV since 2017 (activities 3.2 – 3.4 noting a typo in 3.4 that refers to a non-existent Output 5). This sits alongside online and social media research that has been ongoing throughout Year 2, conducted by all partners, but is more targeted towards specific persons or companies of interest (activities 1.1 and 1.2).

The ENV systematic campaign involves trawling social media and the web for adverts involving the sale of tiger parts or derivatives. Most commonly, these violations consist of advertisements for teeth, claws, products made from skin like wallets and belts, as well as blocks of tiger bone traditional medicine, bones, trophies, and occasionally, live tigers. (This is a concentrated exercise and incidents that occur outside this period are also documented and treated as follows).

Each case is logged on ENV’s Wildlife Crime Incident Tracking Database. Priority cases involving higher quantities of tiger parts or products are addressed through one of a range of ENV law enforcement responses, while lower-priority, minor cases result in issuance of varying degrees of warnings aimed at voluntary compliance and link removals, or failing a voluntary response, the removal of links or deactivation of pages through ENV’s social media partners; ENV has developed formal partnerships with Facebook, Google (YouTube), TikTok, Zalo as well as other smaller Vietnamese platforms after identifying their facilitation of tiger trafficking, with most being highly responsive and working together with ENV to reduce online sales and advertising of tiger parts and derivatives (see section 3.2 for further details). At the conclusion of the cybercrime reduction campaign, a total of 127 cases were logged, comprised of 142 violations. Within six months, ENV had successfully concluded 96% of these cases. ENV shares a selection of positive outcomes on social media (see supporting document 12). With funding from another project they have prepared a guide on internet trade research principally aimed at law enforcement (see an English version [here](#)). A summary of findings from this project will be included in public outputs in Year 3.

Towards activity 3.7, EIA have been targeting Evergreen Shipping Line in year 2 of the project to encourage them to join the UfW Transport Task Force and they made a commitment to do so in September 2022.

Output 4: Public-facing news stories, reports and films shared ahead of key international meetings create impetus for national decision-makers to implement international decisions and recommendations to tackle tiger trafficking and reverse policies that stimulate trade.

Activity progress

Note: 4.3 and 4.6 have been removed as per April 2023 Change Request

WFFT and EIA conducted a review of the Thai wildlife law as revised in 2019 and several associated regulations, drawing on available law and policy at the time whilst preparing the corruption risk assessment which was concluded in Year 2 Q1. However, the main implementing Ministerial regulation was not published until December 2022 and relevant zoo regulations are still under discussion. With the main regulation now available we will conclude a review of loopholes in Thai laws in Year 3 Q1, as well as assess where implementation rather than inadequate law is the issue.

EIA received a translation of the proposed revisions to Lao PDR wildlife laws as at February 2023 and will likewise review Lao PDR laws in the context of compliance with CITES and its relevant Resolutions and Decisions (activity 4.1). Once the reviews have been completed, we will channel the recommendations via the relevant Thai Parliamentary Committee (of which partner NGO WFFT's Executive Director is a member), and via the SDG 15.7 Working Group of foreign embassies, donors, and NGOs in Lao PDR (activity 4.2). Recommendations will be centred around strengthening the protection for tigers (and other wildlife) in Thai Wildlife Preservation and Protection Act and associated zoo licensing regulations, the Lao PDR Wildlife and Aquatic Law, and associated regulations particularly to reduce the keeping and breeding of tigers for commercial purposes. There have been delays to EIA activity on this due to staffing delays, please see section 12.

Throughout Year 2 we have continued to monitor, analyse, and call for amendments to China's Wildlife Protection Law (WPL) and associated regulations, urging compliance with CITES Resolutions and Decision on tigers (and other Asian big cats). This included: submitting [comments](#) to a public consultation on a trade marking system; submitting [comments](#) on a second round of proposed revisions to the entire WPL in October 2022; and, issuing a [statement](#) following the adoption of the final version of the WPL in December 2022, which was even worse than the proposed revision in October 2022 in the context of tigers and Asian big cats.

ENV has had more success working with Vietnamese authorities towards refining regulations (activity 4.4); and has secured an agreement from the Vietnamese Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment (MONRE) on development of a new decree that will regulate "conservation facilities," which include zoos and other non-commercial facilities keeping wildlife. ENV has been working with MONRE for more than two years promoting the necessity of a new decree, providing a foundation "vision" for the law and support through the media, with scientists, the CITES Scientific Authority, and other stakeholders. A similar effort has been underway with the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD), which regulates "non-commercial facilities", including zoos and other facilities keeping wildlife.

MONRE's agreement to include the development of a new law in their plan is a big step forward. ENV's vision centres around the need to regulate the breeding of tigers and other endangered species, so as not to create large captive populations that later become a problem, as well as to ensure that any breeding adds value to conservation of the species. ENV is also advocating for commercial trade in animals to be prohibited within licensed zoos and other non-commercial facilities, and that all animals acquired by these licensed facilities must be of legal origin.

In December 2022, ENV contributed to the revision of banking laws in Vietnam, urging the State Bank to address money laundering through accounts used by wildlife traffickers. ENV was asked by the State Bank to contribute to the drafting of the revision.

ENV has continued to keep the pressure on Nghe An province (activity 4.5) – Vietnam's hotspot for tiger trafficking and home to "basement tigers" being raised illegally by households, as well as the base of operations for the majority of the 12 major tiger traffickers targeted in year 2. ENV

has conducted regular visits to meet with Nghe An Provincial leaders, National Assembly delegates, provincial council members, prosecutors, and police, aimed at promoting greater political will to address the basement tiger issue (which is rumoured involve 200-300 tigers) and encourage the province's criminal justice system for better action on tiger trade.

Supplementing these visits are ongoing communications to provincial leaders, National Assembly members, and Council members. For example, one communication in 2022 called on provincial leaders to take decisive action to address the basement tiger issue, while a second communication illustrated how most tiger seizures in the country were sourced from one of three districts in Nghe An province.

In Q1 2022, ENV trained 40 prosecutors and 60 procuracy and court staff in Nghe An province, aimed at introducing and promoting understanding of wildlife protection laws by utilizing actual cases. The prosecution training is conducted by ENV Law and Policy Director, Ms. Bui Thi Ha, who is widely considered to be the country's leading expert on wildlife protection law, as well as being the author of key elements of the 2018 Revised Penal Code and the ENV annual Wildlife Law Review. In Q2 of Year 2, ENV reduced its presence in the province as a joint law enforcement operation with police targeting a major trafficker in the area began to fall into place, and ENV did not want to generate any actions taken by government that might inadvertently expose or interfere with the operation.

Several outputs have been progressed as per Activity 4.7. The seizure location map and other data visualisations are updated automatically in EIA's online Global Environmental Crime Tracker. The databases behind the captive tiger facilities map have been updated and the Intelligence team are working on a more complex multi-layered map to be embedded on the EIA website in time for International Tiger Day 2023.

With the Russian invasion of Ukraine, EIA and partner participation in the 2nd International Tiger Forum in Vladivostok was cancelled, but we continued to feed into parallel deliberations coordinated by the Global Tiger Forum (GTF) and the Global Tiger Initiative Advisory Council (GTIAC) towards a 2nd Global Tiger Recovery Programme. This included co-authoring two thematic briefings which were disseminated to the GTF, GTIAC and the Tiger Range State governments (see summaries of Themes 4 & 6 in supporting document 9 – note this summary is dated Feb 2023 but the initial dissemination took place in August prior to the Tiger Forum in September). Long-term advocacy by EIA and other NGOs (see Year 1 report), meant that the issue of tiger-farming and trade was raised as a threat during the [dialogue](#) of the Forum by the Russian Minister and the Chair of the GTIAC and in the September 2022 [Vladivostok Declaration](#). EIA went on to share a platform with the Chair of the GTIAC to reiterate those messages during a ZSL [webinar](#) in November 2022 in the lead up to CITES CoP19.

EIA and partners also contributed to the Tackling Tiger Trafficking Framework (see supporting document 10); a comprehensive toolkit to support the development of national tiger action plans, including guidance on addressing the themes noted under Activity 4.7 and will continue to support the development of the next GTRP.

Outputs for CITES included a briefing document produced jointly with WFFT, Born Free Foundation and FOUR PAWS (see supporting document 4) and three presentations for side-events co-hosted by EIA, WWF, WJC and FOUR PAWS. Prior to and during CITES SC75 and CoP19 in November 2022, EIA and an informal coalition of like-minded NGOs discussed positions on Asian Big Cat and Lao PDR non-compliance issues with delegates from India, Nepal, the USA, the UK, the EU, and Malaysia. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] A summary of the outcomes and Decisions secured is available [here](#).

Relating to Activity 4.7 and 4.11, EIA was invited to deliver a [scene-setting presentation](#) on demand for Asian big cat parts and derivatives, including trends and convergence between big cat species to the INTERPOL-USAID Asian Big Cats Dialogue in January 2023. The CITES Secretariat subsequently invited EIA to deliver a similar presentation but covering all big cat species including live, at the CITES Big Cats Task Force meeting in April 2023 (to be reported on in Year 3).

With greater emphasis on field research in Year 2, we will be producing substantive outputs in Year 3 reflecting the analysis of our findings on trade dynamics and enforcement responses and the other themes outlined under Activity 4.7 [REDACTED]

ENV's public facing outputs under Activities 4.7 and 4.11 included media statements, events, and interviews, public service announcements (PSA) on TV and radio, a monthly radio show on the Voice of Vietnam (VOV), and viral communications and advertising. [Please see ENV's PSAs here](#) and specifically this new on [traditional medicines](#), including tigers. Whilst the PSAs are produced with funding under a separate programme, they draw on the findings and analysis of field and desk research supported by this project.

Two major themes of ENV's public-facing communications in 2022 and early 2023 focussed on creating deterrence and promoting ENV's Wildlife Crime Hotline. During year 2, ENV carried out the following interactions with the media:

- Tiger viral adverts: Several viral advertisements were used to promote deterrence on major social media platforms.
- Media events: ENV hosted a media discussion for 28 journalists in Ho Chi Minh City on the state of tiger trafficking in Vietnam and how promoting deterrence can help reduce tiger crime.
- VOV radio show: ENV hosted its 186th radio show on the Voice of Vietnam (VOV). The show discussed the state of the tiger trade both globally and in Vietnam specifically. Each show airs nationwide and is estimated to reach millions of listeners.

Media statements were also issued by ENV following major successful prosecution cases (detailed in section 3.3) involving tigers, as well as highlighting problems with prosecutions in some provinces like Ha Tinh.

Under Activity 4.8, EIA collaborated with an informal coalition of like-minded NGOs that were present at CITES CoP19 to update a roadmap for the phase out of captive tiger facilities, with EIA setting out definitions of what constitutes facilities of concern and red flags. The DRAFT roadmap draws on previous documents produced over the years by the International Tiger Coalition, WWF, Four Paws and a ZSL table of criteria for defining whether breeding is for conservation or not. [REDACTED]

EIA, WFFT and ENV have engaged with foreign embassy personnel in Thailand, Lao PDR, Vietnam, and China during Year 2 (Activity 4.9). In Thailand, EIA and WFFT met with the UK Regional Crime Coordinator based out of Bangkok and the Climate and Environment attaché to provide a verbal briefing on project progress and upcoming plans relating to policy review and reform and dissemination of field research findings. Of note, we discussed the recent evaluation of Lao PDR against the Financial Action Task Force recommendations. Not surprisingly Lao PDR has under-performed and the FIU has reached out to the UK Embassy for assistance. We discussed wildlife crime information and case studies that EIA could provide as potential targets that the UK and other stakeholders in Lao PDR could mentor them through. [REDACTED]

In Vietnam, ENV liaised with the UK Embassy and DEFRA IWT team prior to a visit to Hanoi by the UK Secretary of State, providing an opportunity for Embassy personnel to hear more about the ENV Wildlife Crime Unit and Investigations Unit, including activities on this project.

All three partners have long-standing working relationships with USFWS Office of Law Enforcement special agents and attaches and US State Department personnel. In Year 2, EIA met with the US personnel coordinating the SDG 15.7 Working Group in Lao PDR and the EU Mission. [REDACTED]

We also engaged with the US Embassy in China over the Wildlife Protection Law Revisions. Due to reduced staffing with expertise on China, we did not update the briefing referred to in Year 1 (Activity 4.10). We also chose to prioritise our efforts at CITES CoP19 instead of CBD CoP15, which took place immediately after, and used CITES to push for the recommendations under this Activity.

3.2 Progress towards project Outputs

Output 1: National and international law enforcement agencies active in the project countries, have the information needed to plan operations targeting criminal networks trafficking tigers and other illegal wildlife, and to support transboundary cooperation, including on financial investigations.

The focus of this output is to ensure relevant law enforcement agencies have the information they need to plan their own operations, with information coming from EIA, ENV and WFFT field and desk research and analysis.

Indicators

Note: Indicator 1.6 has been removed as per April 2023 Change Request

Indicator 1.1: *The number of criminal networks involved in tiger, other big cat and IWT trafficking that are mapped out by EIA and partners using visual analysis software, including data on role, nationality, and gender and shared with trusted law enforcement in the project countries (e.g. police forces, Customs, anti-corruption agencies, wildlife officials) and relevant international enforcement agencies (e.g. Interpol, USFWS, UNODC, WCO), increases from a baseline of five in 2020, to at least seven by 31 March 2023, nine by 31 March 2024 and at least ten by 31 March 2025*

[REDACTED]

In Year 2, in total, 19 new tiger trafficking networks have been *identified*, 16 *mapped* and four *shared with law enforcement agencies* by project partners, whilst research on the others continues. This indicator was measured from the intelligence reports and analytical outputs from the three partners.

EIA and WFFT have identified seven new criminal networks trafficking tigers and other big cats in and through project countries, mapped four of them and have shared one with law enforcement agencies. ENV identified 12 separate tiger traffickers in Vietnam who all run networks that supply tigers to brokers and middlemen who in turn supply tigers to cooking operations and retail buyers. All 12 targeted trafficking networks were profiled and mapped, and three have been shared with law enforcement agencies. [REDACTED]

■

EIA has conducted analyses on the gender, roles, and nationalities of individuals within the networks we've mapped, details as follows:

- Gender: 51 males, 9 females, 2 unknowns.

- Roles¹: 15 online traders, 4 transporters, 16 traders, 7 middlemen, 9 farm owners, 1 government official, 1 airline staff, 2 border guards.
- Nationalities: 17 Vietnamese, 6 Laotian, 10 Burmese, 15 Thai, 5 Malaysian, 1 Kenyan, 9 Chinese

For outcomes of intelligence sharing and subsequent law enforcement operations and planned next steps see section 3.3 below.

Indicator 1.2: *The number of EIA intelligence documents (reports, summaries, and assessments) on wildlife traffickers operating in the project countries, along with information on convergence with corruption and other crime types where relevant, disseminated to trusted law enforcement representatives and relevant international law enforcement agencies increases from a baseline of 27 in 2019 to at least 50 per year by 31 March 2022, 2023, and 2024*

Progress 1.2

In Year 2, EIA, WFFT and ENV collectively shared a total of 78 intelligence documents to trusted law enforcement agencies in Vietnam (police), with USFWS OLE so that they could liaise with their trusted enforcement contacts across project countries as appropriate, and Indonesia (through a local stakeholder who works closely with law enforcement). [REDACTED]

Indicator 1.3: *The number of key trade locations, trafficking routes and smuggling methods profiled in reports by EIA and partners and shared with national and international law enforcement and IGOs increases to at least eight by 31 March 2022, and at least 10 by 31 March 2023 from a baseline of six in 2019*

Progress 1.3

In Year 2, six trade locations, six trafficking routes and 10 new smuggling methods were profiled by EIA and shared with trusted law enforcement agencies. This indicator was measured from the intelligence reports, recorded in the EIA Intelligence [REDACTED]

Indicator 1.4: *By 31 March 2023, 95% (100% of the accessible) private facilities with captive tigers in Thailand have been documented and profiled by partners from a 2019 baseline of 53% (27 out of 51) facility profiles completed.*

Progress 1.4

As of the end of Year 2, WFFT have records of 67 known facilities in Thailand holding captive tigers, this includes 13 government run (Department of National Parks; DNP) rescue centres, six state enterprises or ZPOs, and the remaining 48 are privately owned. 31 of these are facilities of particular concern. By the end of Year 2, WFFT had inspected and profiled a total 42 of the facilities, and drone surveyed a further six due to being unable to physically enter the premises. Of the full list of 67 facilities, nine have not been located due to not being at the registered address and five are not accessible. 100% of the accessible private facilities (42/48) have been documented and profiled. This was measured from a database to track facility visits supported with video and stills. [REDACTED]

Indicator 1.5: *By 31 March 2022, 31 March 2023 and 31 March 2024, EIA and partners report 100% of captive tiger facilities of concern in project countries to relevant national and international law enforcement, and relevant IGOs.*

Progress 1.5

Pursuant to CITES Decisions 18.102 and 18,108, the CITES Secretariat is to conduct missions to Thailand, Lao PDR, Vietnam, China, South Africa, the USA, and Czech Republic to better understand their operations and activities and make recommendations to the Standing Committee. These decisions were themselves adopted in furtherance of Decision 14.69, which states that tigers should not be bred for trade in their parts and derivatives, and paragraph 1. h)

¹ People sometimes have multiple roles within a criminal network. For analysis purposes we have only counted people's most prominent role.

of Res. Conf. 12.5 (the CITES Asian big cat resolution), which recommends that countries should have adequate management practices and controls over captive facilities to prevent Asian big cat parts and derivatives from entering illegal trade from or through such facilities.

The first series of missions were conducted in February 2023 to Thailand, Lao PDR and Vietnam, including visiting a small sample of tiger facilities that EIA and partners had previously notified them were of concern, and largely following a term of reference proposed by EIA and other NGOs (see Year 1 report). EIA and WFFT provided a more detailed written briefing to the Secretariat regarding facilities of concern, as well as policies and inspection protocols of concern in Thailand and Lao PDR ahead of the missions (see supporting document 6). At the invitation of national CITES management authorities, ENV and WFFT met with the mission team in Vietnam and Thailand respectively. The Secretariat welcomed the inputs and has requested that any further information from all three partners, relating to the three countries visited and the remaining four to be visited, be provided by end June 2023 to inform the Secretariat's report and recommendations to the 77th Meeting of the CITES Standing Committee in November 2023.

The CITES Secretariat has confirmed their intention to conduct the remaining missions prior to CITES SC77 in November 2023 but this is subject to additional funding. We will be liaising with our partners, other NGOs, the Secretariat, and members of the Standing Committee to seek time-bound recommendations for proper implementation of Decision 14.69 and Res Conf 12.5 (Rev CoP19) at SC77. Already there are [indications](#) that at least in Thailand the government is taking the CITES Tiger Missions seriously, though a disappointing response from Lao PDR in denial of the existing tiger farms.

Output 2: *Financial institutions and national Financial Intelligence Units (FIUs) have sufficient information to identify financial flows linked to tiger trafficking.*

Indicator progress

Note: Indicator 2.3 has been removed as per April 2023 Change Request

Indicator 2.1: *Number of financial typologies related to tiger trafficking networks and convergence with corruption and other crime types produced by EIA and partners and accepted by financial institutes and FIUs increases from a baseline of zero in 2019 to target of one by 31 March 2022, two by 31 March 2023, three by 31 March 2024*

Progress 2.1

In addition to the typology referred to in Year 1, EIA is preparing a second typology on tiger trade in the Mekong following field research in Year 2. This has not yet been finalised therefore but will be disseminated at the beginning of Year 3. EIA has also disseminated 2 financial case studies and 1 red flag document to FIUs via UfW and directly, and EIA and ENV have issued alerts on bank accounts used in tiger trade via UfW to prompt FIUs to get national financial institutions to record suspicious transaction reports (See Activities 2.1 – 2.3). This indicator is measured using records in Disseminations Tracker, [REDACTED]

Indicator 2.2: *Number of accepted submissions to Know Your Customer databases including data on nationality, gender, and age, increases from a baseline of 62 tiger specific submissions accepted in 2019 to 200 by 31 March 2024*

Progress 2.2

In Year 2, there were a total of 186 submissions by EIA for tiger and big cat related incidents (out of a total of 1,887 submissions made by EIA overall). Data disaggregation processes under a new EIA system require further refinement to isolate tiger specific submissions as we have done in previous years, and we aim to improve this in Year 3. In the meantime, among the 186 submissions accepted, the breakdown is as follows: Perpetrators were from Gabon (5), Guinea (1), India (14), Nepal (1), Senegal (1), Somalia (1), Thailand (2) and Vietnam (12), with remaining 148 submissions not able to specify nationality. There were six female perpetrators, 61 male, and 118 not able to be specified. Age ranges were 10-19 (2), 20 – 29 (20), 30 -39 (31), 40 – 49 (20), 50 – 59 (12), and 60 – 69 (1), with 99 submissions not specifying age.

Indicator 2.4: Number of physical or virtual meetings with Financial Intelligence Unit personnel, or where they are not accessible to civil society, with third parties willing to share project findings is at a rate of at least one per year and 100% of appropriate intelligence is disseminated to FIUs by 31 March 2024

Progress 2.4

EIA had one physical meeting with the Vietnam FIU in Year 2 and has continued to share information with them since the meeting. We also met with the UK Regional Crime Coordinator based out of Bangkok and the lead for the UNODC Anti-Money Laundering Programme for Asia-Pacific, who can act as future conduits for information to project countries FIUs as appropriate.

Output 3: Other private sector entities who have signed on to commitments to help tackle IWT use information generated by the project to implement interventions to stop trafficking of tigers.

Indicator progress

Note: Indicator 3.5 has been removed as per April 2023 Change Request

Indicator 3.1: The number of companies whose facilitation of tiger trafficking is profiled by EIA and partners increases to 40 by 31 March 2024 from a baseline of eight in 2019.

Progress 3.1

In Year 2 EIA has profiled 27 companies that are owned by or associated with known tiger traders. As part of captive tiger facility monitoring in Thailand, WFFT have profiled companies linked to all facilities of concern (5) and companies linked to tiger trade more widely (an additional 5). [REDACTED]

Indicator 3.2: The number of reports or alerts submitted by EIA and partners to the UfW Taskforces, social media and e-commerce companies, tourism and traditional medicine companies and coalitions increases annually by at least 50%. Baseline 191 (as per Year 1 report).

Progress 3.2

As reported above in the activity section, EIA has disseminated intelligence to 50 financial institutions following our presentation to UfW on the GTSEZ.

ENV has developed formal partnerships with Facebook, Google (YouTube), TikTok, Zalo as well as other smaller Vietnamese platforms after identifying their facilitation of tiger trafficking, with most being highly responsive and working together with ENV to reduce online sales and advertising of tiger parts and derivatives. During the whole of Year 2 (not just the dedicated month-long campaign reported under Activities 3.2-3.4), ENV reported 356 cases of advertising tiger parts and derivatives on social media platforms.

Indicator 3.3: An increase in the number of incidents of remedial actions taken by members of taskforces / coalitions related to the transport, online sales, and social media, TCM and tourism sectors following receipt of information regarding their role in tiger trade from the project partners, from a baseline of eight in 2019 to 40 by 31 March 2024

Progress 3.3

Of the 356 reported cases detailed above under 3.2, 273 (76%) have been successfully concluded, with the remaining 83 cases still actively being addressed. Of the 273 successful outcomes, 139 cases (51%) were resolved through link removals and deactivations by ENV's online partners.

Indicator 3.4: The number of additional private sector companies that join UfW Taskforces or other industry initiatives aimed at combating wildlife trafficking following outreach from the project partners increases to three by 31 March 2024, with an interim target of two by 31 March 2022, from a 2020 baseline of zero.

Progress 3.4

As reported above in the activities section, EIA have engaged with Evergreen Shipping Line in Year 2 to join the UfW Transport Task Force and they made a commitment to do so in September 2022. EIA have also been in contact with Viet Com Bank who are nominal UfW Transport Taskforce member but have not been active within the Taskforce. Follow up activity with Viet Com Bank is planned for Year 3. Following field research in Year 2, additional transport and finance sector stakeholder information will be extracted from the intelligence and relevant stakeholders engaged in Year 3.

Output 4: Public-facing news stories, reports and films shared ahead of key international meetings create impetus for national decision-makers to implement international decisions and recommendations to tackle tiger trafficking and reverse policies that stimulate trade.

Indicator progress

Note: Indicator 4.5 has been removed as per April 2023 Change Request

Indicator 4.1: *The number of public reports by EIA and partners outlining tiger commodity flow / supply chains (including sourcing from captive facilities), convergence with other IWT (leopard, lion, elephant, rhino, pangolin, bear and rosewood), transaction points and methods, transportation and concealment methods, the role of women in trade and enforcement, impacts on development and poverty alleviation, convergence with corruption and other crime types (including trafficking of drugs, weapons and people) and recommendations for country-specific actions disseminated to policy makers and media increases from one in 2020 to four by 31 March 2024 including one before CITES SC74 (expected around September 2021), one before CITES CoP19 (March 2022), one before the next Year of the Tiger International Summit (2022, date TBD) and one before CITES SC77 (expected in 2023)*

Progress 4.1

Elements of the above are addressed in 1 report and 2 presentations by EIA pre and during CITES CoP19 (See Activities 4.7). 2 reports are planned for Year 3, one before SC77 and one before the end of the project. We note that since this project grant was not awarded until November 2021 we should have included an amendment in the Year 2 change request.

Indicator 4.2: *The number of interventions made by project partners in collaboration with other NGOs such as WCS, WWF, World Animal Protection, IFAW, TRAFFIC and members of the Species Survival Network increases from a baseline of two in 2019 to four by 31 March 2024 including at least one each at CITES SC74 and SC77, and two at CoP19*

Progress 4.2

There were two interventions at SC74 (see Year 1 report), one at SC75 and one at CoP19, plus three side events where key points under Output 4 were reiterated. See supporting documents 16 a, b, and c.

Application of Article XIII in Lao PDR

At SC75, EIA on behalf of other NGOs intervened to recommend that the Standing Committee specifically ask Lao PDR to report to SC77 on the enforcement measures taken against the criminal enterprises that control the five tiger farms in Lao, where the number of tigers had increased from 344 in 2019 to 451 (as reported for SC75). EIA highlighted the involvement of organized crime in the form of the Kings Romans Group, the Moazu Kromah ivory trafficking network, and other convicted offenders in the ownership of the facilities, as well as the disappearance of 300 tigers from one of the facilities between 2016 and 2017.

Res. Conf. 12.5 and associated decisions

At CoP19, FOUR PAWS made an intervention speaking on behalf of EIA and others including WFFT and expressed disappointment at the consistent lack of reporting by Parties on Asian Big Cats and called on China to halt the production and sale of leopard bone pills and wine. FOUR PAWS commended Vietnam on the enforcement action it had taken and urged the Parties to request Vietnam, Lao PDR, and Thailand to report to SC77 on measures taken to conduct joint investigations and operations to halt the organised criminal networks operating across the region. FOUR PAWS also indicated its willingness, and that of WFFT's to share their experience

managing viable sanctuaries where there is no breeding, buying, selling, or handling of big cats by visitors. It also reiterated its offer to fund the costs of the missions to the four Parties which will not be covered by the UK's funding.

EIA and WWF hosted a side event on ABCs on 15 November 2022 titled "Asian Big Cats: Trade and Enforcement, Actions and Solutions". The side event was moderated by Heather Sohl, WWF. Debbie Banks, EIA Tiger and Wildlife Crime Campaign Leader, spoke about the current conservation status of ABCs, the ABC parts and derivatives in trade (with visuals from EIA investigations), summarized the history of ABCs at CITES, highlighted the lack of implementation of CITES ABC recommendations, and called for time-bound, country specific recommendations to be adopted at CoP19 as detailed in the EIA briefing document. The side event also saw Kanitha Krishnasamy, TRAFFIC's Director for Southeast Asia introduce TRAFFIC's latest version of their Skin and Bones report on the global trade in tigers, and Steve Carmody, Director of Programmes at WJC introduce their report on the exploitation of captive tiger facilities by organized crime.

Debbie Banks also spoke at a further two side events on ABCs. On 23 November 2022, Debbie presented at a side event on the non-implementation of CITES recommendations on tigers organized by Four-Paws. Debbie's presentation focussed on the illegal trade of tigers in and through Lao PDR, the role of tiger farms, and the involvement of serious criminal enterprises. On 24 November 2022, Debbie presented at an event hosted by WJC and WWF on techniques and tools available to tackle tiger trafficking through a criminal justice response. Debbie spoke about an ongoing EIA project in partnership with the Alan Turing Institute to create an artificial intelligence tool to identify tiger skins based on their stripe pattern. Heather Sohl, WWF, who also spoke at this side event introduced the Tackling Tiger Trafficking Framework (TTTF) which brings together existing tools available to countries to improve their response to the trafficking of tigers. The TTTF was produced by several NGOs, including EIA.

Indicator 4.3: *The number of foreign government embassies in the project countries that are briefed at least twice a year (though on a case-by-case basis depending on findings this can occur more than twice) by EIA and partners on project conclusions and recommendations increases from a baseline of two in 2020 to six by 31 March 2024.*

Progress 4.3

A minimum of six meetings took place in Year 2.

EIA have physically met with US government personnel based in Thailand and Lao PDR once in Year 2 but correspond outside of those meetings. WFFT have met with the US at least twice in Year 2, EIA and WFFT met with UK Embassy personnel in Thailand once and with a representative of the EU Mission in Lao PDR once.

ENV conducts routine in-person briefings of the US Embassy, and recently provided an online summary to representatives of the UK Secretary of State in preparation for her April Vietnam mission.

We have not met with UK and US representatives in Myanmar and China. Upon conclusion of the field research in neighbouring countries in Year 2 and Q1 of Year 3, we will more clearly map the linkages to Myanmar and China (see trade networks summarised in Indicator 1.1) and will brief the UK and US

Indicator 4.4: *The number of policy briefings containing proposed revisions to national law and regulations prepared by EIA and partners and disseminated to national law makers increases from two in 2019 to seven by 31 March 2024*

Progress 4.4

Three policy briefings have been disseminated directly to national law makers and one indirectly in Year 2.

EIA submitted proposed revisions to China's Wildlife Protection Law and associated regulations and submitted through formal consultation channels on two occasions and ENV have engaged with Vietnamese law makers on two related themes in Year 2 (see Activity 4.7 for details). Through the UNODC, EIA and WFFT highlighted elements of the law and implementing

regulations that are enabling tiger farming and trade in the corruption risk assessment. Whilst this was not provided directly by the project partners and was more subtle in pointing out problems, it has laid the foundation for more specific proposed revisions by EIA and WFFT to be submitted to Thai parliamentarians in Year 3. EIA will also be providing a review and proposed revisions to Lao PDR legislation in Year 3.

Indicator 4.6: *The number of positive policy or law amendments announced by project countries increases to four by 31 March 2024 from a 2019 baseline of two.*

Progress 4.6

As reported above in the activities section under Output 4, ENV is currently working with Vietnamese ministries MONRE and MARD to guide and facilitate regulation reforms regarding captive tiger operations. Furthermore, ENV contributed to draft banking law revisions in Vietnam, urging the State Bank to address money laundering by wildlife traffickers.

Indicator 4.7: *The number of media articles and films reporting on the issues highlighted by the project increases from a baseline of 20 in 2018 (baseline may be adjusted pending review of 2019 media outputs) to at least 30 in each year of the project.*

Progress 4.7

While the project partners have not conducted a comprehensive media assessment covering all project countries for year 2, we have recorded more than 120 articles globally citing or linked to EIA's tiger campaign, 50 from Thailand and ENV's media outreach has resulted in at least 50 again in Vietnam. Therefore, we can confidently say that we have surpassed the indicator target by at least seven times. Please see Annex 4, tables 2 and 3 for links to articles.

Indicator 4.8: *The number of public outputs from the project (reports, films, blogs, policy briefings) highlighting success of women in countering wildlife trafficking in project countries, in law enforcement or NGOs, increases to four by 31 March 2024 from a baseline of one in 2020*

Progress 4.8

No new outputs on this have been prepared in Year 2 as partners concentrated efforts on field research but we will seek to address this in Year 3.

Indicator 4.9: *The number of briefings, analyses and/or reports containing findings on trends in prices, trader testimony and perceptions of demand drivers and consumer demographics disseminated to governments, donors and other NGOs involved in demand reduction and consumer behaviour change campaigns increases to three by 31 March 2024 from a 2019 baseline of one*

Progress 4.9

Two presentations have been delivered to relevant audiences illustrating demand, consumer preferences and demographics (see activities 4.7). More substantive written analyses will be prepared following extraction of information from Year 2 field research findings and prepared for dissemination in Year 3.

3.3 Progress towards the project Outcome

Outcome: Effective enforcement of improved legal frameworks disrupts tiger trafficking networks operating in the Mekong region reducing negative impacts on wild tiger populations and communities living in crime hotspots

Note: Indicator 0.2 has been removed as per April 2023 Change Request

Indicator 0.1: *By 31 March 2024, the number of criminal networks identified trafficking tigers and other big cats in and through the project countries, by government agencies, increases to at least ten, from a 2019 baseline of five (representing 174 entities including persons of interest and companies), with an interim target of eight by 31 March 2023.*

A total of 19 new criminal networks trafficking tigers in and through project countries have been identified by EIA, WFFT and ENV in Year 2 of the project (see section 3.2 above for further details). Of these, 16 have been mapped and four have been shared with law enforcement agencies. One by EIA and three by ENV; two of which were subsequently pursued by Vietnamese Police resulting in the two targets, their partners and subordinates being arrested. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

This represents a further three new tiger trafficking networks being pursued by government agencies following project partner intelligence package sharing in Year 2 of the project. Overall, this adds to the four reported in Year 1. Therefore, from the baseline of five we have now achieved a total of 12 (5 baseline, 4 in Year 1, 3 in year 2), surpassing not only our March 31st, 2023, target but our end of project target as well.

A key outcome in 2022 was the arrest of Teo Boon Ching, but as he is the second key figure in a major transnational wildlife crime network to fall, and the disruption of other key associates is still pending, the following is provided in confidence. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The case in the US is ongoing and is a credit to the US Fish and Wildlife Service's Office of Law Enforcement and their commitment to investigation and cooperation to disrupt serious and organised transnational wildlife crime networks.

For information, the results of ENV's collaboration with law enforcement efforts in Vietnam targeting lower-level suppliers and traders of tiger parts and products were as follows:

- Successful seizures: 46 successful seizures of tigers, parts, or products
- Arrests: 22 of these cases resulted in arrests (48%)
- Number of subjects arrested: 26 subjects supplying or trafficking tiger parts and products were arrested
- Financial penalties: 7 of these cases resulted in fines being imposed on traders totalling VND 1,655,100,000 (£56,620)
- Prosecutions: 16 of the 22 cases involving arrests (72%) have been prosecuted or are currently pending prosecution. The remaining six cases are either under police investigation or have been suspended.
- Prison sentences: 5 of 11 cases where prosecution has been completed resulted in prison terms for one or more subjects (45%). The remaining six prosecutions resulted in convictions and suspended sentences or probation

Indicator 0.3: *By 31 March 2024, from a baseline level of 14 prosecutions in 2018, the number of tiger traders prosecuted increases to at least 20 traders per year. A more robust baseline will be prepared in Q1 of the project for Vietnam, and 31 March 2021 for China and Lao PDR, with prosecutions as a percentage of people arrested / charged, and a percentage of people identified / reported.*

Vietnam

In addition to tracking cases where project partner ENV is directly involved and working with law enforcement (as reported above), ENV also documents all other major seizures of wildlife in Vietnam, and where appropriate, works with police, prosecutors, and the courts to ensure that important seizures of goods result in prosecutions and that the law is applied appropriately through the prosecution and sentencing phases of each case.

During year 2, there were 27 criminal prosecutions for cases involving tigers and tiger parts in Vietnam. (Note: These are cases that were tried during the reporting period. In many cases, the seizures occurred prior to the reporting period). Of the 27 cases prosecuted, 15 cases (55%) resulted in a prison sentence issued to one or more subjects. A total of 21 subjects were sentenced to prison terms ranging from nine to 66 months. Suspended sentences were handed down in the remaining 12 cases. Based on 2022 data, the average prison term for a tiger crime in Vietnam was 2.19 years. See Annex 4 table 1 for details of tiger prosecutions in Vietnam by year, 2018 – 2022.

Thailand

It was not possible to set a baseline prosecution rate for Thailand from previous years and the indicator target has been removed as per our April 2023 Change Request. During Year 2, there were four criminal cases involving tigers and tiger parts in Thailand leading to 14 subjects arrested and four prosecutions. As EIA and partners have learned during this project prosecutions are not readily reported in the media in comparison to raids, seizures, and arrests. WFFT and other Thai NGOs have tried to secure court case outcomes but unless one is present at hearings it is not possible to secure verdicts after the fact unless they are heard in the Supreme Court. We currently have a request lodged with the Attorney General's Office via colleagues at USAID Wildlife Asia to ascertain how civil society can access case outcomes from District Courts.

Lao PDR

Between Lao PDR government reports to CITES SC74 and SC75 (2021-2022), three tiger cases have been recorded, two in which defendants were given six-month imprisonment sentences, but according to reliable sources these were subsequently commuted to suspended sentences. In the third case the government reported that a prosecution was raised against a defendant who was caught in 2020 with tiger bones and making tiger bone glue. The defendant was released for re-education. Only one case appears to have occurred before this project started so the baseline is taken as one. A more detailed analysis of cases is being prepared for dissemination in Year 3

China

In 2020 there were 19 available reports of seizures of tiger parts, but reports on prosecutions and convictions were only available for five of those cases, so we will use this as a baseline. In 2021 there were seven incidents but no information available on prosecutions. It is possible there are additional court case records for the other incidents available but Chinese language capacity at EIA has been limited, impacting not only research and procurement of court case records, but also the translation and breakdown of information to prepare a more detailed analysis as per the records from ENV for Vietnam. It also means that in 2022 we were not able to upload any China specific incidents to our Global Environmental Crime Tracker, but do note that [enforcement action](#) was taken against tiger and other illegal wildlife trade. Some short-term capacity will be available in Year 3 for targeted analysis such as this.

Myanmar

There were no reported arrests or prosecutions in relation to tiger trade in Myanmar in 2020/2021, prior to the project commencing, despite known physical trade hubs. There was one seizure

incident in 2018 where arrests were made but no information regarding prosecution available. Due to political circumstances in Myanmar, there have (understandably) been no tiger trade related prosecutions known to us during the project.

Indicator 0.4: By 31 March 2023, the number of tigers in private captive facilities of concern in Thailand, Lao PDR and Vietnam shows no further increase and by 31 March 2024 has declined by 10% from a 2019 baseline of 2,577 to 2,320.

Countries	Vietnam (at 31/03/23)	Thailand (at 31/03/23)	Lao PDR (at 31/03/23)
Facilities (total)	17	67	5
Facilities of concern	6	31	5
Captive tigers (total)	314	1,790*	344 - 451
Tigers in facilities of concern	129	1,276	344 - 451

* The decline in Thailand is primarily due to the number of tigers that were confiscated from the Sri Racha Tiger Zoo and Tiger Temple and several subsequent deaths after they had been moved to DNP facilities.

3.4 Monitoring of assumptions

Outcome Level Assumptions

- 1) There is increasing commitment resulting from COVID-19, including growing impetus for a green recovery, to reduce risk of another zoonotic pandemic.

Target 11 of the historic Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, agreed at the 15th meeting of the Conference of Parties to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity in December 2022, specifically mentions reduction of disease risk in relation to ecosystem services; “Restore, maintain and enhance nature’s contributions to people, including ecosystem functions and services, such as regulation of air, water, and climate, soil health, pollination and reduction of disease risk, as well as protection from natural hazards and disasters, through nature-based solutions and ecosystem-based approaches for the benefit of all people and nature”.

- 2) Governments in the region remain committed to ending the illegal tiger trade.

On paper this commitment was reiterated in 2022 [Vladivostok Declaration](#) following the 2nd International Tiger Summit in September 2022. EIA and partners continue to leverage this commitment to push for implementation of obligations under CITES.

- 3) National FIUs have the mandate and capacity to include tiger/wildlife crime in their work.

This is variable across the region. Wildlife crime is a recognised predicate offence to money laundering and FIUs have the mandate, though different FIUs have different roles and capacity to act. Thailand’s Anti-Money Laundering Office has demonstrated capacity in two historical cases; [Chaimat](#) and [Boonchai](#). Most recently Vietnam was found to have [missed opportunities](#) to conduct financial investigations associated with wildlife crime, though they have collaborated with [China](#) on financial investigations. The Hong Kong FIU has not taken action in relation to the US OFAC listing of the HK registered [Kings Romans Group](#) based in Lao PDR. The FIU in Lao PDR has recognised they too had [missed opportunities](#) in the past and whilst the evaluation report from Lao PDR evaluation has not yet been made public, reliable sources report that they have underperformed. Failure to implement FATF recommendations carries risk to national financial institutions and while underperformance is not desirable, the process can trigger greater political will to enhance compliance.

- 4) Law enforcement agencies respond positively to independent findings.

Authorities in Vietnam, China and Thailand have previously responded positively to ENV, EIA and WFFT information respectively. Given the transnational nature of the networks that are currently the focus of the project's attention, action in these three countries would significantly disrupt trade but the partners have also found that USFWS plays a vital role where transnational criminal networks are concerned. See Year 2 progress report above on Outcome indicator 0.1

- 5) US government continues to invest in international law enforcement support and cooperation.

As previously reported, this has been confirmed by the USFWS Office of Law Enforcement (OLE) in personal communication to ENV, EIA and WFFT. Also see See Year 2 progress report above on Outcome indicator 0.1

- 6) EIA and project partners continue to be able to share actionable information in anonymous way to law enforcement in project countries via proxies such UNODC and USFWS to maintain security of EIA and project partner personnel, where necessary.

As previously reported, this has been confirmed to EIA in personal communication by the UNODC and USFWS OLE.

- 7) More public exposure of corruption and failure to act results in more international pressure on policymakers to change.

[Public exposes](#) are recognised as important in the fight against corruption in general.

- 8) EIA and project partners can access FATF regional bodies, FIUs and affiliated agencies directly or access via the UNODC.

As reported above in the progress sections, this has proven to be the case.

- 9) Information about law enforcement activities and prosecutions relating to tiger trade continues to be published in news media, accessible court records and government reports.

This continues to be the case as documented through EIA's [Global Environmental Crime Tracker](#), with limitations recognised within the accompanying user guide. However, as reported above in the progress section, information on historical Thai prosecutions has not been possible to access yet.

- 10) By combating crime and corruption in trafficking and trade hotspots governance, and subsequently development opportunities for affected communities, will improve.

This is the premise of [global anti-corruption](#) initiatives. Current failures to address crime and corruption at the [Golden Triangle Special Economic Zone](#), a crime convergence venue puts women at particular risk.

- 11) Travel restrictions imposed under COVID-19 are eased.

Travel restrictions have now mostly eased.

Output Level Assumptions (those not already covered under Outcome Level Assumptions above)

- 1) Assumes that IGOs such as the UNODC, Interpol and World Customs Organisation (WCO) and international NGOs continue to lead on delivering training and capacity building to national law enforcement agencies negating the need for EIA and partners to organise workshops independently.

Institutionally and through ICCWC, [UNODC](#), [INTERPOL](#), [WCO](#), have long term commitments to support national efforts to counter wildlife trafficking through capacity building. In addition, the SDG 15.7 Working Group in Lao PDR has identified other stakeholders providing training in a bid to streamline efforts and this presents future opportunities for EIA and partners to provide tiger-related case studies.

- 2) Financial institutions are sufficiently concerned about IWT to accept and act on typologies provided.

Financial institutions do not report on specific cases but have requested un-sanitised information from EIA following presentations in Year 2 which indicates concern.

- 3) Banks avoid offering services to individuals and companies entered into “know your customer” databases.

As above, banks cannot divulge information on specific cases, it might not be possible to measure against submissions to “Know Your Customer” databases, but it is the premise as it relates to all crime types.

- 4) Private sector commitments as per declarations are genuine and instances of member association with IWT are addressed.

There still appears to be implementation issues e.g. whilst social media companies have responded to reports from ENV, more proactive and consistent action is required by [social media companies](#). Some courier companies that have signed up to [voluntary codes of conduct](#) are still used by traffickers. EIA will seek to challenge this in public communications in Year 3

- 5) UfW Taskforces continue to operate and accept new members.

The Task Forces are still operating and open to new members <https://unitedforwildlife.org/>. Furthermore, related to other industry initiatives to tackle IWT and as reported above in the progress section, two companies have recently signed up to the Buckingham Palace Declaration

- 6) EIA and partners can access national law makers.

Confirmed for Thailand and Vietnam. In the near-term, EIA and partners can channel inputs through third parties in order to engage with law makers in Lao PDR e.g via the SDG 15.7 Working Group. EIA submits comments on law and policy amends in China via online comment portals. The embassies of project countries in the UK are accessible.

- 7) Domestic and international public opinion has an impact on law makers’ deliberations and on foreign government positions.

There are examples that suggest this is the case e.g. China [suspends implementation](#) of a State Council Order allowing use of captive bred tiger bone and rhino horn, Nghe An authorities respond to negative reputation as a lawless province (see Section 3.1), negative publicity around tiger farming and lawlessness in Lao PDR catalysed an [initial response](#), but the lesson learned is that these efforts need to be sustained. In Year 2, Thailand appears to have increased activity in response to project research findings and increased attention in the lead up to and during the CITES missions.

- 8) Domestic and international media will run stories on tiger / wildlife crime and corruption.

Media coverage of wildlife crime continues to be widespread including on tigers in national and international media.

- 9) Women are represented in parliament / national assemblies.

[Women hold approximately](#) 16% of the seats in Thailand, 25% in China, 22% in Lao PDR and 30% in Vietnam.

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

The desired higher-level impact of the project is that trade in parts and derivatives is no longer the primary threat to tigers and that intelligence-led enforcement reduces the impacts of wildlife crime on communities living in trafficking and trade hotspots.

The project has contributed to law enforcement operations against several key figures and networks linked to tigers (See Section 2 and 3.3), though with one key transnational figure the three partners were among four regular sources of information. The project has also enabled the partners to determine that the number of persons, companies and networks involved is higher than anticipated at the beginning of the project. Communicating the scale of the problem has presented both a challenge and an opportunity to national and international enforcement agencies.

Dating back to the first project (046) through to this project (104), collective NGO awareness raising and exposes, including at CITES, and consequently collective donor-funded projects across southeast Asia appear to have mobilised and supported official actions to start tackling tiger trade and tiger farming. At least in Thailand there is a recognition of the challenges and some determined law enforcement officials trying to [disrupt networks](#) across borders, but poaching is still a primary threat to their remaining [wild tiger](#) population. [Forensic projects](#) will help determine where tigers in trade are coming from, contributing to commitments by Thailand to halt the leakage of tigers from captive facilities; at the CITES Big Cats Task Force meeting in April 2023, Thai officials identified the need to strengthen regulations surrounding the keeping and breeding of tigers as well as monitoring and inspection processes and tools.

There has been progress in Vietnams enforcement response including through prosecutions and willingness to address legislative gaps (see reporting under Output 1 and 4 Activities and Annex 4), though the there is still more to be done to address illegal keeping and trading of tigers in Nghe An Province and cross-border trade with Lao PDR on captive tigers. At the CITES Big Cats Task Force meeting Vietnam committed to greater cooperation with neighbouring countries, including Lao PDR and Cambodia where there are no wild tigers left. Greater cooperation is also required further afield to prevent Vietnamese poaching gangs killing wild tigers for trade e.g., in Thailand and Malaysia.

The project is contributing to growing recognition of the impact of the lack of political will and rule of law in Lao PDR as a major obstacle to effective enforcement within Lao PDR and regionally, at least among some key stakeholders. With review of Lao PDR performance under CITES non-compliance procedures and the FATF evaluation process there are future opportunities for the international community to use more stick over carrot to trigger political will.

Whilst the project has contributed to the above changes and opportunities for change, poaching is still a primary threat for the remaining wild tiger populations and online trade of tiger parts is still prevalent.

The project identified the Golden Triangle Special Economic Zone as a most obvious case study in terms of a crime and corruption convergence venue, where women and migrant workers are most vulnerable to exploitation. The project informs government and other stakeholders of interventions that could have a positive impact, but the governments of Lao PDR and China (via the HK FIU) are still failing to take adequate action to disrupt the US-designated Zhao Wei Transnational Criminal Organisation that is running the GTSEZ with the Lao PDR government. In Year 2 we confirmed that tiger and bear farming were continuing onsite, but equally there were horrific reports of [human rights abuses](#) and modern slavery emerging from the GTSEZ, with Lao PDR authorities seemingly struggling to take decisive action to prevent and prosecute anyone involved. Since [EIA's first expose](#) of Zhao Wei and the GTSEZ in 2015, there has been increased attention on the GTSEZ from a diverse range of stakeholders: governments, UN agencies, media and criminologists. This has sparked greater focus on a number of casino-led operations as [convergence venues](#) for a range of serious crime types, adding to the pressure for high level political intervention to take meaningful action.



4. Thematic focus

This project is aligned to ensuring effective legal frameworks and deterrents, in particular calling for the closure of domestic markets, restricting the keeping and breeding of tigers for commercial purposes to reduce the supply of captive tiger parts and products that is otherwise perpetuating the desirability of tiger parts and stimulating demand. Output 4 activities and associated communications and advocacy materials will be used in Year 3 to campaign for changes in laws and policies.

The project is heavily aligned towards strengthening law enforcement with the activities, intelligence, and analytical products under Outputs 1, 2 and 3 providing information to traditional law enforcement stakeholders, and the private sector, so that they have the information they need to disrupt trade and criminal networks.

5. Impact on species in focus

Please describe the impact your project is having on the species in focus. Please support all comments with evidence and use indicators from your logframe.

An impact on tigers is in promoting the implementation of CITES Decisions that will formalise scrutiny over the project countries in relation to tiger farming and trade (see evidence for Activity 4.7 and 4.8). Keeping tigers (and other Asian big cats) firmly on the agenda at CITES through the Captive Tiger Facility Missions, and in the public eye, is critical to secure time-bound, country-specific measures.

Key persons and networks of concern to the partners have made it onto the agenda of law enforcement agencies that are able to disrupt significant tiger trafficking networks before the end of the project (see Outcome 0.1). By pushing not just for arrests, but prosecutions and parallel financial investigations, and being prepared to publicise successes, we can increase the deterrent effect. The targeting of online traders and private sector stakeholders (e.g., banks and social media companies) can help to reduce the visibility, accessibility, and perceived acceptability of buying tiger parts and products. With the wealth of information being secured by the partners, we will also be well placed to expose and critique failures to prevent tiger trade, thereby maintaining pressure on project country governments to act or face non-compliance measures under CITES and potentially the Financial Action Task Force.

Poaching for trade is a key threat to wild tiger survival. Where national level commitment to intelligence-led enforcement is prevalent, and where national laws prohibit domestic trade and tiger farming, [organised tiger trade](#) has been reduced, and populations have started to [recover](#), but that is largely in south Asia. If wild tigers are to survive in or return to parts of southeast Asia, lessons learned must be transferred. This project takes a multi-pronged approach to countering trade: by disrupting networks where wild and captive tigers, their parts and derivatives converge; by addressing tiger farming as a supply of tigers - their parts and derivatives entering trade, particularly online trade thus perpetuating the desirability, accessibility and acceptability of tiger parts; and, by addressing enabling legislation that stimulates tiger farming and trade.

6. Project support to poverty reduction

Indirectly, the project will benefit those communities living at the point of convergence of wildlife crime and corruption, typically in border areas or convergence venues such as casino-dominated special economic zones, where wildlife crime takes place alongside other crime types. By promoting more effective enforcement, including targeting of senior network members, the project is improving rule of law and governance in the project countries, contributing to SDG16 on peaceful and inclusive societies. Disruption of criminal networks which frequently drive corruption in border areas to facilitate movement of contraband, will be particularly significant given high impacts of corruption in the project countries.

With a priority on conducting field research in Year 2 following the lifting of travel restrictions, in Year 3 the project partner teams will extract information from the resultant trip reports, transcripts and intelligence reports to consolidate an assessment of convergence of different crime types and corruption alongside wildlife trafficking at locations visited and will monitor potential impact of interventions on other crime types. A report will be disseminated to relevant law enforcement agencies and members of the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime to inform other stakeholders crime, governance and development initiatives and maximise positive impact on vulnerable communities. The project will indirectly benefit communities impacted by other crime types, including women who are disproportionately affected by crime such as human trafficking.

Further afield, project success could potentially unlock benefits to rural communities from tiger-related tourism in Thailand. By helping to prevent the regional extinction of wild tigers, a flagship charismatic species, the project will help to maintain conditions for future ecotourism development. That potential is not an immediate prospect in Lao PDR and Vietnam, where wild tigers are extinct, but project success would help to address the causes of these extinctions and lay foundations for potential future reintroductions.

7. Gender equality and social inclusion

EIA and partners have internal procedures to safeguard gender equality at the organisational level.

Both men and women are involved in trafficking of tigers and other IWT in the Mekong region, including senior roles in criminal networks. EIA and partners have improved our ability to extract and disaggregate data on gender of persons of interest and will include this disaggregation in confidential and public reports on tiger trafficking where appropriate. In this Year 2 annual report, we have included disaggregation by gender, role, and nationality in our reporting of identified criminal networks and submission to 'know your customer' databases.

In year 3, we will look for opportunities to publicise the role of women in countering wildlife trafficking both within the law enforcement sector, among the private sector and within our organisations. Some of the venues where tiger trafficking takes place in the Mekong are also locations for other crime types which disproportionately impact upon women, including human trafficking, drug trafficking and associated exploitation of women e.g., at the [Golden Triangle Special Economic Zone](#). By reporting information on this convergence, the project will help to encourage and facilitate involvement of multiple agencies devoted to different crime types and associated resources and political will, thereby ensuring synergies, and increasing effectiveness of interventions.

Please quantify the proportion of women on the Project Board ² .	67% (2 out of 3 people)
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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.

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 .	67% (2 out of 3 partners)
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8. Monitoring and evaluation

Our project Outcome is “Effective enforcement of improved legal frameworks disrupts tiger trafficking networks operating in the Mekong region reducing negative impacts on wild tiger populations and communities living in crime hotspots”. Output 1 centres around ensuring law enforcement agencies have the information they need to disrupt tiger trafficking networks; our theory of change is that the provision of intelligence resulting from project activities will directly enhance agencies capability for this. Outputs 2 and 3 centre around private sector entities having the information they need to stop tiger trafficking inadvertently facilitated by their business; our theory of change is that the provision of information will contribute to their ability to do so. Output 4 centres around advocating for policy reform; our theory of change is that by undertaking legal reviews, subsequent suggested policy amendments, and targeted advocacy around key international meetings will result in increased impetus for positive policy reform.

As reported at the end of Year 1, an M&E plan including a data collection plan was created against the original logframe, but during the project kick-off and initial planning meeting with partners, we agreed to revise the logframe. These changes were discussed at length during our Year 2 in-person meeting that took place in February 2023 in Hanoi. Following this, we developed a Change Request (non-financial) and submitted to NIRAS in early April 2023.

Work to revise the M&E plan accordingly is currently underway alongside updates to the project tracking system and we will happily share the revised M&E plan with NIRAS once it’s ready (this is also pending approval of our April 2023 Change Request). M&E is a shared responsibility by all partners and each partner collects M&E data related to their specific project elements and responsibilities, with EIA having responsibility for bringing the information together and ensuring communication flows. To support this, we use FileDrop (a feature of SharePoint) to store shared documents and databases. Information is shared amongst partners as part of specific joint operations, during regular project check-in calls, and, when possible, at in-person project meetings. It was great to be able to hold our Year 2 in-person meeting at the ENV office in Hanoi in February, especially as WFFT project staff were able to travel from Thailand to join in -person as well. The meeting took place over three days and focussed on comprehensive discussions amongst partners about field work that had taken place over the previous 12 months, planning next steps for field missions, planning for dissemination and distribution of intelligence, a specific section dedicated to project M&E, and almost a full day dedicated to legal and policy reform, advocacy, and outreach (please see supporting document 1 for full meeting agenda).

9. Lessons learned

The project partners recognised that with the reduced timeframe in which to complete the project, from three years to two years and four months, that the initial plan was too ambitious. As may be typical of stakeholders in the environmental sector we sought to push as much as we could in the first year (straddling Years 1 and 2) before finalising agreed changes to the logframe. This created a rod for our own backs and with hindsight we would have prioritised adjusting this earlier.

Another lesson learned is that some aspects of the M&E require additional research and collation of proxy information, which adds time pressures on project delivery staff. Ideally where budgets allow, the inclusion of additional personnel time for that research would be desirable and/or reduce the indicators and means of verification.

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.

In an ideal world, the means for projects to share M&E information relevant to particular species or geographies might assist in future, and we would reach out more directly to other projects where there was complementarity.

In general EIA was impacted by the delay in securing key staff until just over halfway through Year 2 (see Section 12).

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

Timeline, supporting evidence, and M&E plan

Feedback from our Year 1 annual report requested submission of our M&E plan, a revised timeline, and supporting evidence that included intelligence reports. As reported above in the M&E section, following our Change Request in submitted in April 2023 which requested numerous logframe changes, work to revise the M&E accordingly is underway and will be completed once we have confirmation of the Change Request approval. We will happily share this with NIRAS once it is ready. Likewise, work is underway to develop a specific Year 3 timeline and once annual reporting is complete focus will be returned to the revised M&E plan Year 3 timeline development and submission to NIRAS made in due course. Regarding example intelligence reports, please see supporting documentation provided with this report.

Sustainability of outputs, outcomes, and impacts after project end

ENV's operations are well established and their work in this field will continue post-project, both in the context of supporting law enforcement and strengthening legal frameworks in Vietnam. WFFT's Executive Director is a member of the relevant Thai Parliamentary Committee enabling continued engagement on strengthening legal frameworks in Thailand. The project is engaging with the SDG 15.7 Working Group in Lao PDR to channel our recommendations for strengthening of legal frameworks in Lao PDR, which will continue beyond this project. EIA is institutionally committed to continuing advocacy through CITES, United for Wildlife and FIUs enabling long term engagement at the international level towards compliance, enforcement and strengthening legal frameworks. This will give longevity to the findings, outputs and outcomes of the project and contribute to longer-term impacts. EIA's work relating to strengthening legal frameworks in China is supported through another project which will continue beyond this project. Following analysis of field research findings in Year 2 and Q1 of Year 3, EIA and partners will review focus areas for future field and desk-based research and seek new funding accordingly to be able to monitor changes to outputs and outcomes of this project as well as target emerging trends.

IWT CF branding

With a focus on field research in Year 2, greater emphasis will be on restricted distribution and public facing outputs in Year 3 presenting an opportunity to increase IWT CF branding and visibility.

Covid contingency planning

The only impact on the project from COVID-19 was restrictions on travel into China in Year 2, but the project partners placed emphasis on field research within the borders of neighbouring countries instead. Along with the desk-based research this generated information relevant to trade into China. There was no need for any further COVID-19 related contingency planning. Towards the end of Year 2, as China's borders have opened, the partners have documented trader testimony regarding the influx of Chinese traders and tourists to wildlife-trade tourism destinations.

It is generally recognised that virus shedding associated with stressed animals in wildlife farms and wildlife trade is a key opportunity for the spillover of zoonotic pathogens. Whilst the project is not looking at the species most likely to be intermediate species for COVID-19 (at present attention is on raccoon dogs, mink, and other intensively farmed fur-bearing animals), there are animal and human health risks associated with tiger farming. This is recognised under the UNODC SAFE project, which has been supported by EIA and WFFT (see Output 1).

Indicator 0.1 and country specific baselines and indicators

It was suggested in our Year 1 annual report review that we consider revising up indicator 0.1. We feel this may originate from a misunderstanding as the indicator is quite ambitious already. It is aiming for 10 tiger trafficking networks to be identified *by government agencies*. Perhaps the confusion may have arisen from us reporting networks identified and mapped by project partners and those being pursued by government agencies. We report both metrics for context, but the indicator has been set to measure the activity of government agencies against tiger trafficking networks rather than the activity of project partners.

Our project deliberately takes a regional approach across the Mekong aligned with the transnational nature of tiger trafficking networks, and therefore most of our indicators are regional rather than country specific (though, where possible we breakdown into country specific metrics for reporting purposes). As part of our recent exercise to adjust the project logframe we considered changes to indicators including country specific indicators and this formed part of our discussion. At this time, we do not feel that further county specific indicators would add further value, but we will continue to breakdown metrics in reports to show country level achievements where appropriate.

Attribution

The project partners were asked to consider how we could demonstrate attribution for the work around strengthening legal frameworks and enforcement. With regards to law and policy reform one way we can measure this is where legal language prepared by the project partners is reflected in revised law, regulations, policies, and guidelines. Given that legislative reform takes longer than the project period and given we have identified how the project partners will continue to engage beyond the project period, we will be able to monitor and capture this. We recognise through our work at CITES and the EU level that we may often be the catalyst for reform but collaborate informally with other NGOs to strengthen the calls for change. This may be different in Vietnam where ENV have been leading national advocacy for policy reform around the keeping and breeding of tigers.

With regards to enforcement outcomes, ENV are aware from direct engagement where they are the primary source of information in support of law enforcement operations targeting priority tiger trafficking networks. In relation to the apprehension of the key transnational trafficker referred to in progress under Output 4 and Indicator 0.1, EIA and partners received direct acknowledgement from the enforcement agency confirming that along with one other NGO, our information was instrumental to the operation.

11. Risk Management

No new risks have been identified in the Year 2 period beyond those detailed and discussed in our April 2023 Change Request and subsequent conversations. We continue to assess risk related to the project. We are aware of the BCF Risk Management Guidance (May 2022), and the various internal and external risks associated with the project and the need to mitigate against them. To date we have not developed a project specific risk register (though EIA uses an organisational-level Risk Management Register) but we note the encouragement to do so, and the helpful and comprehensive template provided, and will continue to review this internally and with our partners.

12. Other comments on progress not covered elsewhere

The main difficulty encountered during the year was the delay in finding an experienced and knowledgeable person to fulfil the role of Senior Campaigner on the project in EIA. We are delighted that Vicky Dauncey joined the team in mid-October 2022, at 80% capacity level for the first six months (to mid-April 2023), and full-time thereafter. Vicky's CV will follow but in brief, she brings tiger conservation knowledge, experience in project management including of DEFRA projects, and partner relationships and development.

As an interim, the project leader increased time on the project but in addition to other EIA Tiger Campaign commitments, which was a strain for a period of time in Year 2. Recruitment of

personnel onto a different EIA Tiger Campaign project brought legal expertise in CITES and comparative law into the organisation team, which we have drawn upon to support this project. Chinese language capacity across EIA in the context of research was reduced in most of Year 2, but recruitment of staff into the Intelligence team with Chinese language skills, supported by other EIA projects, means that this project will have access to this resource.

We are looking forward now to Year 3 with a full complement of staff on the project and wider organisational resources and support to enhance the project outputs.

13. Sustainability and legacy

The project aims to consolidate a permanent shift in regional trade dynamics through changes in government policies related to the keeping and breeding of tigers. By publicising effective enforcement outcomes, the project will help to institutionalise good practice, reinforced through recommendations under CITES and FATF processes, which have provisions to encourage compliance.

Transport, finance, and social media company commitments to adopt risk assessment mechanisms will embed proactive actions in these sectors. Implicated finance and transport companies that are not already members will be encouraged to join the UfW Taskforces. ENV has a well-established wildlife trafficking programme in Vietnam underpinned by collaboration with enforcement agencies and private sector, which will continue beyond the project. The project will help to further institutionalise counter-wildlife trafficking programmes at WFFT through sharing of expertise, systems, and experience.

Further information is provided under Section 10 above.

14. IWT Challenge Fund identity

We have advised stakeholders verbally that the project is supported by the IWT CF during meetings e.g. with foreign government representatives in the project countries, UN personnel, other NGOs.

As with public facing outputs in [2018](#) and [2020](#) from the previous project we will publicise the IWT CF support in the reports we plan to release in Year 3 (we have prioritised field research in Year 2 so most of our public outputs will be released in the coming year.)

We hadn't included the IWTCF or other donor logos in the presentations we delivered at CITES or INTERPOL and this was an oversight.

With the EIA project team at full capacity now, we will be more proactive in disseminating project outputs on social media as appropriate and in connecting with the IWT CF channels.

15. Safeguarding

Has your Safeguarding Policy been updated in the past 12 months?	Yes (see supporting documents bundle for updated policy)
Have any concerns been investigated in the past 12 months	No
Does your project have a Safeguarding focal point?	Yes – Bill Dishington, Head of HR and Operations, [REDACTED]
Has the focal point attended any formal training in the last 12 months?	No
What proportion (and number) of project staff have received formal training on Safeguarding?	Past: 0% Planned: None.

Has there been any lessons learnt or challenges on Safeguarding in the past 12 months?
Please ensure no sensitive data is included within responses.

No

Does the project have any developments or activities planned around Safeguarding in the coming 12 months? If so please specify.

No safeguarding concerns have been raised or identified during this project.

EIA maintains regular and frequent contact with its partners (particularly those in-country) and we expect them to state if there have been any safeguarding issues or other forms of discrimination that have taken place during the reporting period.

EIA has several policies that ensure the safety of staff, partners, and external contacts that EIA may engage with directly or indirectly. These include policies on: Safeguarding Adults, Children and Young People; and Safeguarding Codes of Conduct, Whistleblowing.

All EIA policies were reviewed in March 2023 and re-circulated to all staff for access. The policies will be further reviewed by the Trustees in May 2023. They are available to staff via the intranet system.

While formal training in these policies is not a requirement to date, all staff are provided with these documents as part of their induction process and are required to confirm that they have received and read them. Staff are also reminded of the policies at 1-2-1 meetings and job reviews.

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	250,797	250,797		

Table 2: Project mobilising of matched funding during the reporting period (1 April 2022 – 31 March 2023)

	Matched funding secured to date	Total matched funding expected by end of project
Matched funding leveraged by the partners to deliver the project.		
Total additional finance mobilised by new activities building on evidence, best practices and project (£)		

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 (please leave this line in to indicate your agreement to use any material you provide here).~~

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 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>Trade in parts and derivatives is no longer the primary threat to tigers; intelligence-led enforcement reduces the impacts of the wildlife crime on communities living in trafficking and trade hotspots</p>		<p>(Report on any contribution towards positive impact on illegal wildlife trade or positive changes in the conditions of human communities impacted by illegal trade e.g. steps towards alternative and sustainable livelihoods)</p> <p>The project has contributed to awareness at the national and international level regarding threats from tiger trade and tiger farming, with progress in recognition of the challenges and responses from authorities in Thailand and Vietnam. The project also contributed to the arrest of a major figure within a transnational criminal network.</p>	
<p>Outcome</p> <p>Effective enforcement of improved legal frameworks disrupts tiger trafficking networks operating in the Mekong region reducing negative impacts on wild tiger populations and communities living in crime hotspots</p>	<p>0.1 By 31 March 2024, the number of criminal networks identified trafficking tigers and other big cats in and through the project countries, by government agencies, increases to at least ten, from a 2019 baseline of five (representing 174 entities including persons of interest and companies), with an interim target of eight by 31 March 2023.</p> <p>0.2 (Removed)</p> <p>0.3 By 31 March 2024, from a baseline level of 14 prosecutions in 2018, the number of tiger traders prosecuted increases to at least 20 traders per year. A more robust baseline will be prepared in Q1 of the project for Vietnam, and 31 March 2021 for China and Lao PDR, with</p>	<p>3 new networks pursued by government agencies (following project partner intelligence package sharing). Two national arrests and one international.</p> <p>(19 new networks identified and 16 of those mapped)</p> <p>Baselines set for China and Lao PDR, but more detailed analysis required (see Section 3.3)</p> <p>Vietnam: 27 prosecutions</p> <p>Thailand: 4 prosecutions</p>	<p>0.1 The three partners will continue to update the information on the criminal networks that are currently being pursued by government agencies, and the other 16, drawing on information generated by activities under Output 1m throughout Year 3.</p> <p>0.3 Ongoing research, translation, and analysis to monitor and promote prosecution of pending cases throughout Year 3</p> <p>0.4 Field research to remaining facilities not visited in Thailand, annual inspections in Vietnam Year 3.</p>

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2022 - March 2023	Actions required/planned for next period
	<p>prosecutions as a percentage of people arrested / charged, and a percentage of people identified / reported</p> <p>0.4 By 31 March 2023, the number of tigers in private captive facilities of concern in Thailand, Lao PDR and Vietnam shows no further increase and by 31 March 2024 has declined by 10% from a 2019 baseline of 2,577 to 2,320.</p>	<p>Lao PDR: 2</p> <p>China: specifics unknown (Myanmar: 0 prosecutions)</p> <p>Thailand: 1,276 tigers in facilities of concern</p> <p>Vietnam: 129 tiger in facilities of concern</p> <p>Lao PDR: 426 tigers in facilities of concern</p>	
<p>Output 1. National and international law enforcement agencies active in the project countries, have the information needed to plan operations targeting criminal networks trafficking tigers and other illegal wildlife, and to support transboundary cooperation, including on financial investigations.</p>	<p>1.1 The number of criminal networks involved in tiger, other big cat and IWT trafficking that are mapped out by EIA and partners using visual analysis software, including data on role, nationality, and gender and shared with trusted law enforcement in the project countries (e.g. police forces, Customs, anti-corruption agencies, wildlife officials) and relevant international enforcement agencies (e.g. Interpol, USFWS, UNODC, WCO), increases from a baseline of five in 2020, to at least seven by 31 March 2023, nine by 31 March 2024 and at least ten by 31 March 2025</p> <p>1.2 The number of EIA intelligence documents (reports, summaries and assessments) on wildlife traffickers operating in the project countries, along with information on convergence with corruption and other crime types where relevant, disseminated to trusted law</p>	<p><i>Evidence for Output 1 indicators is provided in the narrative body of the report</i></p> <p>19 new tiger trafficking networks identified and 16 of those mapped</p> <p>78 intelligence documents disseminated to trusted law enforcement agencies (EIA 28 and partners 50)</p>	

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2022 - March 2023	Actions required/planned for next period
	<p>enforcement representatives and relevant international law enforcement agencies increases from a baseline of 27 in 2019 to at least 50 per year by 31 March 2022, 2023 and 2024</p> <p>1.3 The number of key trade locations, trafficking routes and smuggling methods profiled in reports by EIA and partners and shared with national and international law enforcement and IGOs increases to at least eight by 31 March 2022, and at least 10 by 31 March 2023 from a baseline of six in 2019</p> <p>1.4 By 31 March 2023, 95% (100% of the accessible) private facilities with captive tigers in Thailand have been documented and profiled by partners from a 2019 baseline of 53% (27 out of 51) facility profiles completed.</p> <p>1.5 By 31 March 2022, 31 March 2023 and 31 March 2024, EIA and partners report 100% of captive tiger facilities of concern in project countries to relevant national and international law enforcement, and relevant IGOs.</p> <p>1.6 (Removed)</p>	<p>6 trade locations, 6 trafficking routes, 10 smuggling methods mapped and shared with law enforcement agencies</p> <p>Full list of known captive tiger facilities in Thailand: Now stands at 67 Total visited (in-person): 42 Drone surveyed (due to not being able to enter): 6 A further 5 are inaccessible and 9 are not located at the registered addresses</p> <p>100% of known captive tiger facilities of concern were reported to the CITES Secretariat to support 'tiger missions'</p>	
<p>Activities (Insert activities relevant to this output)</p> <p>1.1 Collation of open source information on tiger crime incidents and case outcomes (including achievements of women in securing successful prosecutions); online and physical trade observations; prices; individuals and companies involved including businesses associated with captive tiger facilities; affiliations with government officials and politicians and role of corruption; convergence with trade in other big cats, ivory, pangolin, rhino, bear and rosewood; and convergence with other forms of crime such as drug or weapons smuggling or human trafficking</p>		<p>As per activities 1.1 and 1.2, the collation of information from online sources relating to tiger crime incidents, both open-source information on seizures and court cases, as well as online trade observations, and information on the individuals and companies involved, was ongoing throughout Year 2 by all three partners.</p>	<p>1.1 Ongoing throughout Year 3</p> <p>1.2 Social media research ongoing throughout Year 3. ENV field work continues throughout Year 3, EIA concentrating field work in Year 3 Q1 except where supporting WFFT field research.</p>

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2022 - March 2023	Actions required/planned for next period
<p>Service, UNODC), and other enforcement agencies with interest in combating other crime types of which convergence with tiger trade has been documented through field and desk research (including WCO, UNODC, member states to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ), UN Convention on Transnational Organised Crime (UNTOC) and Convention against Corruption (UNCAC))</p> <p>1.10 Sustain engagement with national and Provincial government officials to build on momentum following recent enforcement action in Nghe An province</p>		<p>1.10 Has been ongoing throughout year 2 as detailed further in sections 3.1 and 3.2.</p>	
<p>Output 2. Financial institutions and national Financial Intelligence Units (FIUs) have sufficient information to identify financial flows linked to tiger trafficking</p>	<p>2.1 Number of financial typologies related to tiger trafficking networks and convergence with corruption and other crime types produced by EIA and partners and accepted by financial institutes and FIUs increases from a baseline of zero in 2019 to target of one by 31 March 2022, two by 31 March 2023, three by 31 March 2024</p> <p>2.2 Number of accepted submissions to Know Your Customer databases including data on role, nationality, gender, and age, increases from a baseline of 62 tiger specific submissions accepted in 2019 to 200 by 31 March 2024</p> <p>2.3 (Removed)</p> <p>2.4 Number of physical or virtual meetings with Financial Intelligence Unit personnel, or where they are not accessible to civil society, with third parties willing to share project findings is at a rate of at least one per year and 100% of appropriate intelligence is disseminated to FIUs by 31 March 2024</p>	<p><i>Evidence for Output 2 indicators is provided in the narrative body of the report</i></p> <p>EIA is preparing a second typology on tiger trade in the Mekong following field research in Year 2 (this is an addition to the typology referred to in Year1). This has not yet been finalised therefore but will be disseminated at the beginning of Year 3. EIA has also disseminated 2 financial case studies and 1 red flag document to FIUs via UfW and directly, and EIA and ENV have issued alerts on bank accounts used in tiger trade via UfW to prompt FIUs to get national financial institutions to record suspicious transaction reports (See Activities 2.1 – 2.3). This indicator is measured using records in Disseminations Tracker, see confidential supporting document 14.</p> <p>186 submissions, 111 accepted</p> <p>EIA had one physical meeting with the Vietnam FIU in Year 2 and has continued to share information with them since the meeting. We also met with the UK Regional Crime Coordinator based out of Bangkok and the lead for the UNODC Anti-Money Laundering Programme for Asia-Pacific, who can act as future conduits for information to project countries FIUs as appropriate</p>	

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2022 - March 2023	Actions required/planned for next period
<p>2.1 Disseminate anonymised typologies prepared as per 1.8 directly to government Financial Intelligence Units (FIU) and via related organisations such as UNODC</p> <p>2.2 Disseminate anonymised typologies prepared as per 1.8 directly to banks and the United for Wildlife Financial Taskforce</p> <p>2.3 Prepare and disseminate non-anonymised information to FIUs and banks upon request and following appropriate procedures</p> <p>2.4 Monthly submission by EIA of open source criminal information to Thomson-Reuters “World-Check” database and other “Know Your Customer” systems used by financial institutions</p>		<p>Under activities 2.1 – 2.3, a second tiger-specific typology is in production and will be finalised and disseminated following field research in Year 3 Q1. In the interim, following an initial meeting between EIA and the Vietnam Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU) in year 2, EIA provided a list of “red flags” to assist the FIU and other financial institutions in Vietnam to detect suspicious transactions, including relating to tiger trade. In addition, two presentations describing the typology of tiger and other wildlife trade in the Mekong have been delivered.</p> <p>50+ intelligence disseminations were made to banks and financial institutions following EIA’s presentation to UfW on the GTSEZ</p> <p>2.4 was on going throughout year 2</p>	<p>2.1 Issue in Year 3 Q1 then ongoing throughout Year 3</p> <p>2.2 Dissemination pending feedback from recipients at activity 2.2</p> <p>2.3 – 2.4 ongoing throughout Year 3</p>
<p>Output 3. Other private sector entities who have signed on to commitments to help tackle IWT use information generated by the project to implement interventions to stop trafficking of tigers</p>	<p>3.1 The number of companies whose facilitation of tiger trafficking is profiled by EIA and partners increases to 40 by 31 March 2024 from a baseline of eight in 2019</p> <p>3.2 The number of reports or alerts submitted by EIA and partners to the UfW Taskforces, social media and e-commerce companies, tourism and traditional medicine companies and coalitions increases annually by at least 50%. Baseline to be determined by the end of Year 1, Q2.</p> <p>3.3 An increase in the number of incidents of remedial actions taken by members of taskforces / coalitions related to the transport, online sales, and social media, TCM and tourism</p>	<p><i>Evidence for Output 3 indicators is provided in the narrative body of the report</i></p> <p>EIA: 27</p> <p>WFFT: 10</p> <p>EIA: 50+ intelligence disseminations to banks and financial institutions</p> <p>ENV: 356 cases submitted to social media companies</p> <p>Of the social media submissions, 76% (273) were successfully resolved and the remaining 83 are ongoing</p>	

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2022 - March 2023	Actions required/planned for next period
	<p>sectors following receipt of information regarding their role in tiger trade from the project partners, from a baseline of eight in 2019 to 40 by 31 March 2024</p> <p>3.4 The number of additional private sector companies that join UfW Taskforces or other industry initiatives aimed at combating wildlife trafficking following outreach from the project partners increases to five by 31 March 2024, with an interim target of two by 31 March 2022, from a 2020 baseline of zero (targets to be reviewed at end of Year 1)</p> <p>3.5 (Removed)</p>	<p>1 (Evergreen Shipping Line)</p>	
<p>3.1 Using information from desk and field research, prepare alerts for sharing with United for Wildlife Transport Taskforce and with any companies that are not members regarding transportation methods and companies associated with tiger trade, so that they can be more vigilant in scrutinising customers to prevent the company being used as a conduit</p> <p>3.2 Collate online and social media trade offers in a partner database “Every Tiger Counts”, determine if individuals are of interest for further research, whether should be forwarded to law enforcement or reported immediately to the company responsible for the online platform.</p> <p>3.3 Prepare and disseminate alerts to social media companies and e-commerce companies based as per 3.2 so that accounts can be investigated or closed accordingly</p> <p>3.4 Include an annual summary of what was recorded online and the action taken by law enforcement or technical company in the news, reports and films at Output 4.</p> <p>(3.5, 3.6, 3.8 removed)</p> <p>3.7 Following outreach under 3.1-3.6, urge companies contacted that are not already members to join UfW Taskforces and other industry initiatives aimed at combating wildlife trafficking to ensure continuation of proactive efforts to address potential role in tiger trade and other IWT</p>		<p>Information relevant to the transport sector (activity 3.1) is being extracted alongside information that is being used to prepare the new Mekong tiger financial typology (activities 2.1-2.3) and will be disseminated in Year 3.</p> <p>See section 3.1, the partners retain separate databases, any accounts for reporting to social media companies have been channelled via ENV</p> <p>As above, 356 cases submitted to social media companies</p> <p>ENV publicise outcomes on their social media. Will include a summary in disseminations under Output 4 in Year 3</p> <p>Evergreen have made a commitment to join</p>	<p>3.1 Extract from intelligence generated by project, compile and disseminate in Year 3 Q2 and throughout Year 3</p> <p>3.2 – 3.3 Partners continue to pass accounts that determine should be reported to social media via ENV throughout Year 3 (unless sharing with law enforcement in Thailand or China)</p> <p>3.4 Include a summary in CITES SC77 output in Year 3 Q3 and for final project publication in Q4</p>

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2022 - March 2023	Actions required/planned for next period
<p>Output 4 Public-facing news stories, reports and films shared ahead of key international meetings create impetus for national decision-makers to implement international decisions and recommendations to tackle tiger trafficking and reverse policies that stimulate trade</p>	<p>4.1 The number of public reports by EIA and partners outlining tiger commodity flow / supply chains (including sourcing from captive facilities), convergence with other IWT (leopard, lion, elephant, rhino, pangolin, bear and rosewood), transaction points and methods, transportation and concealment methods, the role of women in trade and enforcement, impacts on development and poverty alleviation, convergence with corruption and other crime types (including trafficking of drugs, weapons and people) and recommendations for country-specific actions disseminated to policy makers and media increases from one in 2020 to four by 31 March 2024 including one before CITES SC74 (expected around September 2021), one before CITES CoP19 (March 2022), one before the next Year of the Tiger International Summit (2022, date TBD) and one before CITES SC77 (expected in 2023)</p> <p>4.2 The number of interventions made by project partners in collaboration with other NGOs such as WCS, WWF, World Animal Protection, IFAW, TRAFFIC and members of the Species Survival Network increases from a baseline of two in 2019 to four by 31 March 2024 including at least one each at CITES SC74 and SC77, and two at CoP19</p>	<p><i>Evidence for Output 4 indicators is provided in the narrative body of the report</i></p> <p>Elements of this indicator are addressed in 1 report and 2 presentations by EIA pre and during CITES CoP19 (See Activities 4.7). 2 reports are planned for Year 3, one before SC77 and one before the end of the project. We note that since this project grant was not awarded until November 2021 we should have included an amendment in the Year 2 change request.</p> <p>There were two interventions at SC74 (see Year 1 report), one at SC75 and one at CoP19, plus three side events where key points under Output 4 were reiterated. See supporting documents 16 a, b and c.</p> <p>A minimum of six meetings took place in Year 2.</p>	

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2022 - March 2023	Actions required/planned for next period
	<p>4.3 The number of foreign government embassies in the project countries that are briefed at least twice a year (though on a case-by-case basis depending on findings this can occur more than twice) by EIA and partners on project conclusions and recommendations increases from a baseline of two in 2020 to six by 31 March 2024.</p> <p>4.4 The number of policy briefings containing proposed revisions to national law and regulations prepared by EIA and partners and disseminated to national law makers increases from two in 2019 to seven by 31 March 2024</p> <p>4.5 (Removed)</p> <p>4.6 The number of positive policy or law amendments announced by project countries increases to four by 31 March 2024 from a 2019 baseline of two.</p> <p>4.7 The number of media articles and films reporting on the issues highlighted by the project increases from a baseline of 20 in 2018 (baseline may be adjusted pending review of 2019 media outputs) to at least 30 in each year of the project.</p> <p>4.8 The number of public outputs from the project (reports, films, blogs, policy briefings) highlighting success of women in countering wildlife trafficking in project countries, in law enforcement or NGOs, increases to four by 31 March 2024 from a baseline of one in 2020</p>	<p>EIA have physically met with US government personnel based in Thailand and Lao PDR once in Year 2 but correspond outside of those meetings. WFFT have met with the US at least twice in Year 2, EIA and WFFT met with UK Embassy personnel in Thailand once and with a representative of the EU Mission in Lao PDR once.</p> <p>ENV conducts routine in-person briefings of the US Embassy, and recently provided an online summary to representatives of the UK Secretary of State in preparation for her April Vietnam mission.</p> <p>Three policy briefings have been disseminated directly to national law makers and one indirectly in Year 2.</p> <p>As reported above in the activities section under Output 4, ENV is currently working with Vietnamese ministries MONRE and MARD to guide and facilitate regulation reforms regarding captive tiger operations. Furthermore, ENV contributed to draft banking law revisions in Vietnam, urging the State Bank to address money laundering by wildlife traffickers.</p> <p>220 articles, see Annex 4 tables 2 and 3 for evidence.</p> <p>Planned for Year 3</p>	

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2022 - March 2023	Actions required/planned for next period
	<p>4.9 The number of briefings, analyses and/or reports containing findings on trends in prices, trader testimony and perceptions of demand drivers and consumer demographics disseminated to governments, donors and other NGOs involved in demand reduction and consumer behaviour change campaigns increases to three by 31 March 2024 from a 2019 baseline of one</p>	<p>Two presentations have been delivered to relevant audiences illustrating demand, consumer preferences and demographics (see activities 4.7). More substantive written analyses will be prepared following extraction of information from Year 2 field research findings and prepared for dissemination in Year 3.</p>	
	<p>4.1 Commission a more in-depth legal review of loopholes in Thai and Lao PDR laws that results in non-compliance with CITES Resolutions and Decisions on Tigers and other Asian Big Cats and Readily Recognisable Derivatives, prepare recommendations to strengthen the Thai Wildlife Preservation and Protection Act and associated zoo licensing regulations, and Lao PDR Wildlife and Aquatic Law, associated regulations and Prime Ministerial Orders to reduce the keeping and breeding (intentional and “accidental”), of tigers for commercial purposes</p> <p>4.2 Channel the recommendations prepared above via the relevant Thai Parliamentary Committee (of which partner NGO WFFT’s Executive Director is a member), and via the SDG 15.7 Taskforce in Lao PDR</p> <p><i>(4.3 and 4.6 removed)</i></p> <p>4.4 ENV will continue to engage in a consultative process with Vietnamese government agencies over regulations to define, manage and regulate “conservation facilities”, aimed at arresting growth of commercial captive tiger operations, phasing them out and ensuring there is no leakage in the interim</p> <p>4.5 Sustain engagement with religious leaders, Party officials and Prime Minister’s Office on campaign for enforcement and phase out of tiger trade in Nghe An province in Vietnam</p> <p>4.7 Drawing on desk and field research under Output 1 and feedback following Output 2-4, update online public maps of seizures and locations of captive tiger facilities, prepare public facing reports, policy briefings and accompanying films on regional tiger trade, the role of corruption and implementation of national laws and CITES Resolutions and Decisions (highlighting success of women in counter wildlife trafficking), and convergence with other crime types, and disseminate ahead of bilateral (e.g. India-Russia) and multilateral tiger meetings (2nd</p>	<p>WFFT and EIA conducted a review of the Thai wildlife law as revised in 2019 and several associated regulations. EIA received a translation of the proposed revisions to Lao PDR wildlife laws as at February 2023 and will likewise review Lao PDR laws in the context of compliance with CITES and its relevant Resolutions and Decisions. Throughout Year 2 we have continued to monitor, analyse, and call for amendments to China’s Wildlife Protection Law (WPL) and associated regulations.</p> <p>4.2 is Planned for Year 3</p> <p>4.4 ENV has had success working with Vietnamese authorities towards refining regulations (see section 3.1)</p> <p>4.5 Ongoing in Year 2</p> <p>4.7 Ongoing in Year 2, updating of public maps of seizures and captive tiger locations has been going in year 2. Furthermore, (relating to both 4.7 and 4.10) EIA was invited to deliver a scene-setting presentation on demand for Asian big cat parts and derivatives,</p>	<p>4.1 Will continue into Q1 of Year 3</p> <p>4.2 Planned for Year 3 once the legal review has concluded.</p> <p>4.4– 4.5 Will continue throughout Year 3</p> <p>4.7 Embedding new maps on website by Year 3 Q2, several briefings and two reports in Year 3 with accompanying visuals where available, referencing themes in 4.7 where relevant, throughout Year 3</p> <p>4.8 Will continue into Year 3 dissemination TBD but pre-CITES SC77</p>

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2022 - March 2023	Actions required/planned for next period
<p>International Tiger Summit), meetings of the CITES Standing Committee and CITES Conference of the Parties to CITES Parties, relevant ministries, foreign embassies in project countries, project country embassies in donor countries, ICCWC members, member states of CPPCJ, UNOTC and UNCAC, and media, thereby mobilising international pressure to press for country-specific, time-bound actions by project countries to close domestic markets for tiger and other big cat parts, destroy stockpiles of parts and derivatives, and commit to phasing out tiger farms</p> <p>4.8 Liaise with like-minded NGOs and relevant experts to collectively urge all project countries to follow a process towards phasing out tiger farms, including through joint interventions and side events at meetings of the CITES Standing Committee and CITES Conference of the Parties</p> <p>4.9 Consult with (by conference call or in person) foreign embassies in Thailand, Myanmar, Vietnam Lao PDR and China to sense-check positive developments and obstacles relating to enforcement in the region, share investigation findings as appropriate, and encourage bilateral engagement to advocate for adoption of policy recommendations</p> <p>4.10 Use the fact that China is hosting the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity as a campaign call to lead on the closure of domestic markets for tiger and other big cat parts, destruction of stockpiles of parts and derivatives, and the phase out of tiger farms</p> <p>4.11 Analyse findings on trends in prices, trader testimony and perceptions of demand drivers and consumer demographics, consult with demand reduction experts, and advise stakeholders (donors, governments, and other NGOs) involved in demand reduction and consumer behaviour change campaigns so they can factor project findings into their campaign design</p>		<p>including trends and convergence between big cat species to the INTERPOL-USAID Asian Big Cats Dialogue in January 2023. The CITES Secretariat subsequently invited EIA to deliver a similar presentation but covering all big cat species including live, at the CITES Big Cats Task Force meeting in April 2023 (to be reported on in Year 3).</p> <p>4.8 EIA collaborated with an informal coalition of like-minded NGOs that were present at CITES CoP19 to update a roadmap for the phase out of captive tiger facilities, with EIA setting out definitions of what constitutes facilities of concern and red flags.</p> <p>4.9 EIA, WFFT and ENV have engaged with foreign embassy personnel in Thailand, Lao PDR, Vietnam, and China during Year 2</p> <p>4.10 Due to reduced staffing with expertise on China, we did not update the briefing referred to in Year 1. This activity is now closed as CBD passed.</p>	<p>4.9 & 4.11 Ongoing throughout Year 3</p>

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

Logframe as per April 2023 Change Request

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
Impact: Trade in parts and derivatives is no longer the primary threat to tigers; intelligence-led enforcement reduces the impacts of the wildlife crime on communities living in trafficking and trade hotspots			
<p>Outcome: Effective enforcement of improved legal frameworks disrupts tiger trafficking networks operating in the Mekong region reducing negative impacts on wild tiger populations and communities living in crime hotspots</p>	<p>0.1 By 31 March 2024, the number of criminal networks identified trafficking tigers and other big cats in and through the project countries, by government agencies, increases to at least ten, from a 2019 baseline of five (representing 174 entities including persons of interest and companies), with an interim target of eight by 31 March 2023.</p> <p>0.2 (Removed)</p> <p>0.3 By 31 March 2024, from a baseline level of 14 prosecutions in 2018, the number of tiger traders prosecuted increases to at least 20 traders per year. A more robust baseline will be prepared in Q1 of the project for Vietnam, and 31 March 2021 for China and Lao PDR, with prosecutions as a percentage of people arrested / charged, and a percentage of people identified / reported</p> <p>0.4 By 31 March 2023, the number of tigers in private captive facilities of concern in Thailand, Lao PDR and Vietnam shows no further increase and by 31 March 2024 has declined by 10% from a 2019 baseline of 2,577 to 2,320.</p>	<p>0.1 - Government reports; including submissions to CITES</p> <p>- Media articles on tiger trafficking</p> <p>- Feedback (minute of meetings / correspondence) to EIA and partners from agencies and intergovernmental organisations (IGOs) following submission of intelligence briefings</p> <p>- Tiger and other big cat crime databases managed by EIA and project partners</p> <p>0.2 – (Removed)</p> <p>0.3 - Government reports, including to CITES</p> <p>- court records</p> <p>- tiger and other big cat crime databases managed by EIA and partners</p> <p>- correspondence with law enforcement agencies, IGOs</p> <p>0.4 -Government reports, including to CITES</p> <p>- CITES Mission reports</p> <p>-Internal reports by EIA and project partners detailing observations of tiger facilities</p> <p>- Media reports</p>	<p>There is increasing commitment resulting from COVID-19, including growing impetus for a green recovery, to reduce risk of another zoonotic pandemic</p> <p>Governments in the region remain committed to ending the illegal tiger trade</p> <p>National FIUs have the mandate and capacity to include tiger/wildlife crime in their work</p> <p>Law enforcement agencies respond positively to independent findings.</p> <p>US government continues to invest in international law enforcement support and cooperation</p> <p>EIA and project partners continue to be able to share actionable information in anonymous way to law enforcement in project countries via proxies such UNODC and USFWS to maintain security of EIA and project partner personnel, where necessary.</p> <p>More public exposure of corruption and failure to act results in more international pressure on policy-makers to change</p> <p>EIA and project partners are able to access FATF regional bodies, FIUs and affiliated agencies directly or access via the UNODC</p>

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reports from other NGOs 	<p>Information about law enforcement activities and prosecutions relating to tiger trade continues to be published in news media, accessible court records and government reports.</p> <p>By combating crime and corruption in trafficking and trade hotspots governance, and subsequently development opportunities for affected communities, will improve</p> <p>Travel restrictions imposed under COVID-19 are eased</p>
<p>Output 1 National and international law enforcement agencies active in the project countries, have the information needed to plan operations targeting criminal networks trafficking tigers and other illegal wildlife, and to support transboundary cooperation, including on financial investigations.</p>	<p>1.1 The number of criminal networks involved in tiger, other big cat and IWT trafficking that are mapped out by EIA and partners using visual analysis software, including data on role, nationality, and gender and shared with trusted law enforcement in the project countries (e.g. police forces, Customs, anti-corruption agencies, wildlife officials) and relevant international enforcement agencies (e.g. Interpol, USFWS, UNODC, WCO), increases from a baseline of five in 2020, to at least seven by 31 March 2023, nine by 31 March 2024 and at least ten by 31 March 2025</p>	<p>1.1 – Visual analysis software criminal network charts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Internal field trip reports including trader testimony, maps, stills, video - EIA and partners' intelligence databases, including disaggregated data on role, gender, nationality, and socio-economic status of persons of interests - Confidential briefings by partners to law enforcement - EIA and partner information dissemination register - Tiger crime and other IWT databases managed by EIA and partners - Government and law enforcement agency reports - Feedback (minutes of meetings / correspondence) to EIA and partners from agencies and intergovernmental organisations (IGOs) following submission of intelligence briefings 	<p>As implementation rests with government agencies, assumes that governments are genuinely committed to ending illegal wildlife trade and will respond appropriately to the independent research findings from the project.</p> <p>EIA and project partners are able to access law enforcement officials directly or through IGOs and embassies of donor countries, with whom we have established relationships</p> <p>Assumes that IGOs such as the UNODC, Interpol and World Customs Organisation (WCO) and international NGOs continue to lead on delivering training and capacity building to national law enforcement agencies negating the need for EIA and partners to organise workshops independently</p>

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
	<p>1.2 The number of EIA intelligence documents (reports, summaries and assessments) on wildlife traffickers operating in the project countries, along with information on convergence with corruption and other crime types where relevant, disseminated to trusted law enforcement representatives and relevant international law enforcement agencies increases from a baseline of 27 in 2019 to at least 50 per year by 31 March 2022, 2023 and 2024</p> <p>1.3 The number of key trade locations, trafficking routes and smuggling methods profiled in reports by EIA and partners and shared with national and international law enforcement and IGOs increases to at least eight by 31 March 2022, and at least 10 by 31 March 2023 from a baseline of six in 2019</p> <p>1.4 By 31 March 2023, 95% (100% of the accessible) private facilities with captive tigers in Thailand have been documented and profiled by partners from a 2019 baseline of 53% (27 out of 51) facility profiles completed.</p> <p>1.5 By 31 March 2022, 31 March 2023 and 31 March 2024, EIA and partners report 100% of captive tiger facilities of concern in project countries to relevant national and international law enforcement, and relevant IGOs.</p>	<p>1.2 – Internal field trip reports including trader testimony, maps, stills, video</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EIA and partner intelligence databases - Confidential briefings by EIA and partners to law enforcement - EIA and partner information dissemination register <p>1.3 - Confidential briefings by EIA and partners to law enforcement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Partner information dissemination logs - Government and law enforcement agency reports - Feedback (minutes of meetings / correspondence) to EIA and partners from agencies and intergovernmental organisations (IGOs) following submission of reports <p>1.4 – Partner databases on tiger and other big cat crime incidents and captive facilities</p> <p>1.5 - Partner databases on tiger and other big cat crime incidents and captive facilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Partner information dissemination register - Government and law enforcement agency reports to CITES and other IGOs - Feedback (minutes of meetings / 	

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
	1.6 (Removed)	correspondence) to EIA and partners from agencies and intergovernmental organisations (IGOs) following submission of reports. 1.6 (Removed)	
Output 2 Financial institutions and national Financial Intelligence Units (FIUs) have sufficient information to identify financial flows linked to tiger trafficking	<p>2.1 Number of financial typologies related to tiger trafficking networks and convergence with corruption and other crime types produced by EIA and partners and accepted by financial institutes and FIUs increases from a baseline of zero in 2019 to target of one by 31 March 2022, two by 31 March 2023, three by 31 March 2024</p> <p>2.2 Number of accepted submissions to Know Your Customer databases including data on role, nationality, gender, and age, increases from a baseline of 62 tiger specific submissions accepted in 2019 to 200 by 31 March 2024</p> <p>2.3 (Removed)</p> <p>2.4 Number of physical or virtual meetings with Financial Intelligence Unit personnel, or where they are not accessible to civil society, with third parties willing to share project findings is at a rate of at least one per year and 100% of appropriate intelligence is disseminated to FIUs by 31 March 2024</p>	<p>2.1 – Typologies and red flags prepared by partners</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Partner information dissemination logs - United for Wildlife Financial Taskforce Alerts - Feedback from financial institutes and FIUs (noting that often these agencies cannot disclose actions but can acknowledge receipt) <p>2.2 Log of names and other data including role, nationality, gender, and age submitted that generate new profiles on Thomson Reuters World-Check/Dow Jones</p> <p>2.3 (Removed)</p> <p>2.4 Feedback (minutes of meetings / correspondence) with FIU's, UNODC, RUSI</p>	<p>Financial institutions are sufficiently concerned about IWT to accept and act on typologies provided</p> <p>IGOs such as UNODC continue to provide training and capacity building to national agencies, negating the need for EIA and partners to organise workshops independently</p> <p>Banks avoid offering services to individuals and companies entered into “know your customer” databases</p>

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
<p>Output 3 Other private sector entities who have signed on to commitments to help tackle IWT use information generated by the project to implement interventions to stop trafficking of tigers</p>	<p>3.1 The number of companies whose facilitation of tiger trafficking is profiled by EIA and partners increases to 40 by 31 March 2024 from a baseline of eight in 2019</p> <p>3.2 The number of reports or alerts submitted by EIA and partners to the UfW Taskforces, social media and e-commerce companies, tourism and traditional medicine companies and coalitions increases annually by at least 50%. Baseline to be determined by the end of Year 1, Q2.</p> <p>3.3 An increase in the number of incidents of remedial actions taken by members of taskforces / coalitions related to the transport, online sales, and social media, TCM and tourism sectors following receipt of information regarding their role in tiger trade from the project partners, from a baseline of eight in 2019 to 40 by 31 March 2024</p> <p>3.4 The number of additional private sector companies that join UfW Taskforces or other industry initiatives aimed at combating wildlife trafficking following outreach from the project partners increases to five by 31 March 2024, with an interim target of two by 31 March 2022, from a 2020 baseline of zero (targets to be reviewed at end of Year 1)</p> <p>3.5 (Removed)</p>	<p>3.1 – EIA and partners intelligence databases</p> <p>3.2 EIA and partners information dissemination register</p> <p>3.3 – Feedback (minutes of meetings / correspondence) with companies, coalitions, UfW Transport Taskforce</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - UfW Transport Taskforce Alerts - company statements to the media and in annual reports about policy changes, establishment of counter-wildlife trafficking mechanisms and disruption actions - monitoring of trader social media accounts for disruption <p>3.4 UfW Taskforce membership lists</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Private sector company websites and press releases - Minutes of meetings / correspondence with private sector companies <p>3.5 (Removed)</p>	<p>Private sector commitments as per declarations are genuine and instances of member association with IWT are addressed</p> <p>UfW Taskforces continue to operate and accept new members</p>

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
<p>Output 4 Public-facing news stories, reports and films shared ahead of key international meetings create impetus for national decision-makers to implement international decisions and recommendations to tackle tiger trafficking and reverse policies that stimulate trade</p>	<p>4.1 The number of public reports by EIA and partners outlining tiger commodity flow / supply chains (including sourcing from captive facilities), convergence with other IWT (leopard, lion, elephant, rhino, pangolin, bear and rosewood), transaction points and methods, transportation and concealment methods, the role of women in trade and enforcement, impacts on development and poverty alleviation, convergence with corruption and other crime types (including trafficking of drugs, weapons and people) and recommendations for country-specific actions disseminated to policy makers and media increases from one in 2020 to four by 31 March 2024 including one before CITES SC74 (expected around September 2021), one before CITES CoP19 (March 2022), one before the next Year of the Tiger International Summit (2022, date TBD) and one before CITES SC77 (expected in 2023)</p> <p>4.2 The number of interventions made by project partners in collaboration with other NGOs such as WCS, WWF, World Animal Protection, IFAW, TRAFFIC and members of the Species Survival Network increases from a baseline of two in 2019 to four by 31 March 2024 including at least one each at CITES SC74 and SC77, and two at CoP19</p> <p>4.3 The number of foreign government embassies in the project countries that are briefed at least twice a year (though on a case-by-case basis depending on findings this can occur more than twice)</p>	<p>4.1 Publication of reports via EIA and partner websites</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Electronic mailing list from EIA and partners to CITES Parties, relevant Ministers, and media <p>4.2. CITES summary records</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Online coverage of CITES meetings by IISD - Internal notes from attendees from EIA and project partners <p>4.3 – Feedback (minutes of meetings / correspondence) following meetings / virtual briefings to Embassies</p> <p>4.4 – EIA and partners' websites</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Feedback (correspondence) following dissemination of policy briefings to law makers <p>4.5 (Removed)</p> <p>4.6 - Government reports, including to CITES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Correspondence with government representatives and intergovernmental organisations - Media articles - NGO reports and publications 	<p>EIA and partners can access national law makers</p> <p>International reputation matters to political leaders of political leaders, in context of CITES non-compliance proceedings, US State Department END Act listing, FATF grey and black listings</p> <p>Domestic and international public opinion has an impact on law makers' deliberations and on foreign government positions</p> <p>Domestic and international media will run stories on tiger / wildlife crime and corruption</p> <p>Women are represented in parliament / national assemblies</p>

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
	<p>by EIA and partners on project conclusions and recommendations increases from a baseline of two in 2020 to six by 31 March 2024.</p> <p>4.4 The number of policy briefings containing proposed revisions to national law and regulations prepared by EIA and partners and disseminated to national law makers increases from two in 2019 to seven by 31 March 2024</p> <p>4.5 (Removed)</p> <p>4.6 The number of positive policy or law amendments announced by project countries increases to four by 31 March 2024 from a 2019 baseline of two.</p> <p>4.7 The number of media articles and films reporting on the issues highlighted by the project increases from a baseline of 20 in 2018 (baseline may be adjusted pending review of 2019 media outputs) to at least 30 in each year of the project.</p> <p>4.8 The number of public outputs from the project (reports, films, blogs, policy briefings) highlighting success of women in countering wildlife trafficking in project countries, in law enforcement or NGOs, increases to four by 31 March 2024 from a baseline of one in 2020</p> <p>4.9 The number of briefings, analyses and/or reports containing findings on trends in prices, trader testimony and perceptions of demand drivers and consumer demographics disseminated to governments, donors and other NGOs involved in demand reduction</p>	<p>4.7 Partner records of media articles and films</p> <p>4.8 Publication of reports, blogs and articles via EIA and partner websites</p> <p>4.7 EIA and partners' dissemination logs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Minutes of meetings with government agencies and other NGOs - Government and NGO reports 	

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
	and consumer behaviour change campaigns increases to three by 31 March 2024 from a 2019 baseline of one		
<p>Activities (each activity is numbered according to the output that it will contribute towards, for example 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 are contributing to Output 1)</p> <p>1.1 Collation of open source information on tiger crime incidents and case outcomes (including achievements of women in securing successful prosecutions); online and physical trade observations; prices; individuals and companies involved including businesses associated with captive tiger facilities; affiliations with government officials and politicians and role of corruption; convergence with trade in other big cats, ivory, pangolin, rhino, bear and rosewood; and convergence with other forms of crime such as drug or weapons smuggling or human trafficking</p> <p>1.2 Field and social media research to document trade of tigers and convergence with other big cats, ivory, pangolin, rhino, bear and rosewood across borders between Thailand, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Vietnam and China, including modus operandi of those involved at different points of the trade chain (including transport and financial methods), trafficking routes, methods of concealment and transportation, methods of sale (physical and digital), methods of payment, the role of corrupt actors, source and destination, physical trade hotspots, relationship between physical and online trade, the role of captive facilities in trade and convergence with other forms of crime such as drug or weapons smuggling or human trafficking</p> <p>1.3 Field and desk research to assess implementation of CITES Decision 14.69 in Thailand, Lao PDR, Myanmar and Vietnam through monitoring of changes to captive tiger populations</p> <p>1.4 Daily sharing of relevant information between project partners (or less frequent in periods of low trade activity), with fortnightly operational tasking meetings (which may be intensified during field missions) to coordinate and evaluate field research under 1.2-1.3</p> <p>1.5 Transcribe, translate, consolidate and analyse information generated by desk and field research to update and produce profiles of persons of interest; corporate profiles of companies involved; intelligence reports on relationships between individuals, companies and crime incidents; maps of routes and hotspots; and share securely between project partners</p> <p>1.6 Update databases to be shared between partners on: seizures and case outcomes; “Every Tiger Counts” online trade observations; status of captive tiger facilities</p> <p>1.7 Research to establish robust baselines of prosecutions as a percentage of individuals arrested/charged for crimes relating to tiger trade, and as a percentage of people identified/reported, including disaggregated data by gender</p> <p>1.8 Prepare visual analysis network charts illustrating criminal networks; visual typologies illustrating routes, transportation and transactions along the trade chain; and narrative situational analysis briefings including impacts of corruption</p> <p>1.9 Translate and disseminate via secure communications profiles on persons and companies of interest, network charts, typologies, situational analyses and maps as appropriate to national law enforcement in the project countries (including police bureaus, Customs, wildlife officials), international law enforcement with interest in combating tiger trade in the region (including Interpol, the World Customs Organisation (WCO), US Fish and Wildlife Service, UNODC), and other enforcement agencies with interest in combating other crime types of which convergence with tiger trade has been documented through field and desk research (including WCO, UNODC, member states to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ), UN Convention on Transnational Organised Crime (UNTOC) and Convention against Corruption (UNCAC))</p> <p>1.10 Sustain engagement with national and Provincial government officials to build on momentum following recent enforcement action in Nghe An Province</p> <p>1.11 Disseminate situational analyses prepared as per 1.8 to contacts at intergovernmental bodies engaged in capacity building, including UNODC and Interpol</p> <p>2.1 Disseminate anonymised typologies prepared as per 1.8 directly to government Financial Intelligence Units (FIU) and via related organisations such as UNODC</p> <p>2.2 Disseminate anonymised typologies prepared as per 1.8 directly to banks and the United for Wildlife Financial Taskforce</p>			

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
<p>2.3 Prepare and disseminate non-anonymised information to FIUs and banks upon request and following appropriate procedures</p> <p>2.4 Monthly submission by EIA of open source criminal information to Thomson-Reuters “World-Check” database and other “Know Your Customer” systems used by financial institutions</p> <p>3.1 Using information from desk and field research, prepare alerts for sharing with United for Wildlife Transport Taskforce and with any companies that are not members regarding transportation methods and companies associated with tiger trade, so that they can be more vigilant in scrutinising customers to prevent the company being used as a conduit</p> <p>3.2 Collate online and social media trade offers in a partner database “Every Tiger Counts”, determine if individuals are of interest for further research, whether should be forwarded to law enforcement or reported immediately to the company responsible for the online platform.</p> <p>3.3 Prepare and disseminate alerts to social media companies and e-commerce companies based as per 3.2 so that accounts can be investigated or closed accordingly</p> <p>3.4 Include an annual summary of what was recorded online and the action taken by law enforcement or technical company in the news, reports and films at Output 5.</p> <p>4.1 Commission a more in-depth legal review of loopholes in Thai and Lao PDR laws that results in non-compliance with CITES Resolutions and Decisions on Tigers and other Asian Big Cats and Readily Recognisable Derivatives, prepare recommendations to strengthen the Thai Wildlife Preservation and Protection Act and associated zoo licensing regulations, and Lao PDR Wildlife and Aquatic Law, associated regulations and Prime Ministerial Orders to reduce the keeping and breeding (intentional and “accidental”), of tigers for commercial purposes</p> <p>4.2 Channel the recommendations prepared above via the relevant Thai Parliamentary Committee (of which partner NGO WFFT’s Executive Director is a member), and via the SDG 15.7 Taskforce in Lao PDR</p> <p>4.4 ENV will continue to engage in a consultative process with Vietnamese government agencies over regulations to define, manage and regulate “conservation facilities”, aimed at arresting growth of commercial captive tiger operations, phasing them out and ensuring there is no leakage in the interim</p> <p>4.5 Sustain engagement with religious leaders, Party officials and Prime Minister’s Office on campaign for enforcement and phase out of tiger trade in Nghe An province in Vietnam</p> <p>4.7 Drawing on desk and field research under Output 1 and feedback following Output 2-4, update online public maps of seizures and locations of captive tiger facilities, prepare public facing reports, policy briefings and accompanying films on regional tiger trade, the role of corruption and implementation of national laws and CITES Resolutions and Decisions (highlighting success of women in counter wildlife trafficking), and convergence with other crime types, and disseminate ahead of bilateral (e.g. India-Russia) and multilateral tiger meetings (2nd International Tiger Summit), meetings of the CITES Standing Committee and CITES Conference of the Parties to CITES Parties, relevant ministries, foreign embassies in project countries, project country embassies in donor countries, ICCWC members, member states of CPPCJ, UNOTC and UNCAC, and media, thereby mobilising international pressure to press for country-specific, time-bound actions by project countries to close domestic markets for tiger and other big cat parts, destroy stockpiles of parts and derivatives, and commit to phasing out tiger farms</p> <p>4.8 Liaise with like-minded NGOs and relevant experts to collectively urge all project countries to follow a process towards phasing out tiger farms, including through joint interventions and side events at meetings of the CITES Standing Committee and CITES Conference of the Parties</p> <p>4.9 Consult with (by conference call or in person) foreign embassies in Thailand, Myanmar, Vietnam Lao PDR and China to sense-check positive developments and obstacles relating to enforcement in the region, share investigation findings as appropriate, and encourage bilateral engagement to advocate for adoption of policy recommendations</p> <p>4.10 Use the fact that China is hosting the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity as a campaign call to lead on the closure of domestic markets for tiger and other big cat parts, destruction of stockpiles of parts and derivatives, and the phase out of tiger farms</p>			

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
<p>4.11 Analyse findings on trends in prices, trader testimony and perceptions of demand drivers and consumer demographics, consult with demand reduction experts, and advise stakeholders (donors, governments, and other NGOs) involved in demand reduction and consumer behaviour change campaigns so they can factor project findings into their campaign design</p>			

Annex 3 Standard Indicators

Table 1 Project Standard Indicators

IWTCF Indicator number	Name of indicator using original wording	Name of Indicator after adjusting wording to align with IWTCF Standard Indicators	Units	Disaggregation	Year 1 Total	Year 2 Total	Year 3 Total	Total to date	Total planned during the project
IWTCF-B06		Number of criminal networks identified.	Number	n/a	13	19			
IWTCF-B06		Number of criminal networks mapped	Number	n/a	6	16			
IWTCF-B06		Number of trade routes identified/mapped	Number	n/a	11	6			

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, manual, 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)
CITES Asian big cat briefing	Briefing	EIA, Born Free Foundation, FOUR PAWS, WFFT	Female	British	N/a	Provided as a supporting document and available at: https://eia-international.org/report/urgent-action-required-for-asian-big-cats-at-cites-cop19/

Checklist for submission

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