

Illegal Wildlife Trade (IWT) Challenge Fund Main Final Report

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

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

Submission Deadline: July 12th, 2024 (extension agreed by NIRAS)

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

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 UK (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
Project Leader’s name	Debbie [REDACTED]
Project website/blog/social media	EIA does not have separate websites or social media accounts for individual projects as yet, but we have updated this multi-media page for the purposes of the project: https://reports.eia-international.org/tiger-trade-trail/ Otherwise, EIA’s main website and social media accounts are as follows: https://eia-international.org/ https://www.facebook.com/environmentalinvestigationagency https://mobile.twitter.com/EIA_News https://www.linkedin.com/company/environmental-investigation-agency/ https://www.instagram.com/eia_news/?hl=en
Report author(s) and date	EIA: Vicky [REDACTED], Debbie [REDACTED] Senior Intelligence Analyst, Avinash [REDACTED] WFFT: Field Operative (name withheld for security reasons), Tom Taylor ENV: Douglas [REDACTED] July 12 th , 2024 (extension agreed by NIRAS)

1. Project summary

Please note that any text in red is sensitive / confidential and not for sharing.

There are estimated to be 5,574 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 were seized over January 2000 – June 2022, 1,142 of these in the project countries¹. 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 2023, in four of the project countries, though are starting to reduce in Thailand and Vietnam. Meanwhile, Thailand's resident wild population is showing signs of stabilising, and only just starting to show signs of recovery in China where the population is still less than [60](#). Tragically, in Lao PDR and Vietnam, they are now declared locally extinct, and are nearing extinction in Myanmar.

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.

Inadequate regulation of trade and weak enforcement across the region make contending with trade in lawless cross-border areas challenging. Further challenges are politically well-connected Vietnamese and Chinese-led criminal networks operating across the region, the growth of casino-led developments (a breeding ground for crime convergence), and regulations that create opportunities for transnational criminal networks to profit from a booming captive tiger industry.

This project specifically addressed 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.

One impact of tiger declines on rural communities in range states with extant tiger populations 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 5 (supporting information section 1) illustrates some of the relevant trafficking routes, persistent trade hubs and border areas. Map 2 in Annex 5 (supporting information section 1) shows locations of captive tiger facilities across the project countries.

2. Project Partnerships

The EIA, ENV and WFFT partnership is built on collaborative research, analysis and advocacy dating back to 2014, as illustrated in the report [REDACTED]. This was reinforced under the IWTCF project IWTCF046 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, [REDACTED], and [REDACTED].

¹ Wong, R. and Krishnasamy, K. 2022. *Skin and Bones: Tiger Trafficking Analysis from January 2000 – June 2022*. TRAFFIC, Southeast Asia Regional Office, Petaling Jaya, Selangor, Malaysia.

[REDACTED] and in our collaborative hosting of an exhibition on tiger and other big cat trade at the [REDACTED]. 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 the CITES Secretariat (Supporting Document 1 and 2) and enforcement agencies and publish joint communications materials for example, [REDACTED]. This reflects a particular strength of the partnership that will sustain collaborative working beyond the project period, as we continue to collaborate around advocacy on domestic policy reform and CITES meetings. At times, this has and may continue to include public facing outputs that do not include project partner logos, to preserve their relationships with national government agencies.

All partners were involved in designing the project, project planning and kick off, and in ongoing project management, monitoring, and evaluation processes. Due to COVID, kick-off meetings in 2021 were virtual with the first in-person meeting hosted by WFFT in Thailand in March 2022, with some EIA personnel and the ENV team joining in virtually due to ongoing travel restrictions. EIA and WFFT took the opportunity to meet face-to-face with other stakeholders in Thailand to refine the project activities e.g. with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Office of Law Enforcement (USFWS OLE), UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and NGOs. Throughout the project period, regular calls took 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 2A), as well as holding a further in-person meeting with ENV in November 2023 specifically to conduct joint analysis of identified criminal networks and appropriate responses.

Relating to the delivery of project progress and achievements, each partner led their specific elements as outlined in the project logframe. With ENV and WFFT embedded, specialised and with strong networks in Vietnam and Thailand, respectively, and EIA focusing regionally and on work in project countries where an in-country presence is not feasible, the project partners worked in a complementary way resulting in impacts greater than the sum of the parts. Lessons learned about partnerships during the project were a reminder of the importance of face-to-face time and value of ensuring project resources are invested in travel necessary to allow regular face-to-face time. Following COVID restrictions and aligned with a push from donors away from resources allocated to things such as international travel, emphasis was put on remote communication where possible. In future work, we will ensure sufficient resource allocation to allow necessary face-to-face time between all partners.

WFFT liaised throughout the project 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. As appropriate, some of WFFT's and EIA's field work was conducted jointly to draw on specific personnel's experience and language skills. ENV's established relationship with national law enforcement agencies and various ministries in Vietnam has resulted in a host of enforcement action and progress towards strengthened laws in Vietnam throughout the project (as detailed in section 3).

EIA and partners continuously liaised with key aligned stakeholders in the region including INTERPOL, USAID, UNODC and the Financial Action Task Force Asia Pacific Group (FATF APG). 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), engaged the finance sector as members of United for Wildlife (UfW) and liaised remotely with the China Customs Anti-Smuggling Bureau. 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 Wildlife Forensics, WWF, WCS, Freeland, WJC, FOUR PAWS and Panthera.

3. Project Achievements

3.1 Outputs

Red text is CONFIDENTIAL not to be shared or published.

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.

Output 1 Indicator Achievements

***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*

Over the course of the project lifetime, partners EIA, ENV and WFFT, have newly identified a total 34 tiger trafficking networks operating across the Mekong region and mapped 23 of those networks. 18 of the newly identified and mapped networks were shared with trusted national law enforcement bodies in project countries and international enforcement agencies. Building on the 2020 baseline of five networks shared with law enforcement, this results in a grand total 23 networks shared with law enforcement by March 31st, 2024, far surpassing our original target of nine (also surpassing our beyond-project target of ten by March 31st, 2025).

EIA has conducted analyses on the gender, roles, and nationalities of individuals within the networks we've mapped, detailed below.

- Gender: 83 males, 12 females, 5 unknowns.
- Roles: 1 head of syndicate, 3 closely associated to syndicate head, 6 politicians, 2 investors, 1 bank owner, 30 traders, 6 transporters, 16 traders, 8 middlemen, 20 farm owners, 1 government official, 1 airline staff, 2 border guards.
- Nationalities: 30 Vietnamese, 14 Laotian, 3 Burmese, 15 Thai, 5 Malaysian, 1 Kenyan, 11 Chinese, 3 Vanuatu, 1 Singaporean.

***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*

Throughout the project term, EIA, WFFT and ENV collectively shared a total of 161 unique intelligence documents (amounting to over 180 intelligence disseminations) to trusted stakeholders. These range from detailed profiles and assessments of persons and companies of interest within the priority criminal networks, to short and timely updates on activities by those persons and companies. Disseminations included:

- Direct shares with law enforcement agencies in Vietnam, Thailand, Lao PDR, and China
- Internationally with USFWS OLE, Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC), UNODC, UK FCDO and the CITES Secretariat
- A range of NGOs in project countries and beyond including an Indonesian stakeholder who works closely with law enforcement.
- Private sector partners including banks and social media companies.

The 161 unique shares over the project term breakdowns into 26 in project year 1 (4.5 months only), 78 in project year 2 and 57 in project year 3. Therefore, exceeding our target of at least 50 per year.

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.*

Building on our 2019 baseline of six, this well surpasses our original profiling target of ten.

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.*

As of March 31st, 2024, we had records of 65 known facilities in Thailand holding captive tigers, this included 13 government run centres (by the Department of National Parks; DNP) as well as rescue centres or state enterprises. A total of 46 of the facilities were privately owned. By project end, all 46 privately owned facilities had been surveyed and documented, including drone surveying those where physical access was not feasible. All 46 private facilities had also been profiled by project end. This 100% achievement surpasses our 95% target.

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.*

Further to direct reports by project partners of all facilities of concern directly to law enforcement in Thailand and Vietnam, project partners have been closely involved with the CITES Secretariat tiger facility monitoring missions. All the facilities in Laos are facilities of concern and have been repeatedly reported to authorities in Laos. Pursuant to CITES Decisions 18.102 and 18.108, the CITES Secretariat conducted tiger facility monitoring 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 Committee². EIA supported the Secretariat's preparation for the missions by coordinating the compilation of a database of captive tiger facilities, highlighting facilities implicated in trade and thus priority facilities of concern (Supporting Document 7). This was also shared with the UNODC to support their [REDACTED] project.

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 Terms of Reference (Supporting Document 8) proposed by EIA and other NGOs. 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 [REDACTED]. 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 the resulting country-specific, time-bound [REDACTED] proposed were adopted at the 77th Meeting of the CITES Standing Committee (SC77) were a breakthrough in what has been a more than 15-year impasse in implementation of CITES Decision 14.69 and Res Conf 12.5 (Rev CoP19). These also included recommendations from the missions to South Africa and Czech Republic. The outcome of the missions to the USA and China will be discussed at SC78 in February 2025.

² 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) 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.

There are [indications](#) that in Thailand the government is taking the CITES Tiger Missions seriously, with acknowledgement of the need to take action following the Missions at the CITES Big Cats Task Force meeting, including preparing new regulations around the keeping of tigers and re-starting the creation of a DNA and stripe database (see Supporting Document 10). One of the facilities that WFFT had reported to Thai authorities for its role in illegal trade (under DEFRA IWTCF 046) was [raided](#) in 2020, had its licensed revoked and the owner [charged](#) in 2021. The owner passed away before the case reached court but the remaining tigers were finally confiscated by the Department of National Parks and rehomed in rescue centres, including [WFFT's](#). Likewise in Vietnam, authorities are acting on information from ENV targeting licensed and unlicensed facilities. Conversely, in Lao PDR the government has so far failed to effectively implement the recommendations from CITES since 2016 regarding captive tiger facilities and tiger trade. This is among the reasons they are currently subject to CITES trade suspensions (see p48-52 [here](#)), which EIA was an open advocate for.

In summary, we have succeeded in reporting 100% of captive tiger facilities of concern to relevant national and international law enforcement and are seeing more progressive responses in two of the project countries.

(Indicator 1.6 removed as per April 2023 Change Request)

Supplementary Output 1 Activity Achievements

Select information on activity achievements are provided below where necessary to further support or illustrate Indicator-level achievements given above. Where activity achievements are not described, the activity was conducted throughout the project term as planned.

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

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

Activities 1.1 & 1.2 were ongoing throughout the project term by all three partners. ENV keeps open-source records in their Wildlife Crime Incident Tracking Database and EIA centralises open-source information records in our Global 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.

Open-source and social media research 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.

Field investigations took place in years 2 and 3 (in year 1 there was limited scope for field work due to COVID travel restrictions and the grant award timing). For details of project fieldwork throughout the project term

Activities 1.1 and 1.2 culminate in the development and dissemination of EIA and partner intelligence reports as detailed under Indicators 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 above.

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

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

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)).

Activities 1.5, 1.8 and 1.9 were conducted throughout the project term, taking information gathered under activities 1.1 and 1.2 and developing it to produce and disseminate intelligence products to national law enforcement, international law enforcement, other enforcement agencies, and other appropriate stakeholders, detailed under Indicators 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 above.

1.10 Sustain engagement with national and Provincial government officials to build on momentum following recent enforcement action in Nghe An province

1.11 Disseminate situational analyses prepared as per 1.8 to contacts at intergovernmental bodies engaged in capacity building, including UNODC and Interpol

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.

Output 2 is focused on ensuring that the financial institutions; private sector and national Financial Intelligence Units (FIUs), have the information they need to identify illicit financial flows linked to tiger trafficking.

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

A total of six technical briefings for the financial crime audience (typologies, case studies and red flag documents) been prepared, 4 have been disseminated and 2 will be disseminated under ongoing advocacy and outreach activity beyond the project period.

Following field research in year 2, EIA updated an existing regional tiger crime typology (prepared prior to the project period due to the delayed start date), and also developed and disseminated 2 financial case studies and 1 red flag document in year 2 to FIUs via UfW and directly. This included a case study on the Golden Triangle Special Economic Zone (GTSEZ), which is a major crime convergence venue. EIA and ENV also 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 in logframe Annex 1).

Further to this EIA has completed a Lao PDR-specific financial red flags document, which is currently out for consultation to regional experts for feedback and will be disseminated per their guidance as part of the ongoing advocacy and outreach funded beyond the project period.

Towards the end of year 3, EIA started updating and broadening the scope of the Mekong tiger typology in light of field research findings relating to other species traded by the same networks. This will be disseminated beyond the project period.

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*

Total tiger specific submissions by EIA (total submissions by EIA):

Project year 1: 119. Please note this was a 4.5-month period only.

Project year 2: 186 (1,887)

Project year 3: 185 (2,153)

Disaggregation by gender and nationality took place in years 2 and 3 as shown in Annex 5 in a table in supporting information section 5. The number of tiger specific submissions is limited by the number of crime incidents that were reported and accessible. There has been insufficient data to make disaggregation of age data feasible.

(Indicator 2.3 removed as per April 2023 Change Request)

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*

In total, throughout the project lifetime, EIA met seven times with FIUs, or related authorities dealing with financial crime over years 2 and 3 (year 1 was focused on developing the first Mekong regional tiger crime typology).

In year 2, EIA had one meeting with the Vietnam FIU and continued to share information with them following the meeting. EIA also met with the UK SOCnet Regional Crime Coordinator based out of Bangkok and the lead for the UNODC Anti-Money Laundering Programme for Asia-Pacific, setting in place relationships for future information dissemination to project countries FIUs as appropriate.

In year 3, EIA met again with the UK SOCnet Regional Crime Coordinator based out of Bangkok and with UNODC Organised Crime Analysis & Threat Monitoring team and shared intelligence related to casinos and in particular the businesses and persons affiliated to the Zhao Wei Transnational Criminal Organisation (TCO) at the GTSEZ in Lao PDR. EIA also met with the Malaysia FIU to share intelligence relating to Teo Boon Ching and had first-time meetings with personnel from the new Thai Wildlife Crime Intelligence Centre, the Thai Anti-Money Laundering Intelligence Organisation and the Thai Department

of Special Investigations. With additional funding secured to sustain ongoing advocacy and outreach with Mekong law enforcement and policy stakeholders beyond the project period.

Supplementary Output 2 Activity Achievements

Select information on activity achievements are provided below where necessary to further support or illustrate Indicator-level achievements given above. Where activity achievements are not described, the activity was conducted throughout the project term as planned.

Two presentations describing the typology of tiger and other wildlife trade in the Mekong were delivered in project year 2. 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 13). 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.

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 shared actionable intelligence with two banks and engaged with one other bank.

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 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.*

Over the project lifetime, project partners have newly profiled 101 companies facilitating tiger trafficking (either owned by or linked to known tiger traffickers or linked to facilities of concern), therefore totalling 109 companies when inclusive of the pre-project baseline of eight. Spread over the project years, this breaks down into 17 in year 1, 37 in year 2 and 47 in year 3. All company profiles produced under this project have been disseminated as part of intelligence packages to law enforcement as detailed under

Therefore, we have achieved and well surpassed the original target.

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).*

The baseline for this indicator was set in year 1 of the project, at 191 submissions. Prior to commencement of this project, EIA submitted a list of 43 Vietnamese bank accounts used by online tiger traders to the United for Wildlife Financial Task Force for onward action. This included 10 Viet Com bank accounts. We were not advised of any subsequent action but used these figures as part of the project baseline. Project partner ENV has formal partnerships with Facebook, Google (YouTube), TikTok, Zalo as well as other smaller Vietnamese platforms, with most being highly responsive and working together with ENV to reduce online sales and advertising of tiger parts and derivatives.

During the project lifetime a total of 451 reports to social media companies were made, 247 reports to traditional medicine practitioners and 18 reports to UfW taskforces. This breaks down into 356 in year 2 and 360 in year 3.

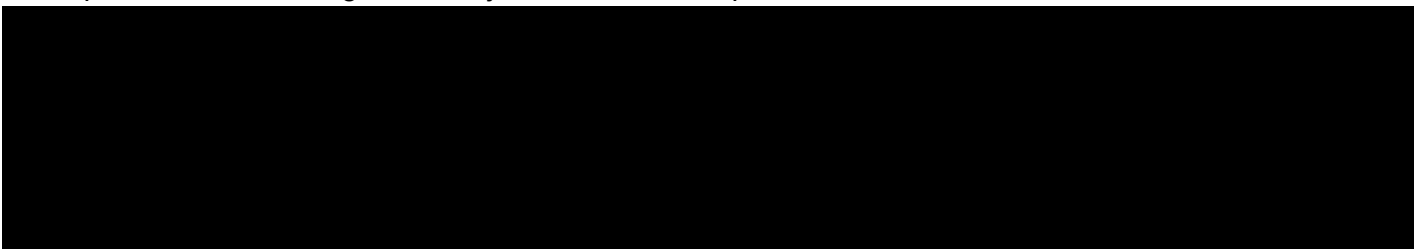
Therefore, while achieving and surpassing the 50% annual increase target in year 2 (we achieved an 86% increase on year 1 figures), we did not achieve a further 50% increase in year 3 from the year 2 figures. However, in retrospect, the indicator would have been more meaningful had we been measuring the number of reports submitted in comparison to the number of tiger trafficking related posts (unresolved by other means) identified.

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*

Of the reports submitted (as detailed above), 273 (76%) were resolved. Of those cases resolved, 139 (51%) were through link removals and deactivations by stakeholders who received reports from project 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.*

Performance under this Indicator has been less successful. In Year 2, following EIA encouragement Evergreen Shipping Line [announced](#) they had joined the UfW Transport Task Force. EIA will use the dissemination of the recently updated Mekong typology (Indicator 2.1), to reach out to identified courier companies and encourage them to join the UfW Transport Taskforce.



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 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)*

For CITES SC74 in March 2022, EIA released its [briefing](#) including recommendations for Asian big cats, and [footage](#) showing the expansion of the tiger and bear farm at the Golden Triangle Special Economic Zone in Laos in contravention of CITES recommendations.

For CITES CoP19 in November 2022, EIA released its [briefing](#) including recommendations for Asian big cats, a [film](#) on CITES and Asian big cats, and a report on [urgent action required for Asian big cats](#). The latter was produced jointly with partners WFFT and the NGOs Born Free and Four Paws. Three presentations on tigers and other Asian big cats were also made by EIA at side events during CITES CoP19 (See Supporting Documents 15, 16 and 17). A [blog](#) summarized the key outcomes secured at CoP19 for the issues EIA focuses on.

For CITES SC77 in November 2023, EIA released its cross-campaign [briefing](#) including recommendations for Asian big cats, and a stand-alone [briefing on big cats](#). In advance of CITES SC77, EIA had released its report [Investing in Extinction](#) and at SC77, EIA hosted a side event to discuss its findings, including recommendations for changes to China's laws on threatened species. Also in advance of SC77, EIA and a coalition of like-minded NGOs had collaborated to produce a [roadmap to closing captive tiger facilities of concern](#) and at SC77, EIA co-hosted a side event to present the roadmap to CITES Parties. A [blog](#) captured the key developments at SC77 for the issues EIA focuses on.

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 (GTRP 2.0). This included co-authoring two thematic briefings (See the summaries of themes 4 and 6 in Supporting Document 18), which were disseminated to the GTF, GTIAC and the Tiger Range State governments. EIA also attended a GTRP 2.0 workshop in Delhi in November 2022 and presented (See Supporting Document 19), on opportunities for the GTRP from CITES recommendations. 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

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*

At **SC74**, EIA made an [intervention](#) on behalf of 21 NGOs on the CITES Tiger missions and calling for certain urgent, country-specific, time-bound recommendations on the Asian big cat trade including for Lao PDR and Vietnam to improve collaboration to address tiger trafficking from farms, and for China to close its domestic market for Asian big cats.

At **SC75**, just prior to CoP19, EIA made an [intervention](#) on behalf of four NGOs recommending that the Standing Committee ask Lao PDR to report to SC77 on the enforcement measures taken against the criminal enterprises that control the tiger farms in the country, highlighting the involvement of organised crime in their ownership.

At **CoP19**, EIA helped draft an [intervention](#) which was delivered by Four Paws on behalf of EIA, WFFT and other NGOs expressing disappointment at the consistent lack of reporting by Parties on Asian Big Cats (ABCs) and calling on China to halt the production and sale of leopard bone pills and wine. The intervention also recommended that Vietnam, Lao PDR, and Thailand be requested to report to SC77 on measures taken to conduct joint investigations and operations to halt the organised criminal networks operating across the region.

At **SC77**, EIA made an [intervention](#) on behalf of 9 NGOs supporting the suspension of commercial CITES trade with Lao PDR. Also at SC77, EIA helped draft two interventions which were delivered by other NGOs: 1) An [intervention](#) was made by WWF on behalf of 10 NGOs including EIA on the implementation of CITES Decisions relating to Asian big cats; and 2) An [intervention](#) was made by the American Zoo Association on behalf of 11 NGOs including EIA supporting the recommendations made by the Secretariat after its missions to Thailand, Lao PDR, Vietnam, South Africa and the Czech Republic.

In total, **6 interventions** have been made across CITES SC74, SC75, CoP19 and SC77 by EIA and collaborating NGOs.

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.*

Table 1. Number of foreign embassy briefings.

	Year 1 briefings	Year 2 briefings	Year 3 briefings
US Embassy Representatives	Lao PDR x 2 Vietnam x 2	Lao PDR x 2+ Vietnam x 2+ Thailand x 2+	Lao PDR x 1 Thailand x 2 Regional x 1 Vietnam x 2+

UK Embassy Representatives		Thailand x 1	Thailand / Regional x 1
EU Mission Representatives		Lao PDR x 1	Lao PDR x 1

Additionally, during project year 1, the Vietnamese Prime Minister formally [approved](#) project partner ENV as a representative the Domestic Advisory Group (DAG) member of the EU-Vietnam Free Trade Agreement (EVFTA), which provides consultation for the governments on revising/creating policy relating to wildlife protection and environment, to fulfil obligations of Vietnam under EVFTA.

In project year 2, project partner ENV provided an online summary to representatives of the UK Secretary of State in preparation for her April Vietnam mission.

Meetings with the US includes a visit in year 3 by a representative of the US Embassy in Thailand together with representatives from USFWS to WFFT to build their contextual knowledge of IWT issues in Thailand and discuss means to collaborate further on wildlife trade issues, with special focus on Asian Big Cats.

We have not met with UK and US representatives within Myanmar or China as this project was not intended to conduct work within the borders of those countries, but we have met and briefed UK and US government personnel who have a regional remit e.g. UK SOCnet Regional Representative and UK NCA Regional Representative in the UK Embassy in Thailand, and US FWS OLE personnel who have a regional remit but are based in Thailand.

In addition to US, UK and EU representatives, the project briefed representatives of other governments and multi-lateral institutions through our engagement with the SDG 15.7 Working Group (WG) in Lao PDR.

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*

Over the course of the project EIA and partners have prepared and disseminated 14 policy briefings on national laws and regulations, alongside additional verbal briefings and a further written briefing that is currently being reviewed by in-country experts in Thailand.

Vietnam

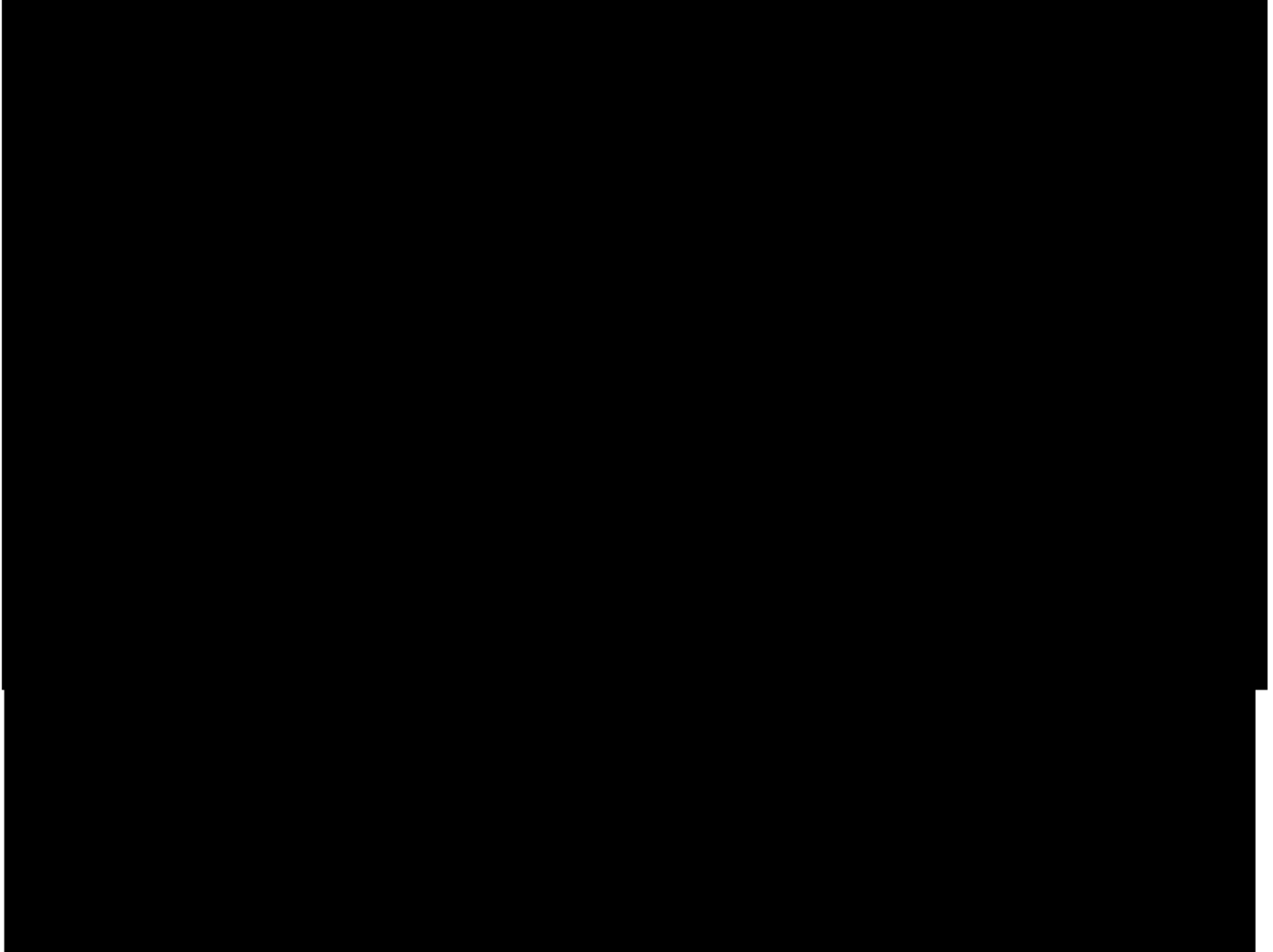
During year 1 of the project, ENV made progress with two briefings with national policymakers to strengthen regulations relating to captive tigers, tiger trade and enforcement matters. ENV worked with the Ministry of Health (MOH) to ensure that a circular from the MOH does not include or promote the use of endangered wildlife such as tiger bone in traditional medicine. In November 2021, ENV provided input to the MOH, expressing concern, and recommending MOH to remove the species with the highest protection from the list of precious, rare and endemic ingredients allowed for export. Also in November 2021, ENV provided input on a new Ministry of Public Security draft decree on cybercrime and held meetings with the Vice chief of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) and the Ministry of Information and Communication (MIC) on streamlining the handling of web-based violations, a portion of which includes tiger crimes.

Also, during project year 1, ENV held a number of meetings with National Assembly delegates, notably new members of the Science Environment and Technology Committee, and delegates from Nghe An Province concerning tiger trafficking in that province, as well as other provinces. ENV also held a roundtable briefing for over 20 journalists to socialise recommendations for amendments to the law to restrict who can keep and breed tigers.

In year 2 of the project, ENV continued to dialogue with Vietnamese authorities and 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,” including zoos and other non-commercial facilities keeping wildlife. ENV had been working with MONRE for more than two years promoting the necessity of a new decree, and a similar effort was being made with MARD. [REDACTED]

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.

In year 3 of the project, ENV made the following made the following law and policy briefings:

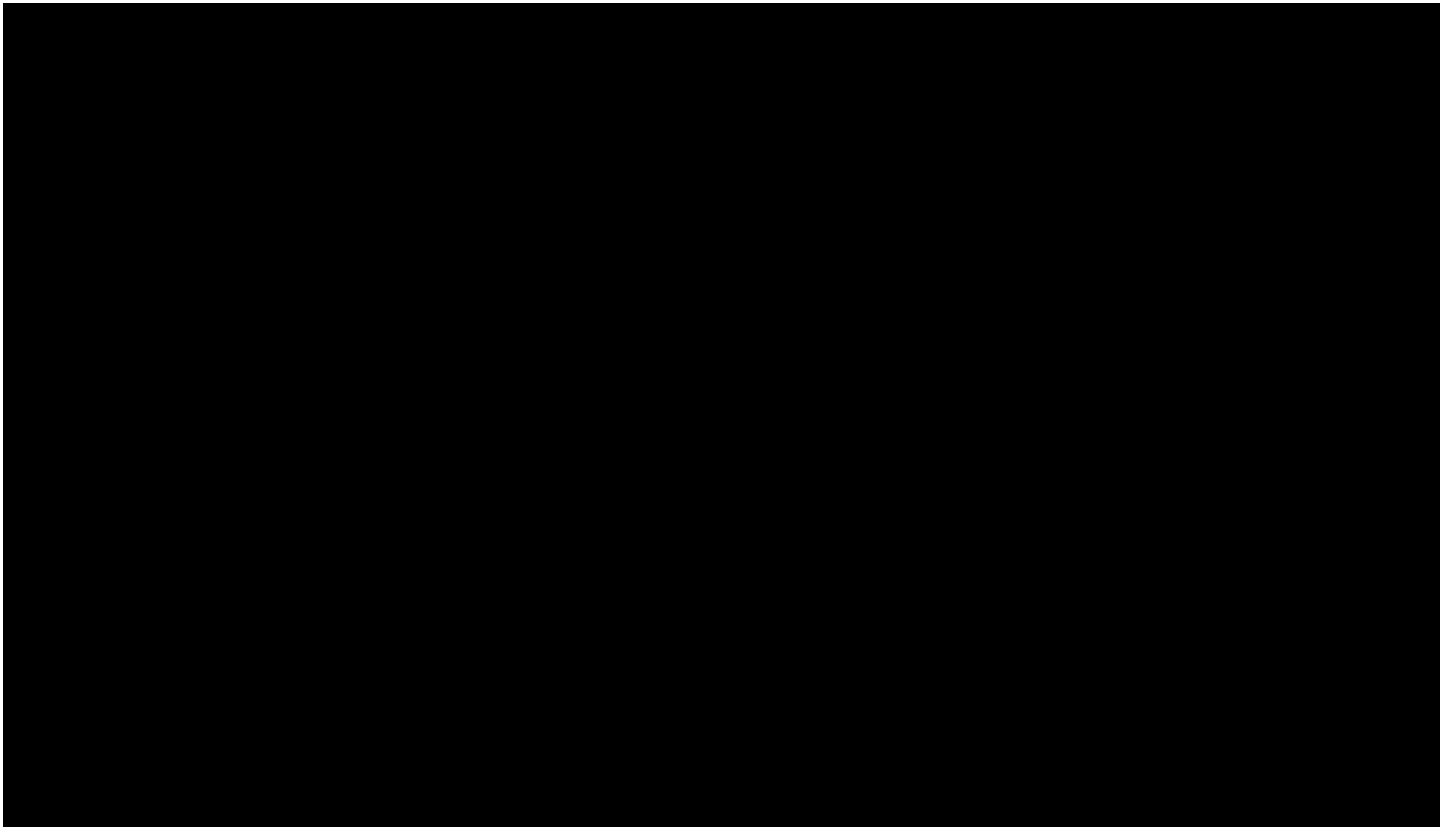


China

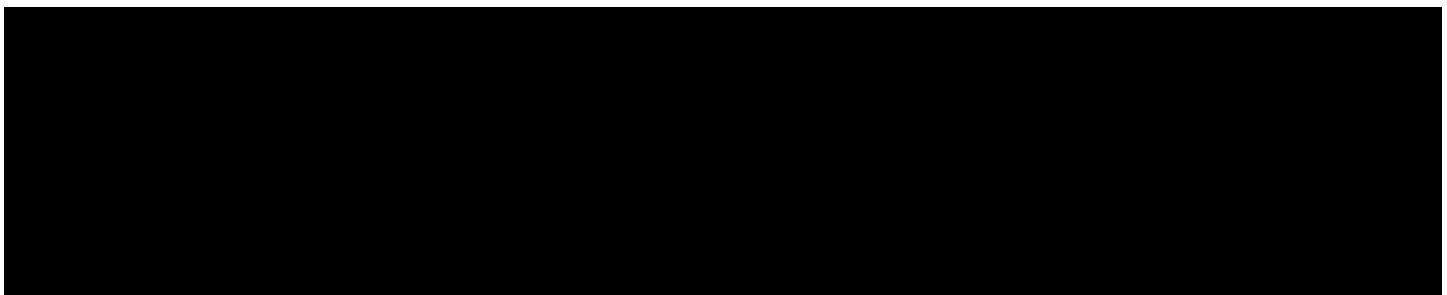
Through the course of the project, EIA [advocated](#) for amendments to China's Wildlife Protection Law (WPL) and associated regulations, urging compliance with CITES Resolutions and Decision on tigers (and other Asian big cats). This included submitting and [publishing](#) comments for a public consultation on a trade marking system in May 2022 (See Supporting Document 20); and submitting and [publishing](#) comments on a second round of proposed revisions to the entire WPL in October 2022 (See Supporting Document 21 and 21A).

Disappointingly, the same exceptions allowing for commercial trade in tigers and other species under special state protection were retained in China's amended WPL which was published in December 2022. In January 2023, EIA issued a [statement](#) highlighting the continuing problems with the amended legislation. Since then, EIA has continued to advocate for changes to China's law to prohibit the commercial exploitation of threatened species such as tigers and leopards including in a [statement](#) published on the occasion of the coming into force of the amended legislation and in our report [Investing in Extinction](#) (funded separately by other donors) released in October 2023.

Lao PDR



Thailand



In year 3, EIA conducted a general review of Thailand's WACPA and obtained clarifications and advice from Thai lawyers who conducted informal consultations with relevant authorities. The review document with EIA's comments and recommendations is in the process of finalization and a draft is provided in confidence for information purposes ([REDACTED]). While the WACPA does provide meaningful protections for tigers and other Asian big cats, there are exceptions, particularly for zoos, which have the capacity to be misused to continue legal commercial trade or hinder enforcement action against illegal trade. While some of the issues identified could be addressed through delegated legislation such as regulations, some may require an amendment to the legislation. EIA has funding to continue this advocacy beyond the project period in consultation with WFFT and other stakeholders.

(Indicator 4.5 removed as per April 2023 Change Request)

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.*

In summary, there has only been three positive policy or law amendments announced by project countries, but several law and policy pieces currently subject to revision in Vietnam and Thailand that will conclude beyond the project period. The project partners will continue with advocacy for policy and law reform, acknowledging that these changes take longer to secure than the project period.

Thailand

During the CITES Big Cats Task Force meeting in 2023, Thailand announced they intended to restrict the number of captive tigers through subsidiary regulation to the new law (WACPA / WARPA). This was reiterated during meetings with Thai officials in March 2024, who advised that these regulations, along with regulations to enable enforcement against processed tiger products such as tiger bone glue, are to be drafted by November 2024.

Lao PDR

Several comments and recommendations made by EIA (see Indicator 4.4) through the SDG 15.7 working group were reflected in changes made to Lao PDR's draft Law on Wildlife (accessed by us in September). The most important change was increased protection for species listed in List I (the highest protection level). A final enacted version of this law and a revised CITES Decree have been accessed by EIA and will be reviewed shortly. From a first look, it appears that many of the positive changes in the draft legislation have been retained in the final version.

However, we are very hesitant to chalk this down as a major success. While the legislation is better, it is still far from good and there continue to be significant gaps and problems. It continues to promote farming and utilization of wildlife with no proper checks for legal acquisition of animals and their parts and derivatives. Moreover, our experience over the course of this project indicates that authorities in Lao PDR do not have the capacity for even basic levels of law enforcement, and this is unlikely to change without increased political will and resources irrespective of what is contained in legislation.

China

Despite China's WPL continuing to contain the same problematic exemptions allowing for commercial utilization of tigers and other species under special state protection, there have been some positive policy developments in year 3. In [June 2023](#), China's Food and Drug Administration established a working group to help formulate policies and technical requirements for substitutes for rare and endangered Chinese medicinal materials and in [March 2024](#), a proposal to promote the development and use of substitutes for endangered animal ingredients in TCM was submitted to China's National People's Congress. This seems to be part of a growing acknowledgement by some within China that the TCM sector cannot continue to depend on ingredients from endangered species in the long term. While these developments cannot be attributed directly to activities under this project, they may indicate a shift in direction which EIA (and other NGOs) has long campaigned and advocated for under a parallel project.

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.*

The number of media articles reporting on issues highlighted by the project over the project lifetime were as follows.

- Year 1: 51
- Year 2: 220
- Year 3: 31 +

See samples in Supporting Documents 26A and 26B

Furthermore, in project year 1, ENV hosted a meeting for journalists on the state of tiger trade and the need for regulations to manage the growth of captive tiger populations in Vietnam. The discussion was intended to come in advance of the Vietnamese New Year and the arrival of the Year of the Tiger. The

roundtable discussion resulted in 20 of the media articles (part of the cumulative figures given above), but also two television news segments. ENV also hosted its January radio show on the Voice of Vietnam (VOV) covering the same issues discussed in the media roundtable. ENV's radio show, operating monthly since 2005, is estimated to reach millions of listeners each month throughout the country.

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.*

ENV [produced a short video on the women](#) in the organisation leading the various aspects of Counter Wildlife Trafficking (CWT) that ENV supports, it was produced in English before this project began but was reproduced in [Vietnamese](#) in 2023. The project underperformed on this Indicator in the project period but as appropriate will spotlight the role of women in CWT in multi-media associated with the forthcoming publication of report highlighting project findings.

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.*

ENV runs demand reduction and awareness campaigns under a separate project in Vietnam, drawing on the findings from field and desk-based research into the trade that took place under this project. In March 2022, ENV re-released its 2016 “Tiger King” public service announcement (PSA) to television stations around the country. The PSA features a king accepting gifts from patrons only to be confronted by a man bearing a gift of tiger bone traditional medicine for the king. The king rejects the gift and promptly calls the ENV Wildlife Crime Hotline to report the crime. ENV PSAs typically air on between 55-65 television stations nationally. The Tiger King PSA was re-released for 2022, Year of the Tiger. The PSA was also released on Tik Tok and Facebook receiving more than 70,000 views.

ENV's other public facing outputs included media statements, events, and interviews, PSAs 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 the PSA focusing 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.

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 presentation covering demand for all big cat species including live, at the CITES Big Cats Task Force meeting in April 2023 (see Supporting Document 24). Presentations to CITES (see Indicator 4.1) also delivered findings to stakeholders working on and supporting demand reduction activities.

As a member of the Scientific Advisory Group to the UNODC, EIA provided data on trade and prices for the 3rd Edition of the [World Wildlife Crime Report](#) and inputs for the content on demand drivers and big cats. EIA also provided inputs into a TRAFFIC / CITES Secretariat [report](#) on big cats, including convergence in trade and demand between tigers and other big cats such as lions.

3.2 Outcome

Red text is CONFIDENTIAL not to be shared or published.

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*

In summary, there has been greatest achievement in enforcement in Vietnam with the arrest and prosecution of higher tier criminals identified by the project partners as being significant in regional trade,

and others still subject to law enforcement scrutiny (see Annex 5 supporting information section 4). This includes criminals linked to licensed and illegal captive tiger facilities. In Thailand, authorities cooperated with the US and a major transnational criminal was arrested, extradited and convicted in an operation which the project partners contributed information to (see Indicator 0.1 below). Whilst stilted, enforcement against one of the captive tiger facilities identified by project partners as implicated in regional trade has set an important precedent and substantiates the need for new regulations in Thailand. Likewise, whilst Thailand's new legislation (adopted in 2019) calls for enforcement against products like tiger bone glue, the regulations to implement that are still to be completed and our field research findings have emphasised how that gap is being exploited.

In Lao PDR, the initial response to information provided by the project partners regarding a Chinese syndicate openly selling tiger bone wine (see Supporting Documents 25 and 25A) in the capital was encouraging, but quickly faltered due to capacity and confidence gaps, despite significant investment in training and capacity building by donors over the last decade. The same information was shared with ██████████ in China who have tried to assist Lao PDR, facilitated ██████████. Whilst there have been some improvements in legislation in Lao PDR, significant gaps remain. The project findings (and earlier research by the partners), demonstrated the lack of political will to tackle organised criminality and corruption associated with wildlife crime, or to implement recommendations under CITES and the Financial Action Task Force (FATF). Lao PDR is now subject to CITES trade suspensions, and [negative evaluation under FATF](#) that risks financial sanctions (with tiger farming, wildlife crime at the GTSEZ cited among the high risk predicate offences linked to money laundering). The outcome of the CITES and FATF processes extend beyond the project period and EIA will continue to leverage these mechanisms to support advocacy for further law reform and more effective enforcement in Lao PDR.

The project's impact on wild tiger populations is indirect, though during the project period the existence of tiger 'farms' and trade in captive bred tiger parts were recognised as a threat contributing to demand and thus poaching of wild tigers by some tiger range states and was reflected in the [Global Tiger Recovery Programme 2.0](#). During the project period, the global wild tiger population was declared at 5,574, an increase from the estimated 4000 at the start of the project. Whilst wild tigers are extinct in Lao PDR and Vietnam, continue to be close to extinction in Myanmar and China, they are gradually increasing in China (still <60 individuals), and gradually [increasing](#) in Thailand including in [areas](#) they have not bred in for some time.

The project's impact on vulnerable communities in crime hotspots is indirect, but research by the project partners is reflected in [UNODC](#) and FATF reports on crime convergence in venues such as the GTSEZ. Run by the Zhao Wei TCO, EIA information contributed to the earlier US OFAC listing, which in turn contributed to the [UK sanctions in 2023](#). Crime convergence at the GTSEZ includes wildlife crime with drug trafficking, money laundering and human trafficking. Following [numerous reports](#) of human rights abuses at the GTSEZ, there is increasing pressure on Lao PDR to act against the Kings Romans Group and the Zhao Wei TCO but at present the government is [politically compromised](#). Ongoing advocacy by EIA beyond the project period includes briefing relevant stakeholders on Zhao Wei TCO associates and maintaining the pressure on Lao PDR to bring rule of law to the GTSEZ.

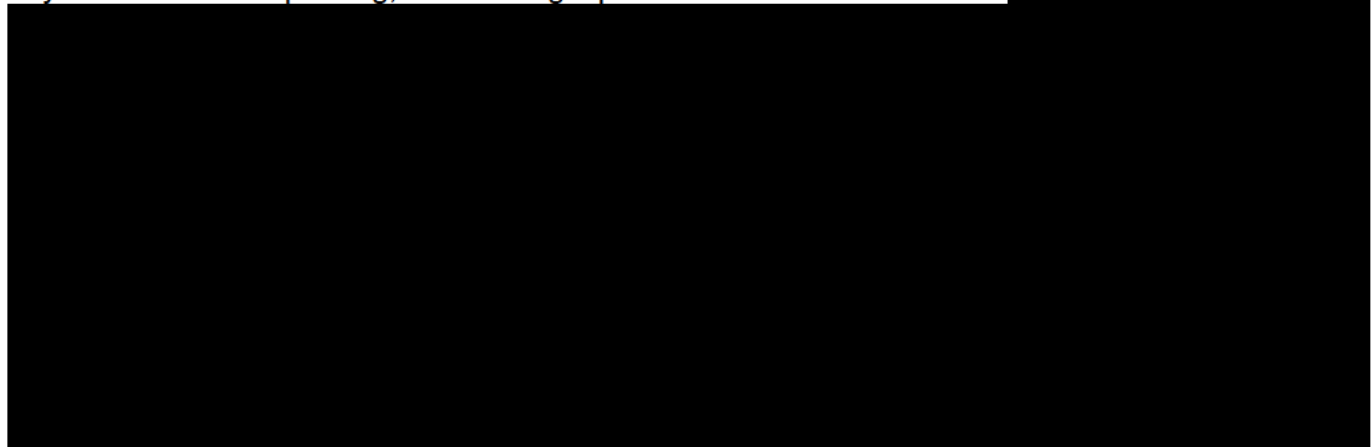
Indicator 0.1: By 31 March 2024, the number of criminal networks identified trafficking tigers and other big cats in and through the project countries, by government agencies, increases to at least ten, from a 2019 baseline of five (representing 174 entities including persons of interest and companies),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

This indicator is a measure of how many of the networks identified and profiled by the project partners and disseminated to law enforcement are officially pursued by government agencies. Building on the 2019 baseline of five, at project end there were a total of 15 tiger trafficking networks (10 new during the project period) identified by project partners that were being pursued by government agencies, surpassing our original target by 50%. This breaks down over the project years into four new networks by the end of year 1, 3 additional new networks by the end of year 2, and an additional three new networks by the end of year 3: totalling 10 new networks over the full project period and culminating in a total achievement of 15.

Details of the networks are sensitive; however, EIA and partners would be happy to schedule a briefing with a Defra-nominated UK law enforcement official to present on the networks in question. A couple of examples are highlighted in this section.

One of the most significant tiger trading networks operating between Lao PDR and Vietnam was disrupted with the arrest of [Cao Xuan Manh](#). This was part of a long-term law enforcement operation, with initial arrests in January 2024. Full details are provided in confidence in Annex 5.

Another project outcome was the [arrest](#), [extradition](#) and [conviction](#) of Teo Boon Ching in 2022, 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 strictest confidence.



The case is a credit to the US Fish and Wildlife Service's Office of Law Enforcement and their commitment to investigation and cooperation with Thai authorities and NGOs to disrupt serious and organised transnational wildlife crime networks.

Continuing the project legacy, profiles of ten additional tiger priority tiger trafficking networks have recently been shared with relevant law enforcement agencies, and at least some of these targets will be the subject of police investigations based on discussions between project partners and law enforcement authorities.

(Indicator 0.2 removed as per approved Change Request)

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 by 31 March 2021 for China and Lao PDR, with prosecutions as a percentage of people arrested / charged, and a percentage of people identified / reported.*

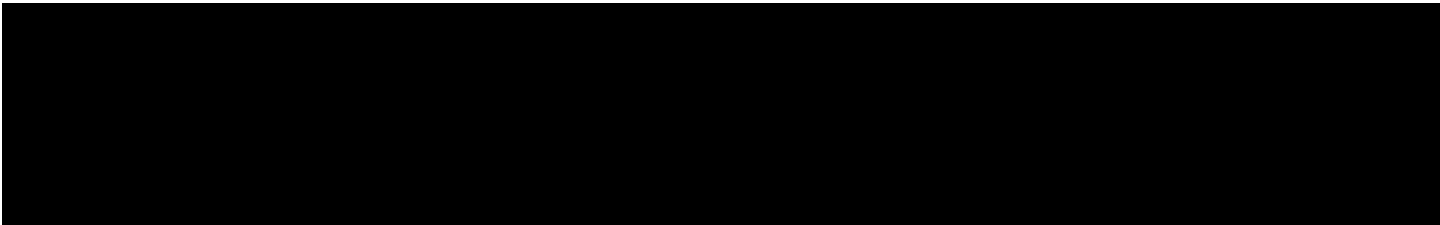
Vietnam

Project partner, ENV, documents all 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. The baseline set for Vietnam was 8 tiger trader prosecutions (2021 baseline).

Table 2. Tiger trader prosecution statistics, Vietnam, during project lifetime.

Tiger trader prosecutions	Project year 1 (note 4.5 months only)	Project year 2	Project year 3
Prosecutions	10	27	32
Prosecutions resulting in prison sentence	8 (80%)	15 (55%)	16 (50%)
Perpetrators sentenced to prison term	9	21	25

Average prison time	2.8 years	2.19 years	2.15 years
----------------------------	-----------	------------	------------



Thailand

It was not possible to set a baseline prosecution rate for Thailand from previous years and the indicator target was removed as per our approved April 2023 Change Request. This was because, 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 access court case outcomes but unless one is present at hearings it is not possible for the public to access verdicts after the fact unless they are heard in the Supreme Court. In March 2024, EIA met with a Senior Attorney in the Thai Attorney General’s Office who confirmed this was the case and that only prosecutors can access the results and that even officers of the Department of National Parks must request information, making it difficult for central Thai authorities to see the national criminal justice picture.

From media monitoring we know that during project year 2 there were at least four prosecutions of tiger traders and during project year 3 there was at least one.

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. No further information is accessible. EIA’s recent engagement with Laos authorities on a specific case (See Supporting Documents 25, 25A and 25B) reveals significant gaps in competency. Continued seizures in Vietnam and Thailand of tigers reportedly sourced from Laos facilities and the reported denial by Laos authorities indicate a lack of willingness to cooperate on cases. These are contributing factors to the current CITES trade suspension on Laos and the negative evaluation by the Financial Action Task Force.

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. In 2022, we did not record any seizure incidents or prosecutions and in 2023, we recorded 2 seizure incidents but no prosecutions. It is possible there are additional court case records for the other incidents available but Chinese language capacity at EIA was limited during the lifetime of the project (and was not in the budget of this project), 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. We have since secured new funding for the purpose of conducting this analysis, but the results will be outside the project period and reported to CITES SC78 in February 2025. We note that there was however [enforcement action](#) taken against tiger and other illegal wildlife trade.

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 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.

Throughout the project term, project partners have comprehensively monitored captive tiger population in Vietnam, Thailand and Lao PDR.

Table 3. Captive tiger facility statistics, Vietnam (VN), Thailand (TH), and Lao PDR.

Date	31/03/2023				31/03/2024			
	VN	TH	Lao PDR	TOTAL	VN	TH	Lao PDR	TOTAL
Facilities (total)	17	67	5	89	20	65	6	91
Facilities of concern	6	31	5	42	4	19	6	29
Captive tigers (total)	314	1,790	344 – 451	2,448 – 2,555	384	1,519	449	2,352
Tigers in facilities of concern	129	1,276	344 – 451	1,749 – 1,856	99	866	449	1,414

On March 31st, 2023 (end of project year 2), the number of captive tigers in facilities of concern in Thailand, Lao DR and Vietnam was 1,856 (based on the higher estimate from Lao PDR), representing a 28% decrease from the 2019 baseline. By March 31st, 2024 (end of project year 3), the total number of captive tigers in facilities of concern had further reduced to 1,414, representing a 45% decrease from the 2019 baseline.

It should further be noted that the number of captive facilities of concern across the three countries has also reduced to 29. This includes facilities reported by project partners to authorities following field research during this project, facilities that were closed as business partners consolidated their stock (often facilities are stocked with tigers who have different owners, who move their animals around different facilities) and facilities that voluntarily gave up their tigers either due to persuasion or bankruptcy. In Thailand this includes one of the facilities that was subject to field research by the project partners had provided information to authorities about following field research

3.3 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, including new [recommendations](#) to end tiger farming.

- 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, also since sanctioned by the [UK](#). The FIU in Lao PDR has recognised they too had [missed opportunities](#) in the past and the FATF [mutual evaluation report](#) released in August 2023 was highly critical of the failure to address tiger farming, wildlife crime and convergence with other crime types at the GTSEZ. 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 continue to respond positively to EIA, ENV and WFFT information. 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 OLE plays a vital role where transnational criminal networks are concerned.

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 EIA, ENV and WFFT.

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 and failure to act. In the case of Lao PDR, EIA has [exposed](#) its role in the farming and illegal trade of tigers, highlighted the involvement of organized crime, and consistently advocated for CITES trade suspensions which were finally adopted at CITES SC77 in November 2023. Likewise, EIA provided information to the FATF APG, and EIA work was cited in the FATF evaluation report on Lao PDR.

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

This has continued to be the case throughout the project.

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 and access to Chinese prosecutions since 2021 will take place beyond the project period.

- 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](#) which puts women at particular risk.

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

Travel restrictions have now 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 during the project term 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.

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

The Task Forces are still operating and open to new members <https://unitedforwildlife.org/>.

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

Confirmed for Thailand and Vietnam. EIA and partners have channelled (and continue to channel) inputs through third parties to engage with law makers in Lao PDR e.g. via the SDG 15.7 Working Group. EIA has submitted comments on law and policy amends in China via online comment portals and will continue to do so.

- 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 and Annex 5); the announcement of CITES tiger farm missions coincided with increased activity in Thailand in response to project research findings; negative publicity around tiger farming and lawlessness in Lao PDR catalysed an [initial response](#); and, it appears quite evident that the Lao PDR government's responsiveness to comments on legislation from the SDG 15.7 WG was driven by the possibility of CITES trade suspensions, and that the quick revision of Lao PDR's CITES Decree since has been as a result of the CITES trade suspensions coming into effect.

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.

3.4 Impact

Project Impact: 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 evidence in section 3 under Outcome Indicator 0.1 and Output 1). 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 newly understood scale of the issue has presented both a challenge and an opportunity to national and international enforcement agencies.

Since 2019 (when EIA and partners ramped up our targeted focus on addressing these issues), awareness raising by NGOs, exposes (including at CITES), and other resultant projects across southeast Asia have worked to mobilise and support official actions to begin tackling tiger trade and tiger farming in earnest. **In Thailand there is now a recognition of the challenges** and a set of 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 Vietnam's enforcement response** including through prosecutions and willingness to address legislative gaps (see evidence in section 3 under Output 1 and 4), though there is still more to be done there has been progress in addressing illegal keeping and trading of tigers in Nghe An Province and cross-border trade with Lao PDR (see Annex 5). At the CITES Big Cats Task Force meeting Vietnam committed to greater cooperation with neighbouring countries, including Lao PDR and Cambodia. Greater cooperation is also required further afield to prevent Vietnamese poaching gangs killing wild tigers for trade e.g. in Thailand and Malaysia. Vietnam is also rolling out a DNA and stripe pattern database project.

The project contributed 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, as reflected in the recent CITES trade suspensions and the FATF evaluation report.

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 shared information with financial sector stakeholders (private sector, institutional and intergovernmental organised and financial crime specialists), regarding the Golden Triangle Special Economic Zone as the most obvious case study in terms of a crime and corruption convergence venue, where women and migrant workers are most vulnerable to exploitation. Unfortunately, the governments of Lao PDR and China (via the HK FIU) are still failing to take adequate action to disrupt the US and UK sanctioned Zhao Wei Transnational Criminal Organisation that is running the GTSEZ with the Lao PDR government. This is despite a series of accounts of [human rights abuses](#) and modern slavery emerging

from the GTSEZ, and sustained 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. Contribution to IWT Challenge Fund Programme Objectives

4.1 Thematic focus

The project was strongly focussed on 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. See section 3 for evidence.

This project was also focussed, via Output 4, on 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. See section 3 for evidence.

4.2 Impact on species in focus

An impact on tigers is in promoting the implementation of CITES Decisions that formalise scrutiny over the project countries in relation to tiger farming and trade (see Output 4 indicators for evidence). Keeping tigers (and other Asian big cats) firmly on the agenda at CITES through the Captive Tiger Facility Missions and the CITES Big Cats Task Force, and in the public eye, has been critical in securing time-bound, country-specific measures to counter tiger trade.

Key persons and networks of concern to the partners have made it onto the agenda of law enforcement agencies who have been able to disrupt significant tiger trafficking networks (see Outcome 0.1). With the wealth of information being secured by the partners, we have also been well placed to expose and critique failures to prevent tiger trade, thereby maintaining pressure on project country governments to act or face compliance measures under CITES. EIA has advocated for CITES trade restrictions for Lao PDR since as early as [2015](#) due to the open trade of wildlife including tigers, the involvement of organized crime in this trade and the farming of tigers in contravention of CITES recommendations. Through this project, EIA was able to highlight major gaps in Lao PDR's (see reporting under indicator 4.4) to the CITES Secretariat and members of the Standing Committee prior to CITES SC77 in November 2023 where a recommendation to suspend commercial CITES trade with Lao PDR was finally adopted. Information from investigations conducted during this project showing open trade of tiger and pangolin parts in the capital Vientiane was also provided to the Lao PDR authorities and the CITES Secretariat prior to the meeting and highlighted in our [briefing document](#) for the meeting.

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 has taken a multi-pronged approach to countering trade: by disrupting networks where wild and captive tigers, their parts and derivatives converge (see reporting under indicators 1.1, 1.2, 1.3 and 0.1); 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 (see reporting under indicators 1.4, 1.5, 4.1 and 4.2); and, by catalyzing action to address legislation that enables tiger farming and trade (see reporting under indicator 4.4).

4.3 Project support for multidimensional poverty reduction

Indirectly, the project will benefit those communities living at the point of convergence of wildlife crime and corruption. This is often in border areas or convergence venues where wildlife crime takes place alongside other crime types. Impacts are especially pertinent for women who are disproportionately affected by crime such as human trafficking. By promoting more effective enforcement, including targeting of senior network members, the project can improve the rule of law and governance in the project countries where there is sufficient political will, contributing to SDG16 on peaceful and inclusive societies. Where there is currently insufficient political will, the project has leveraged international mechanisms (see reporting under

indicators 4.1 and 4.2) to address one key hotspot (see reporting under 3.2). 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.

Furthermore, project impacts could potentially unlock future 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 the longer-term impact of the project could help to address the causes of these extinctions and lay foundations for potential future reintroductions.

4.4 Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI)

Please quantify the proportion of women on the Project Board ³ .	67% (2/3 people)
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 ⁴ .	67% (2/3 people)

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

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 final report, we have included disaggregation by gender, role,

³ 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.

⁴ 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.

and nationality in our reporting of identified criminal networks and submission to 'know your customer' databases.

In a forthcoming public report based on the findings generated by the project, we will include information on the GTSEZ in Lao PDR, where tiger and other illegal wildlife trafficking takes place alongside other crime types which disproportionately impact upon women, including human trafficking, drug trafficking and associated exploitation of women. 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 towards [REDACTED].

5. Monitoring and evaluation

As reported in the year 1 annual report, 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 which was subsequently approved (see Annex 1 for final approved logframe). Work was then undertaken to revise the M&E accordingly.

M&E was a shared responsibility by all partners and each partner collected 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 used FileDrop (a feature of SharePoint) to collectively access and store shared documents and databases. Information was shared amongst partners as part of specific joint operations, during regular project check-in calls, and, when possible, at in-person project meetings where dedicated agenda sections were focussed on M&E.

There has been no external evaluation of the project, nor are there currently any plans for an external evaluation. Internal evaluation of progress and impacts has happened routinely throughout the project and fed into project management, planning and adaptive management (for example our Change Request). The large number of indicators defined for this project posed some challenges to efficient M&E and we therefore feel that a lesser, more focussed set of indicators for similar projects would be an improvement for the future.

6. Lessons learnt

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.

An aspect of the project that worked especially well was in-country knowledge and expertise of ENV in Vietnam and WFFT in Thailand, while EIA focussed at the international level and to achieve project impacts in countries where an in-country presence isn't feasible. This built efficiencies and complementarity into the project from the start.

The combination of a UK-based NGO with local partners provides scope for more honest evaluation and critiques. Local NGOs and experts based in the project countries often do not have the luxury of being openly critical of the country's policies, and government action (or inaction) due to the fear of reprisal. The same applies to international NGOs with in-country offices. In many countries in Asia, there is reducing space for CSOs to function effectively. EIA, being based in the UK, is better placed to speak more plainly, levelling criticism where it is required. [REDACTED]

Two important aspects of this project have been enhancing enforcement action to combat the illegal wildlife trade and legislative and policy reform. For both these endeavours, one of the lessons learnt is the requirement of more time. Substantial planning, investigation and discussion with government agencies may be required to spur enforcement action in a particular case. For example, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. Even after a seizure or an arrest, it can take months or even years before a prosecution is completed and a verdict delivered. Legislative or regulatory change is a slow process at the best of times. It requires political will from the government in charge though external pressures such as the possibility of international sanctions or public opinion may also play an influence. Factors such as changes in government or even the transfer or retirement of government officials can have a major effect on the process.

For both enforcement action and legislative or policy change, the targeted results may not possible to achieve within a time frame of a few years and expectations need to be managed accordingly at the project planning stage. However, this underlines the need for long term commitment towards the project goals by the project partners and working towards them beyond the period of the specific project.

In addition to the M&E related learning described in the section 5 above, another related 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.

A recommendation for other projects, and donors funding this type of work, would be to look to build the means for similar projects or projects in the same geography to share M&E information relevant to specific species, themes or geographies. This would enable efficiencies and complementarities to be built into projects, ultimately deepening project impacts.

7. Actions taken in response to Annual Report reviews

Year 1 Annual Report Review points to be addressed:

- *The project has noted delays due to Covid-19, and whilst these are clearly explained in the logframe, a revised timeline / Gantt chart would have aided reporting.*
- *The reviewer notes reference is made to Intelligence reports however, no evidence of these reports has been provided. Is it possible for the project to share evidence of these in the next Annual Report?*
- *The project has not commented on how likely project Outputs, Outcome and Impact to be sustained after the project ends and should do so in its next AR.*
- *The project should consider strengthening linkages to support provided by the IWT Challenge Fund via reference in meetings and presentations for example.*
- *The project should develop contingency planning on a country-by-country basis for Covid-19.*
- *The M&E plan has not been provided in reporting and should be included for reference in the next AR. Intelligence reports could also be provided as supporting documentation and additional evidence.*

We responded to all points point raised either through our year 2 annual report or as part of Change Request process (that took place during year 2). Please note that, as well as within the year 2 Annual Report, we have also provided examples of intelligence reports with this Final Report. Furthermore, we have referred to the project legacy at several points throughout this final report.

Year 2 Annual Report Review points to be addressed:

- *The reviewer notes that whilst risk might be assessed for activities, the project is working in some politically sensitive counties, and therefore should have a risk register, and mitigating actions plan should activities be impacted.*

Our apologies, there was a misunderstanding here. We had understood only new applications to the IWTCF had to have a risk register and that the guidance and templates from NIRAS has only become recently available.

- *An M&E plan was created against the original logframe, and the project is working on a revised M&E plan based on the revised logframe. The reviewer notes this should be shared with IWT when completed.*

Our updated M&E plan was submitted to NIRAS following our Change Request

- *The reviewer notes that the project might consider addition of gender specific indicators for reporting to support evidence further.*

As reported in section 4.4 above, 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 final report (and in our 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.

- *The project refers to each partner in reporting a lot. ENV did X, Y, Z etc. Please refer to the project for clearer attribution.*
- *It is unclear to the reviewer if the following two points are project specific or specific to wider ENV work, please clarify. 1) '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'. 2) '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'. Please discuss how these partnerships were formed and refer to them in the partnerships section of the next AR.*

Relating to the two points above, all information provided in this report, and in previous project reports, is attributable to the project except where explicitly stated not to be.

Relating to ENV's partnership formation, ENV approached each private sector partner to form partnerships to address tiger trafficking and wildlife trafficking more generally.

- *The assumption that national FIUs have the mandate and capacity to include tiger/wildlife crime in their work is variable across the Mekong region. What are the implications of this? Can activities be further developed to mitigate against this?*

The implications are that the different national FIUs will vary in their response to information provided by CSOs. Within this project period, relationship building with the individual FIUs is an initial mitigating measure, but the level of effort to fully develop and sustain this is outside the scope of this project.

- *The reviewer notes indicator 1.4 is specific to Thailand. Is the project also able to attain this data for the other Mekong countries it is working in? The reviewer notes outcome indicator 0.4 refers to Thailand, Lao PDR, and Vietnam and the two are linked, so is this data available?*

Indicator 1.4 is specific to Thailand because it was a goal of this project to fully document captive tiger facilities in Thailand as this had not been done before. Project partners were already aware of all captive tiger facilities in Lao PDR and Vietnam prior to project commencement and therefore project goals were set around continued monitoring whereas with Thailand the goal was two-fold; fully document captive facilities and ensure monitoring of facilities throughout the project term.

- *The project has not directly commented on its exit strategy and should do so in its next Annual Report*

Please see section 8 below.

8. Sustainability and legacy

EIA has a long-term commitment to tackling IWT in Southeast Asia and beyond. Key elements of work undertaken, and impacts achieved, will continue and be strengthened as we sustain our focus in the region, supported by other donors. We have already secured funds to continue our law enforcement outreach, advocacy and legislative work in Thailand, Lao PDR and China and will continue to engage through CITES. Project partners ENV and WFFT are deeply embedded within Vietnam and Thailand, respectively, and will continue their varied programmes in pursuit of continued reform to the IWT policy response, captive tiger situation and law enforcement support. Policy shifts in project countries are highlighted in this report against Indicator 4.6. Our mobilisation of other key stakeholders to focus and progress reforms in the captive tiger situation will, as a result of the movement and momentum created under this project, continue beyond the project term. This includes other NGOs and relevant governments, for example, collaboration between stakeholders to create new DNA and stripe pattern databases in Thailand, Laos and Vietnam (pers comm with WWF Tigers Alive Initiative and TRACE Wildlife Forensics). Our advocacy through CITES, FATF and in support of US government and UNODC initiatives will continue to leverage pressure on project country governments to meet commitments and recommendations. Furthermore, EIA intends to develop future worked based upon understanding gained and intelligence gathered under this project. This includes increasing focus on CWT closer to, and driving poaching of, wild tigers in South Asia and Insular Southeast Asia – further deepening our conservation impact in the future.

All staff who were funded under this project have continued working within each partner organisation.

During meetings with government officials, IGOs and NGOs, EIA has advised that our research, analysis and advocacy has been supported by the DEFRA IWT Challenge Fund. This will continue beyond the project period. For example, per previous public facing [REDACTED] a new forthcoming public report will acknowledge support, while at a recent meeting of the SDG 15.7 WG in Laos, WFFT gave a presentation citing the project.

9. IWT Challenge Fund Identity

EIA has promoted the IWTCF on our website several times during the project period and recognised the UK Government's contribution to our work, including within pages giving insight into captive tiger facilities and within our International Tiger 2023 and 2022 posts:

10. Risk Management

No new risks arose in the final 12 months of the project.

11. Safeguarding

Has your Safeguarding Policy been updated in the past 12 months?	Yes
Have any concerns been investigated in the past 12 months	No
Does your project have a Safeguarding focal point?	Yes Cheryl [REDACTED] Operations Director: [REDACTED]
Has the focal point attended any formal training in the last 12 months?	Yes Cheryl is a safeguarding specialist and completed face to face safeguarding training delivered by The Safeguarding Alliance in July 2023. She also has an enhanced DBS.
What proportion (and number) of project staff have received formal training on Safeguarding?	Past: No project staff have received safeguarding training (it was not a previous requirement). Planned: The project has ended.
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
Please describe any community sensitisation that has taken place over the lifetime of the project; include topics covered and number of participants.	There was no community involvement in this project.
Have there been any concerns around Health, Safety and Security of your staff over the lifetime of the project? If yes, please outline how this was resolved.	No.

12. Finance and administration

12.1 Project expenditure

Project spend (indicative) since last Annual Report	2023/24 Grant (£)	2023/24 Total actual IWTCF Costs (£)	Variance %	Comments (please explain significant variances)
Staff costs (see below)				
Consultancy costs				Reduced need for consultancies due to lack of access to court records, early conclusion of field work and partner co-financing for 2 nd Thai field operative.
Overhead Costs				
Travel and subsistence				
Operating Costs				
Capital items (see below)				
Others (see below)				Reduced spend on ICT and other communications costs
Audit costs				
TOTAL	£221,707.18	£212,302.53		

Staff employed (Name and position)	Cost (£)
Deborah Banks – Project Leader – EIA	
Chris Milnes – Comms Officer – EIA	
NAME WITHHELD FOR SECURITY – Senior Intelligence Analyst – EIA	
James Toone – Deputy Campaign Leader – EIA	
NAME WITHHELD FOR SECURITY – Field Operative 1 - EIA	
NAME WITHHELD FOR SECURITY – Field Operative 2 - EIA	
Victoria Dauncey – Senior Wildlife Campaigner – EIA	
Agota Erdos – Project Finance Manager – EIA	
Shaliza Malik – Data Analyst – EIA	
Solomon Nweke – Project Finance Manager – EIA	
Avinash Basker – Legal and Policy Specialist – EIA	
Edwin Wiek – Project Coordinator / Director– WFFT	
NAME WITHHELD FOR SECURITY – Field Operative WFFT	
Prisana Kaewkird – Finance Officer –WFFT	
Thanit Chaimaroeng – Finance Officer –WFFT	
Rory MacDonald –Intelligence Analyst – ENV.	
Tran Viet Huong -Internet case officer – ENV	

Douglas Hendrie – Project Coordinator – ENV		
NAME WITHHELD FOR SECURITY- Field Operative – ENV		
NAME WITHHELD FOR SECURITY - Senior Field Operative- ENV		
Hien Nhan – Financial Manager – ENV		
TOTAL		£153,734.81

Capital items – description	Capital items – cost (£)
TOTAL	£0.00

Other items – description	Other items – cost (£)
Bank Charges	
Internet/software subscriptions, IT/Communications, i2 renewal, secretarial registration fee	
TOTAL	£2,905.05

12.2 Additional funds or in-kind contributions secured

Matched funding leveraged by the partners to deliver the project	Total (£)
2021/22	
2022/23	
2023/24	
TOTAL	£173,844.00

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

12.3 Value for Money

This project was based on decades of collective experience researching and documenting tiger and other illegal wildlife trade and builds on the foundation of IWT046.

The partner organisations were small, local and effective, highly skilled in collating, analysing and rapidly disseminating information, tailored to different audiences. ENV and WFFT have good working relations with national law enforcement and international stakeholders in Vietnam and Thailand, respectively. Independent information is vital in determining progress with implementation of CITES resolutions and decisions, the London Declaration on IWT and the Global Tiger Recovery Program. This project has provided information for multiple purposes and audiences, with law enforcement the priority audience.

The project avoided duplication of effort by intergovernmental and NGO stakeholders engaged in capacity building and demand reduction but supported their efforts through the sharing of relevant information. While the focus of the project was tigers, there are benefits for other big cat species threatened by trade in their body parts that enter the same markets, such as leopards, clouded leopard, snow leopard, jaguar and African lion. The project also collected and shared information encountered on trafficking of other wildlife, convergence with other crime types.

The project budget also provided value for money through alignment with current systems already created by the project partners. The project utilised information management systems and specialist software (such as the i2 system which is widely used by enforcement agencies) already in place at EIA and ENV.

13. Other comments on progress not covered elsewhere

The project had wider species and geographic impact than the focal species and named project countries. Information on the trafficking of other wildlife and the networks and businesses involved was collated, as a consequence of convergence of tiger with other wildlife in the trade chains. The project desk and field research generated information on criminal networks with a footprint in Malaysia and Indonesia as well the project countries. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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

I agree for the Biodiversity Challenge Funds Secretariat to publish the content of this section (please leave this line in to indicate your agreement to use any material you provide here).

Over the course of the project, we have seen positive signs emerging from Thailand and Vietnam. Thailand seems to have acknowledged the risks from captive tiger breeding facilities in the country and there appears to be a desire to address the problem. Vietnam has taken significant enforcement actions against the illegal tiger trade, though illegal trade, stemming from a high demand for tiger products, continues to be a major problem. At the international level, advocacy by EIA and project partners using information generated by desk and field research during and prior to this project has played a part in [REDACTED] [REDACTED] for tigers at CITES, and in particular recommendations: a) to Vietnam, Thailand and Lao PDR to restrict the breeding of tigers in captivity and prohibit the establishment of new facilities keeping tigers in captivity; and b) to suspend all commercial trade of CITES-listed species with Lao PDR. These country-specific recommendations highlight the risk that commercial captive breeding of tigers poses to wild tigers and indicate the international community's opposition to its continuance. In the case of Lao PDR, we are hopeful that trade suspensions will spur action at the highest levels of government to address the rampant trade of threatened wildlife, including tigers, that occurs in the country with the involvement of organized crime.

Image, Video or Graphic Information: Sample of illustrative images and video. Further content available upon release of forthcoming public report and associated multi-media

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)
Video	All images are shared via WeTransfer along with other Supporting Documents Captive Tiger butchery GRAPHIC from online trader	Captive Tiger butchery GRAPHIC from online trader, Vietnam	Instagram: @eia_news Twitter: EIA_News	N/A
Image	Dead tiger cubs shared by online trader	Dead tiger cubs shared by online trader, Lao PDR	As above	N/A
Image	DNY brand tiger bone wine for sale in Laos ©EIA	DNY brand tiger bone wine for sale in Lao PDR ©EIA	“	N/A
Image	EIA Presentation CITES Big Cats Task Force_copyright P Rihova	EIA Presentation to CITES Big Cats Task Force on demand, Uganda	“	Yes
Image	EIA staff at Wildlife Crime Intel Centre Thailand Mar 2024	EIA team meet with Thailand’s Wildlife Crime Intelligence Centre personnel, with Interpol, Department of Special Investigations, and Senior Attorney Suriyon, Thailand	“	Yes
Image	EIA_CITES SC77_Intervention©EIA	EIA Legal & Policy Specialist delivering intervention at 77 th Meeting of the CITES Standing Committee, Switzerland ©EIA,	“	Yes
Image	The EIA team at SC77 © International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD)	The EIA team at CITES SC77, Switzerland © International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD)	“	Yes
Image	Tiger bone ©EIA and ENV	Tiger bone for sale in Lao PDR ©EIA and ENV	“	N/A
Image	Tiger bone glue for open sale in Thailand ©EIA	Tiger bone glue offered for sale to Chinese and Vietnamese bus tours, Thailand ©EIA	“	N/A
Image	Tiger bone wine advert in King Romans Group Brochure ©EIA	Tiger bone wine advertised for sale in King Romans Group Brochure at hotel in the Golden Triangle Special Economic Zone, Lao PDR ©EIA	“	N/A
Video	Tiger bone wine and skin shared by online trader	Tiger bone wine and skin shared by online trader	“	N/A
Image	Tiger Farm Kings Romans Group GTSEZ Bokeo Laos copyright EIA.jpeg	Tiger farm at the Golden Triangle Special Economic Zone, Lao PDR copyright EIA (from 2015)	“	N/A

Image	Tiger meat on menu_Golden Triangle Special Economic Zone_Lao PDR (c) EIA ENV.jpg	Tiger meat offered at restaurant at the Golden Triangle Special Economic Zone, Lao PDR (c) EIA ENV (from 2014)	"	N/A
Image	Tiger skin wallet shared by online trader	Tiger skin wallets offered for sale online, Vietnam	"	N/A
Image	Tiger teeth jewellery shared by online trader	Tiger teeth jewellery offered for sale online	"	N/A
Video	Tigers in captivity in tiger farm from online trader	Tigers in captivity in tiger farm posted by online trader in SE Asia, location unknown	"	N/A

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

Project summary	Progress and achievements
<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>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 major figures within transnational criminal networks</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>Enforcement operations in Vietnam and Thailand have led to successes in Vietnam and Thailand, including against high level traffickers and captive facilities involved in the trade (see reporting against Output 3.1, 3.2 and Annex 5, no.4)</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>Building on the 2019 baseline of five, at project end there were a total of 15 tiger trafficking networks (ten new during the project period) identified by project partners that were being pursued by government agencies, surpassing our original target by 50%.</p>
<p>0.2 <i>(Removed)</i></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>Vietnam: Baseline = 8; annual prosecutions measured at end of year 1 (4.5 months) = 10; year 2 = 29; year 3 = 32</p> <p>Thailand: No baseline (see Section 3.2); annual prosecutions measured at end of year 3 = 1 (4 at end of year 2).</p> <p>China: Baseline = 5; annual prosecutions measured at end of year 3 = Specifics unknown</p> <p>Lao PDR: Baseline = 1; annual prosecutions measured at end of year 3 = Specifics Unknown. Lao PDR reported 3 prosecutions to CITES between 2021 and 2022.</p> <p>Myanmar: No data (see Section 3.2).</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>March 31st, 2023: Tigers in facilities of concern</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thailand: 1,276 • Vietnam: 129 • Lao PDR: 344-451 <p>TOTAL: 1,749 – 1,856</p> <p>March 31st, 2024: Tigers in facilities of concern</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thailand: 866 • Vietnam: 99 • Lao PDR: 449 <p>TOTAL: 1,414</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>Over the course of the project lifetime, partners EIA, ENV and WFFT, have newly identified a total 34 tiger trafficking networks operating across the Mekong region and mapped 23 of those networks. 18 of the newly identified and mapped networked were shared with trusted national law enforcement bodies in project countries and international enforcement agencies. Building on the 2020 baseline of five networks shared with law enforcement, this results in a grand total 23 networks shared with law enforcement by March 31st, 2024, far surpassing our original target of nine (and surpassing our beyond-project target of ten by March 31st, 2025).</p> <p>Evidence provided in 3.1 and Annex 5.</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 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>Throughout the project term, EIA, WFFT and ENV collectively shared a total of 161 unique intelligence documents (amounting to over 180 intelligence disseminations) to trusted stakeholders. These range from detailed profiles and assessments of persons and companies of interest within the priority criminal networks, to short and timely updates on activities by those persons and companies. The 161 unique shares over the project term breakdowns into 26 in project year 1 (4.5 months only), 78 in project year 2 and 57 in project year 3. Therefore, exceeding our target of at least 50 per year.</p> <p>Evidence provided in 3.1 and Annex 5.</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>Eight key trade locations, 21 trafficking routes and 15 smuggling methods were profiled by EIA and shared with trusted law enforcement agencies. Building on our 2019 baseline of six, this well surpasses our original profiling target of ten.</p> <p>Evidence provided in 3.1 and Annex 5.</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>As of March 31st, 2024, we had records of 65 known facilities in Thailand holding captive tigers, this includes 13 government run centres (by the Department of National Parks; DNP) as well as rescue centres or state enterprises. A total of 46 of the facilities were privately owned. All 46 privately owned facilities were surveyed and documented, including drone surveying those where physical access was not feasible. All 46 private facilities have also been profiled. This 100% achievement surpasses our 95% target.</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>Evidence provided in 3.1 and Annex 5.</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>Further to direct reports by project partners of facilities of concern directly to law enforcement in Thailand and Vietnam, project partners have been closely involved with the CITES Secretariat tiger facility monitoring missions, providing detailed information on 100% facilities of concern within project countries. We have succeeded in reporting 100% of captive tiger facilities of concern to relevant national and international law enforcement.</p> <p>Evidence provided in 3.1 and Annex 5.</p>
<p>1.6 (Removed)</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>A total of six technical briefings for the financial crime audience (typologies, case studies and red flag documents) been prepared, 4 have been disseminated and 2 will be disseminated under ongoing advocacy and outreach activity beyond the project period.</p> <p>See Section 3.1</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>Total tiger specific submissions by EIA (total submissions by EIA): Project year 1: 119. Please not this was a 4.5-month period only. Project year 2: 186 (1,887) Project year 3: 185 (2,153)</p> <p>(for disaggregation see section 3.1 and Annex 5)</p>

2.3 (Removed)	
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>In total, throughout the project lifetime, EIA met seven times with FIUs, or related authorities dealing with financial crime over years 2 and 3 (year 1 was focused on developing the first Mekong regional tiger crime typology).</p> <p>In year 2, EIA had one meeting with the Vietnam FIU and continued to share information with them following the meeting. EIA 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, setting in place relationships for future information dissemination to project countries FIUs as appropriate.</p> <p>In year 3, EIA met again with the UK Regional Crime Coordinator based out of Bangkok and with UNODC Organised Crime Analysis & Threat Monitoring team and shared intelligence related to casinos and the GTSEZ. EIA also met with Malaysia FIU to share intelligence relating to Teo Boon Ching and also the Thai Department of National Parks' Wildlife Crime Intelligence Centre alongside the Thai AMLIO and DSI.</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>	
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>101 companies profiled over the project lifetime, therefore 109 in total inclusive of the baseline. Spread over the project years, this breaks down into 17 in year 1, 37 in year 2 and 47 in year 3. For information on types of companies and dissemination of profile information see section 3.1.</p> <p>Evidence provided in 3.1 and Annex 5.</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>The baseline for this indicator was set in year 1 of the project, at 191 submissions. Prior to commencement of this project, EIA submitted a list of 43 Vietnamese bank accounts used by online tiger traders to UfW Financial Task Force for onward action.</p> <p>During the project lifetime a total of 451 reports to social media companies were made, 247 reports to traditional medicine practitioners and 18 reports to UfW taskforces. This breaks down into 356 in year 2 and 360 in year 3.</p> <p>Therefore, while achieving and surpassing the 50% annual increase target in year 2 (we achieved an 86% increase on year 1 figures), we did not achieve a further 50% increase in year 3 from the year 2 figures.</p> <p>See Section 3.1</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>Of the reports submitted (as detailed above), 273 (76%) were resolved. Of those cases resolved, 139 (51%) were through link removals and deactivations by stakeholders who received reports from project partners.</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>Only 1 new member Activating 1 existing member Additional potential members identified for future advocacy See Section 3.1</p>
<p>3.5 (Removed)</p>	
<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>1.8 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>5 briefing documents disseminated for CITES meetings (SC74, CoP19 & SC77). 2 films disseminated for CITES meetings (SC74 and CoP19). 4 presentations made at CITES side events (CoP19 and SC74). 1 policy document developed with collaborating NGOs and released at CITES SC74. 2 thematic briefings co-developed and 1 presentation made for the GTRP 2.0. See Section 3.1</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>In total, 6 interventions were made across CITES SC74, SC75, CoP19 and SC77 by EIA and collaborating NGOs (1 each at SC74, SC75 and CoP19 and 3 at SC77). See Section 3.1</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) 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>Year 1: 4 briefings Year 2: 8+ briefings Year 3: 8+ briefings</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>Over the course of the project EIA and partners have prepared and disseminated 14 policy briefings on national laws and regulations. See Section 3.1</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>3 positive amendments announced, several more subject to ongoing advocacy See Section 3.1</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>Year 1: 51 Year 2: 220 Year 3: 31 + See samples in Supporting Documents 26A and 26B</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>1 film in Vietnamese. Planned multi-media outputs associated with forthcoming report See Section 3.1</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 and consumer behaviour change campaigns increases to three by 31 March 2024 from a 2019 baseline of one</p>	<p>5 briefings and presentations to relevant stakeholders 2 PSAs produced directly by partner See Section 3.1</p>

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

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>0.4 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</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 	

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
	<p>facilities of concern in project countries to relevant national and international law enforcement, and relevant IGOs.</p> <p>1.6 (Removed)</p>	<p>- Feedback (minutes of meetings / correspondence) to EIA and partners from agencies and intergovernmental organisations (IGOs) following submission of reports.</p> <p>1.6 (Removed)</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</p>	<p>2.1 – Typologies and red flags prepared by partners</p> <p>- Partner information dissemination logs</p> <p>- United for Wildlife Financial Taskforce Alerts</p> <p>- Feedback from financial institutes and FIUs (noting that often these agencies cannot disclose actions but can acknowledge receipt)</p> <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>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
	is at a rate of at least one per year and 100% of appropriate intelligence is disseminated to FIUs by 31 March 2024	2.4 Feedback (minutes of meetings / correspondence) with FIU's, UNODC, RUSI	
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>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</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>March 2022, from a 2020 baseline of zero (targets to be reviewed at end of Year 1)</p> <p>3.5 (Removed)</p>		
<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>0.4 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>0.4 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</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>0.4 – 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>0.4 (Removed)</p>	<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>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>0.4 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>0.4 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>0.4 (Removed)</p> <p>0.4 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>0.4 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</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>0.4 Partner records of media articles and films</p> <p>0.4 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
	<p>review of 2019 media outputs) to at least 30 in each year of the project.</p> <p>0.4 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 and consumer behaviour change campaigns increases to three by 31 March 2024 from a 2019 baseline of one</p>		
<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>			

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
<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> <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>			

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
<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> <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	Units	Disaggregation	Year 1 Total	Year 2 Total	Year 3 Total	Total achieved	Total planned
IWTCF-B06	Number of criminal networks identified.	Number	n/a	13	19	2	34	10
IWTCF-B06	Number of criminal networks mapped	Number	n/a	6	16	1	23	10
IWTCF-B06	Number of trade routes identified/mapped	Number	n/a	11	6	3	21	10

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)
It's a new Year of the Tiger and China needs to get serious about protecting this iconic species	Blog	Debbie Banks, February, 2022	Female	British	N/A	https://eia-international.org/blog/its-a-new-year-of-the-tiger-and-china-needs-to-get-serious-about-protecting-this-iconic-species/
EIA Briefing: Key Priorities and Recommendations for SC74	Advocacy document	EIA, March 2022	N/A	N/A	N/A	https://eia-international.org/wp-content/uploads/EIA-CITES-SC74-briefing-March-2022.pdf
EIA Comments on China's "Measures for the Administration of the Special Marking System of National Key Protected Wild Animals and Products thereof" (Draft for Comment)	Advocacy document	EIA, May 2022	Female	British	N/A	https://eia-international.org/wp-content/uploads/20220521-NFGA-Public-Consultation-Final-EN-CN.pdf

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)
and the Scope of the Special Marking System (First Batch)*						
Recommendations from the Environmental Investigation Agency regarding revision of the Wildlife Protection Law of the People's Republic of China	Advocacy document	EIA, September 2022	Female	British	N/A	https://eia-international.org/wp-content/uploads/Comment-on-2022-draft-revision-English.pdf
CITES Briefing Document: Key Priorities and Recommendations for CoP19	Advocacy document	EIA, September 2022	N/A	N/A	N/A	https://eia-international.org/wp-content/uploads/2022_EIA-Key-Priorities-and-Recommendations-for-CoP19_Final.pdf
Urgent Action Required for Asian Big Cats at CITES CoP19	Advocacy document	EIA, Born Free Foundation, FOUR PAWS, WFFT, November 2022	Female	British	N/A	https://eia-international.org/report/urgent-action-required-for-asian-big-cats-at-cites-cop19/
CITES CoP19 – an overall win for wildlife with greater commitments to protect a variety of species	Blog	EIA, November 2022	N/A	N/A	N/A	https://eia-international.org/news/cites-cop19-an-overall-win-for-wildlife-with-greater-commitments-to-protect-a-variety-of-species/
Tackling Tiger Trafficking Framework	Toolkit	Ecojust, EIA, Fauna & Flora International, Panthera, SMA Consulting, Trace Forensics, TRAFFIC, WCS, Wildlife Justice	N/A	N/A	N/A	https://eia-international.org/wp-content/uploads/Tackling-Tiger-Trafficking-Framework.pdf

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)
		Commission, Wildlife Protection Society of India, Wildlife Trust of India and WWF				
China's aim to be a wildlife conservation leader undermined by its exploitation of endangered species	Blog	Ceres Kam & Avinash Basker, January 2023	Female	Swedish	N/A	https://eia-international.org/blog/chinas-aim-to-be-a-wildlife-conservation-leader-undermined-by-it-exploitation-of-endangered-species/
China's revised Wildlife Protection Law goes live – but it's a missed chance to help endangered species	Blog	Avinash Basker, April 2023	Male	Indian	N/A	https://eia-international.org/news/chinas-revised-wildlife-protection-law-goes-live-but-its-a-missed-chance-to-help-endangered-species/
Investing in Extinction	Report (funded separately by other donors)	EIA, October 2023	Female	British	N/A	https://eia-international.org/wp-content/uploads/2023-EIA-UK-Investing-in-Extinction_SPREADS.pdf
EIA recommendations for the 77 th meeting of the CITES Standing Committee	Advocacy document	EIA, November 2023	N/A	N/A	N/A	https://eia-international.org/wp-content/uploads/2023-EIA-recommendations-SC77-Standing-Committee.pdf
CITES SC77 EIA Briefing on Documents relating to Asian Big Cats	Advocacy document	EIA, November 2023	Male	Indian	N/A	https://eia-international.org/wp-content/uploads/SC77-EIA-ABC-Briefing.pdf
Roadmap to Closing Captive Tiger Facilities of Concern	Advocacy document	Association of Zoos & Aquariums, European Association of Zoos	N/A	N/A	N/A	https://eia-international.org/wp-content/uploads/Report-2023-

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)
		and Aquariums, EIA, FOUR PAWS, Panthera, WCS, Wildcats Conservation Alliance, Wildlife Justice Commission, WWF, Zoological Society of London, November 2023				Roadmap-to-close-captive-tiger-facilities.pdf
At CITES SC77- our campaigners report on the highs and lows for wildlife	Blog	EIA, November 2023	N/A	N/A	N/A	https://eia-international.org/news/at-cites-77th-standing-committee-our-campaigners-report-on-the-highs-and-lows-for-wildlife/
'Heartening' indication China is moving towards ending use of threatened wildlife in traditional medicine	Blog	Ceres Kam, March 2024	Female	Swedish	N/A	https://eia-international.org/blog/heartening-indication-china-is-moving-towards-ending-use-of-threatened-wildlife-in-traditional-medicine/

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. All supporting material should be submitted in a way that can be accessed and downloaded as one complete package.	Delivering Supporting Documents including media via WeTransfer link
If you are submitting photos for publicity purposes, do these meet the outlined requirements (see section 14)?	Yes
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. Delivering Supporting Documents via WeTransfer
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.	