

Illegal Wildlife Trade (IWT) Challenge Fund Main Final Report

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

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

Submission Deadline: no later than 3 months after agreed project end date.

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

IWT Challenge Fund Project Information

Project reference	IWT 106
Project title	Reducing IWT through community-led conservation in a transboundary landscape
Country(ies)	Kenya and Tanzania
Lead Organisation	WWF-UK
Project Partner(s)	WWF Kenya and WWF Tanzania Country Office (WWF-TCO)
IWTCTF grant value	
Start/end dates of project	01 November 2021 – 31 March 2024
Project Leader’s name	Tanya Smith, Senior Programme Advisor – Africa, WWF-UK
Project website/blog/social media	No project specific website. https://www.wwf.org.uk/
Report author(s) and date	Tanya Smith, WWF UK Mr Gasto Mushi, WWF-TCO Prof. Noah Sitati, WWF-TCO Mr Bryan Mbego, WWF-K Mr Drew McVey, WWF-K With inputs from project partners: WCK, TRAFFIC, AET, Mali Hai Clubs 30 June 2024

1. Project summary

This project aimed to address illegal wildlife trade affecting people and wildlife in the transboundary wildlife corridor between Amboseli and Kilimanjaro National Parks in Kenya and Tanzania, including the Kitenden corridor. This geographic scope, with a relatively large, unprotected wildlife population is a focus for poachers, taking advantage of the porous international boundary and vulnerable local communities to source wildlife. This project responded to this crisis, bringing together local communities, project partners and wildlife authorities to reduce the drivers of wildlife crime and improve law enforcement effectiveness, through community-led conservation with livelihood incentives and cross-border collaboration increasing the incentives for the conservation of wildlife and strengthening the disincentives for illegal behaviour.

This project aimed to address a key threat to species affected by illegal and unsustainable trade in wild meat and body parts - giraffe, elephant, pangolin, lion, and antelopes. This threat, previously identified by the IUCN is further compounded in the proposed project landscape by retaliatory killings, reduced wildlife

management capacity and socio-economic uncertainty as a result of the Covid-19 crisis. This project aimed to support recovery and growth of populations of the focal species at the project site and use of this important wildlife corridor, helping ensure their long-term future in the region and addressing a key threat to their global status.

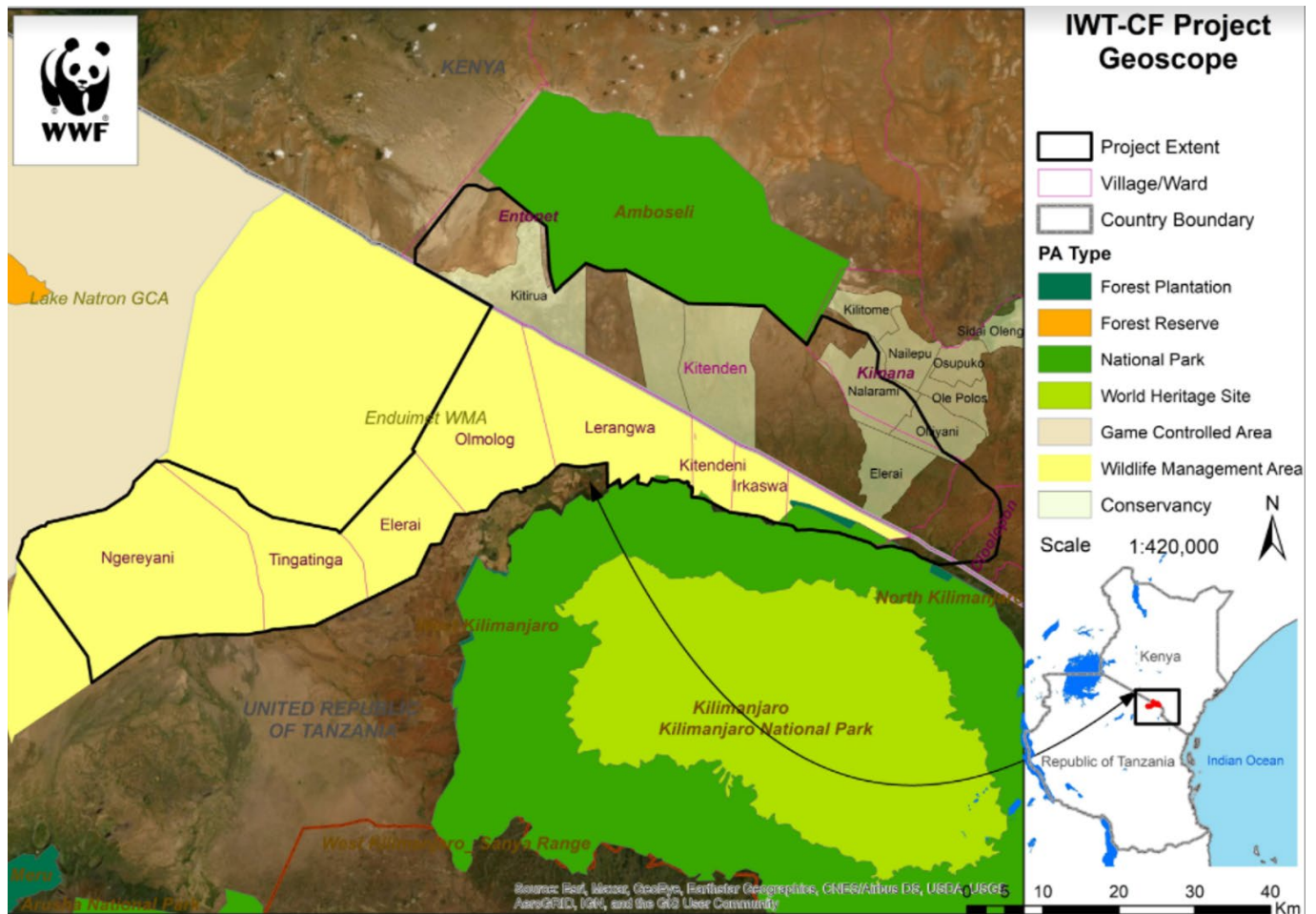
In the short/medium term we anticipated reducing the direct threat posed by illegal poaching and trade in the geoscape. In the longer term this project will support behaviour change around wildlife consumption that will reduce the driver of the threat of illegal and unsustainable trade.

Ultimately, the long-term survival of resident and transitory wildlife in the Kitenden wildlife corridor will depend on the local communities living there. The project worked within 13 wards/ villages in Kenya and Tanzania, with a total population of ~46,177 persons, covering an area of 1,383 km², see map below, including 10 schools (~2000 students). The inhabitants of the targeted communities of this project are mainly Maasai, whose primary source of income has traditionally been livestock such as cattle and goats. High poverty levels, changing socio-economic context and climate change, have left the Maasai increasingly dependent on the market economy (e.g. tourism).

This project focused at known IWT hotspots within the area, with a focus on marginalised youth (18-29 years, unemployed with few opportunities) and women (involved in transporting and selling wildlife parts) identified as groups engaged in poaching and IWT activities in this geoscape and who would benefit most from sustainable livelihood opportunities. We also focused on actively engaging children and youth (7-18 years) on wildlife conservation and as nature guardians. Poaching is a significant threat to wildlife, undermining the rule of law, social cohesion, tourism & encourages corruption, driven by illegal wildlife trade linked to both international networks and local bushmeat.

Short-term (by 2024), we aimed for: ~1,900 households (~10,000 people) to have access to diversified and resilient livelihoods increasing wellbeing; and a greater understanding of wildlife legislation and penalties; 4,000 women and youth have increased voice in decision-making, contributing to their empowerment and increased leadership in resource management and conservation; and children and youth will have a more active role in environmental monitoring and enhanced perceived value of living wildlife through wildlife club activities in targeted schools.

Longer-term, at least 5,000 men, women and youth (50% of targeted community members) will have benefited from enhanced livelihoods and are supporting efforts to reduce poaching and IWT. This is expected to lead to an increase in wildlife populations; supporting more resilient nature-based economies, enhanced well-being and reduced poverty which is anticipated in the longer-term to reduce pressure on the natural environment and increase tolerance for wildlife.



2. Project Partnerships

WWF-UK supported WWF-TCO and WWF-K, in coordinating and managing the project, and provided input on technical aspects of the project. The close working relationship through regular meetings between the project partners in-country was reflected by the partners active participation in the project design, planning, implementation, monitoring and in decision making which was key in bringing common understanding and commitment to project deliverables. WWF-UK and the WWF offices in Kenya and Tanzania had weekly progress meetings in the beginning of the project which later was changed to bi-weekly calls as a project coordination team and monthly meetings attended by all partners who presented their implementation progress, and this further strengthened transboundary collaboration and coordination across all partners including aspects such as adaptive management, M&E, safeguarding, risk management, and grievance mechanisms ([See Annex 6 for evidence of recurring partner meetings, and example of the partner agreements](#)).

WWF-Kenya and WWF-Tanzania are the leading implementing organisations in Kenya and Tanzania respectively. In Kenya, WWF-Kenya's implementing partners are TRAFFIC - the Wildlife Trade Monitoring Network, Amboseli Ecosystem Trust (AET), Wildlife Clubs of Kenya (WCK), and Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS). In Tanzania the partners are TRAFFIC, Enduimet Wildlife Management Area (EWMA), and Malihai Clubs of Tanzania (MCT) which is under Tanzania Wildlife Management Authority (TAWA) ([See Annex 6 for example downstream partner agreement](#)).

In Kenya, Amboseli Ecosystem Trust (AET) which is a not-for-profit umbrella organization that brings together the local community, governmental, conservation and developmental stakeholders in the Amboseli Ecosystem to drive collective action and innovative collaborations for the wellbeing of the people, wildlife and habitats of the ecosystem. Wildlife Clubs of Kenya (WCK) mandate is to empower youth and communities to proactively engage in wildlife and environmental conservation. After half a century of service, WCK proudly looks back on one fundamental achievement. It has helped educate over 1,000,000 young Kenyans and placed many of them in positions of influence. The clubs' intention is to ensure that

this enormous membership and awareness leads to tangible conservation successes. TRAFFIC cuts across in the implementation of the IWT project. TRAFFIC provides evidence-based solutions through rigorous research and analysis, rooted in science, data, and our expertise. We are recognised global thought leaders who have been on the forefront of these issues for half a century. They are trusted advisors to governments and intergovernmental processes, and bring public, private, and civil society, stakeholders together in new partnerships. TRAFFIC advises and connects people to accelerate collaboration and impact.

The partners' collaboration led to a successful implementation of all the project activities. Each partner was tasked with submitting quarterly activity reports, half year, end year reports and financial reports by the 5th of every quarter ([See Annex 7 for an example of a partner quarterly report – AET Yr3Q4 report](#)). The final report is drawn from all the reports prepared by the partners. A key lesson was to broaden the engagement of stakeholders at the Cross-border workshops. WCK faced a challenge with the shift in school calendar after post Covid-19. The government was trying to adjust dates so as to revert back to the normal school calendar. Despite the above, WCK and WWF held bi-weekly planning meetings to adjust the workplan based on the school calendar and all activities were carried out by the end of the project closing date. WWF-UK, Kenya and Tanzania held an exit strategy workshop to outline action points and partners commitment in the continuity of our relation and sustainability of the project. The project engaged government experts such as the National Government Enterprise Development Funds Officer in training the eight (8) groups on project management, financial literacy with a focus on Village Saving Loans.

In Tanzania, WWF-TCO has close working relationships with the Longido District Government Authority in charge of the Tanzanian project area which officially ratified the project through a special civic leaders meeting. In Kenya, the major government stakeholders include Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS), Ministry of Wildlife and Tourism, Ministry of Environment and Forestry, and Ministry of Interior and Coordination of National Government who have also been engaged. The major challenge was frequent project staff transfer for implementing partners especially by government agencies, for example TAWA and was addressed timely by the project team engaging with senior TAWA officials and other officers were appointed to take over the project implementation and were involved in all activity's implementation under TAWA-Malihai Club. Any emerging differences that could forestall the project were timely addressed and fortified partnership, trust, collaboration, and transparency amongst the project partners. This project has built strong partnerships among stakeholders including local community and government that has led to good political and community support that is likely to maintain good relationships after the end of this project.

The Deputy British High Commission for Tanzania visited the project office during the reporting period and was adequately briefed about the UK funded projects including IWT-CF and FCDO funded Land for Life. The WWF-Tanzania project team was invited by the British High Commission and participated in a round table meeting with other conservation organisations to discuss IWT.

British High Commission Nairobi, Asif Choudhury - Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN & Illegal Wildlife Trade Lead and the British High Commission Dar es Salaam, Alexandra Gaunt; Regional Coordinator Serious & Organised Crime Network, South & East Africa visited the WWF-K Head office in Nairobi during the reporting period and were adequately briefed about the UK funded projects including IWT-CF and Closing the Evidence Gap.

The programme evaluation completed by an independent member of the WWF-UK's Design and Impact team found "the way the project was managed with multiple partners with complementary skills, capacity and relationships/networks worked well in managing a multifaceted project. And regular meetings among all partners was useful in this regard. Building partner capacity and resources should be seen as an effective means to working more effectively and sustainably in target landscapes with local communities." ([See Annex 11 for the executive summary of the programme evaluation](#)).

3. Project Achievements

3.1 Outputs

Output 1: (i) Co-created nature-based incentives, particularly for locally based marginalised youth (18-29 years) and women, to conserve wildlife in hotspot areas along the Kitenden corridor, alongside increased understanding of the value of wildlife, the impact of IWT, and legislation/penalties regarding poaching and IWT amongst youth and women.

At the end of the project, a total of 3,247 community participants, possibly representing more than 1,900 HH have participated in alternative livelihoods over the last two years (target was 5,000 people); we anticipate an increase in the future as benefit sharing agreements are in place and managed by the communities as the full potential of direct livelihood benefits is yet to be realised.

In Tanzania, 1,333 (162M, 1171F) people were engaged in co-created livelihood initiatives on sunflower farming (sunflower oil and livestock feed), Village Savings and Loans Associations (VSLAs) and chicken enterprises.

- **Sunflower:** A total of 441 people benefitted directly across four villages in Enduimet WMA. A total of ~4,200 kg sunflower seed was harvested by the 20 groups across four villages (42 bags harvested at approximately 100 kg per bag). Many beneficiaries commented that the sunflower crops planted using the provided seed, were the only crops to produce any meaningful yield during drought. Provision of seeds was delayed by procurement process and this also meant the optimal seeds were not purchased. In the final year of the project, participants were experiencing challenges with rats eating the seeds (and their other crops too), and some had achieved lower oil yields due to premature harvesting, indicating a need for more skills sharing.
- **VSLAs:** interventions from this project focused on improving the capacity and governance of the associations, with improved transparency through the use of an online dashboard app (initially Chomoka, then latterly Dreamsave when the Chomoka app was sold by CARE). This digital solution to village group savings ensures transparency and accountability for all members and management of the group savings and loan schemes. To ensure sustainability beyond the project, 17 Enduimet WMA community members (11 females & 6 males) were trained as VSLA Community-Based Trainers and Digital information trainers. In addition, 3 staff from Longido District Council (IT officer, 2x District Community Development Officers) were appointed as government focal persons for all VSLA issues at the district level and they also successfully completed the training. The Longido District Council has formally recognized the 20 trainees as the district's Trainers of Trainees (TOTs) who will be responsible for supporting existing VSLA's and to grow the number of VSLA groups within the district. ([See Annex 12 for the VSLA training report](#))

VLSA groups increased their capital, from Tsh 156,000,000.00 to Tsh 344,320,000.00 and the amount of loans made from the VSLAs increased from Tsh 102,040,200.00 to Tsh 306,980,400.00. While membership increased from 96 men and 608 women in VSLA's in July 2023 to 160 men and 800 women in December 2023.

- **Chicken enterprises:** 3 hatchery machines have been installed in 3 village for poultry enterprises to benefit 15 groups with 385 members (these were only installed towards the end of the project and further capacity building is needed). This was a late adoption due to a shift away from goat fattening as delays in procurement meant the purchase cost of goats would be too high and therefore would not generate sufficient returns at point of sale. ([See Annex 23 for the report on the handover and training](#))

While in Kenya, 1,914 women and men were engaged in co-created initiatives on improved governance of VSLAs, bee-keeping (honey production and products), grass seed banks, sunflower production (sunflower oil and livestock feed), and modern beadwork. The community groups (youth and women) involved have also benefitted from the receipt of event tents which will support community events and can also be hired out to generate additional income.

- **VSLAs:** Improved management and governance of Village Savings and Loans Associations has supported 1,914 people through improving the functioning, transparency and accountability of these associations using the Dreamsave dashboard app.
- **Beadwork:** Training and equipment was provided to 50 women to enhance the quality of beadwork and also to work on more modern designs. The new designs seem to be popular with tourists, but these are sold locally near the park, as there is no established market for these further afield as yet.
- **Bee-keeping:** (honey production and products): 25 women and 10 men have been trained on beehive management and honey harvesting and provided with necessary equipment. Out of 40 beehives, 23 have been colonised. Modern hives can produce 20-50kg of honey per year. There isn't yet a direct market for the honey or products, and what has been harvested to date has been purchased by BeeLife. This will need ongoing support and an MoU has been signed with BeeLife to continue this support and to establish the market linkages.
- **Grass seed banks and hay production:** Three women's groups (174 participants) supported by the project to plant 20 acres of grass for seed and hay production harvested 90 kg of grass seed by hand. Training on hay making enabled them to produce 98 bales which were sold at KES 250 each, generating ~KES 25,000. A hay baler is being held centrally by AET which groups can access to use. More ongoing support is likely to be needed and there is a need for storage facilities in order to be able to achieve good prices for the hay (this is going to be provided through another funder). [See Annex 22 for photo collage evidence of the livelihood initiatives in Tanzania and Kenya.](#)

In terms of increased understanding of the value of wildlife and IWT among community groups, we have reached more than 7,500 people with improved understanding and legislation around poaching, women and youth groups, including school children have been considered as agents of change from communities and likely represents more than 1,900 HH. This appears to have had some benefit in reducing bushmeat consumption, with the repeat bushmeat consumption survey conducted by TRAFFIC shows a total of 17.5% of the population still consuming wildmeat, down from the 28% of consumers in the baseline and frequency of consumption has reduced as well from daily consumption to monthly. Consumers state the main reasons for not eating bushmeat or stopping, is mainly due to the increased enforcement acting as a deterrent, protection of wildlife and increased awareness. ([See annex 5 for both baseline and repeat Bushmeat consumer survey reports](#)).

General wellbeing as well as wildlife tolerance have increased from baseline. The wellbeing survey indicates an improvement of people satisfied with Natural Resource equity and access, up from 50% satisfied to 81%, and improved tolerance due to reduction in conflict and increased coexistence up 48% to 76%. ([see the Solstice Dashboard for the trends of wellbeing in the project area](#)).

Output 2: Increased support for wildlife conservation and actively engaged children and youth (7-18 years) as nature guardians.

This output had a target of 80% of schools within the project actively engaging in conservation clubs and 50% of school students trained and participating in wildlife clubs. To date all 10 schools participating in the project have voluntarily registered as wildlife clubs with Wildlife Clubs of Kenya and Malihai clubs in Tanzania. Our baseline before this project was four schools out of the ten had registered wildlife clubs. All schools participated in a field trip to a national park, and 1 school in Kenya participated in the cross-border visit and exchange programme to the 5 schools in Tanzania. ([See Annex 13 for the cross-border field visit report and photos](#))

In addition, outreach education at the ten schools was successfully completed (Activity 2.1) with the target indicator of 50% of school youth trained as nature guardians being exceeded. A total of 4,293 school children and youth were engaged and trained as conservation ambassadors and nature guardians, equivalent to 66% of the total school children in all 10 schools. IWT specific extra-curricular lessons covered the following topics: Wildlife ecology, Benefits of wildlife, Threats to wildlife, School conservation activities, Understanding Illegal Wildlife Trade and Bush meat, and Impact of poaching and IWT on people

and wildlife ([see Annex 16 for an example of IWT related lesson attendance](#)). These lessons included the screening of IWT relevant films in English and Swahili. IWT specific education materials (Activity 2.4) were produced, accompanied by the training of 27 teachers (18M and 9F) in Year 2 of the project (Activity 2.3), and disseminated to the schools to support teachers, including three IWT anti-snaring teaching aid boards and 32 sets of the popular Sustainability Board Games. ([See Annex 14 for the attendance register for the WCK led teacher training](#)).

Output 3: Improved capacity and systems for effective enforcement and cross-border collaboration and coordination against poaching and IWT at local, county / district and transboundary level.

There are five indicators against which we can track progress against this output. The first measurable indicator being 167 rangers (community rangers and wildlife agency rangers) have received refresher training by 2024 (target was 100 rangers receive training). 167 community rangers and village game scouts received specialist training in either crime scene management and human rights or moot court and human rights training. 40 of these, also received a one-month refresher course on standard operating procedures and human rights. Some of the topics included the prosecution process, the chain of custody of evidence and how to collect evidence to help IWT related cases, patrol planning and field operation, and collection and management of data.

The training in managing crime scenes and evidence chains and the moot court sessions were viewed particularly positively by stakeholders in terms of building the capacity of rangers to ensure greater likelihood of cases reaching court and being successfully prosecuted. Such that these training modules have been adopted further and being integrated into additional training for rangers in the region.

Through the activities of this project, we have witnessed an increase in reports from community members of IWT related incidents to law enforcement officials through informal communication channels. Although we are not promoting formal communication channels (such as informants), rangers, village game scouts and community members are engaging regularly through project activities and as such are creating closer working relationship which promotes informal communication channels that result in more reliable information being shared (Indicator 3.3). The rangers across both countries are using a WhatsApp platform to share information for quick response due to different policies that hinder use of a common radio channel.

Through the training sessions, we have seen the judiciary and law enforcement officials come together to discuss IWT and wildlife related prosecutions within the transboundary landscape. As a result, 30 arrests related to IWT have resulted in prosecutions from 2022 to 2024, and another 38 investigations are currently ongoing in the local courts (Indicator 3.4). IWT related court cases within the Loitokitok judiciary (Kenya) are now being recorded by Kenya Wildlife Service and being tracked through the legal process using the data collection sheet template developed through the project ([See Annex 15 for all recorded IWT cases during the project period](#)).

A transboundary collaboration forum has been established. This has strengthened the cross-border collaboration and stakeholder engagement beyond the project timeline. Linked to this workshop was a detailed training session on the use of TWIX - a secure wildlife crime data sharing platform for government agencies. As a result, government representatives present were selected to be focal points within East Africa-TWIX, presenting a pathway to enhanced data sharing, collaborative enforcement and successful prosecutions (Indicator 3.6). The project has successfully onboarded and registered 30 new TWIX users from 9 agencies in Kenya and Tanzania ([See Annex 21 for the attendance register of the cross border collaboration meeting and TWIX user training](#)). A standard template is being used in Kenya and Tanzania for reporting. 190 exchanged messages (seizure alerts, species identification guides, concealment methods, and success stories related to curbing IWT) have been shared through the TWIX platform.

3.2 Outcome

0.1: *By 2024, 5,000 men, women and youth (50% of targeted community members) have benefited from enhanced livelihoods and are supporting conservation efforts to reduce poaching and IWT (2020 baseline =0).*

Achieved

We are progressed well against this Outcome indicator, with a total of 10,000 households satisfied with their wellbeing, equivalent to 81% of the people in the project area compared with the baseline (49.9%).

Community people benefited through enterprises as well as awareness, as demonstrated through the decrease (28%) of wildmeat consumption as demonstrated in the IWT consumption and trade survey by TRAFFIC (from 28% people consuming bushmeat to 17.5%. There is evidence that community beneficiaries are already supporting conservation efforts to reduce poaching, for example through the anonymous sharing of information, which has led to arrests of poachers. This is lower than expected and lends itself to our first assumption "The majority of community members will not assist external poaching gangs *cont.*"

0.2: *By 2024, at least a 25% increase in the number of reports of poaching and IWT activities through established secure and anonymized communication channels (2020 baseline = <5% community members).*

Partially Achieved, though insufficient data to assess

A total of 39 community members were trained as change agents. Out of the 39 members, 15 participated in an awareness raising meeting that led to community members within hotspot areas reporting on IWT related activities. This resulted in community collaboration on two ongoing cases to pursue suspects. 4th of March: 1 successful case was reported by Illasit Community Members (14 elephant tusks recovered and 2 poachers arrested). 9th of March: A community member from the Loitoktok Kamukunji area informed KWS of IWT suspected activity, which led to the recovery of 3 elephant tusks. The KWS has secure anonymous communication channels with reformed poachers and community members who act as key informants.

By the end of the project there have allegedly been at least 26 intelligence report communicated from the communities to EMWA and AET leading to arrests and ivory recovery.

0.3: *By 2024, at least a 60% decline in the seizure of illegal wildlife products and the poaching of wildlife in the project area (2019 baseline EWMA = 27 seizures/6 month; ~9 poachers arrested/6 month based on low effort/low number of ranger patrols; in 2020 last 6 months 13 poachers arrested with very low effort due to Covid-19.*

Partially Achieved

By the end of the project, the number of bushmeat incidences reported are a total of 69 incidences across the project period. As initially assumed, the number of incidences increased following the increased effort and training of enforcement, followed by a downward trend.

The peak number of incidences was in 2022 with 23 and 36 arrests. This result is validated from the community perceptions survey, where people reported a decrease in IWT as well as a decrease of daily

consumption of wildmeat, and the lack of any report for transboundary movement of bushmeat by the end of the project through the trader survey.

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Grand Total
CASE NO	7	6	6	23	19	8	69

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Grand Total
NO. SUSPECTS	9	9	9	36	22	7	92

0.4: By 2024, at least 3 recommendations from the transboundary wildlife security forum are adopted and implemented locally or adopted at regional / national wildlife security meetings (2020 baseline = 0).

Achieved

The transboundary and local wildlife security forums have been established, and a number of strategic action points identified. With at least 3 recommendations adopted and on the way to implementation from the 5 initial recommendations from the Forum and the two action points identified through TWIX as itemised below.

1. From sectorial collaboration meetings a number of action points (5) - some are under implementation e.g.
IWT working group with reps from law enforcement agencies to coordinate efforts (not implemented)
2. Police and law identified - regulations - Not yet implemented
3. Capacity building to law enforcement - DONE
4. Strengthening comms for enforcement agencies - DONE
5. Involvement of traditional leaders in enforcement as they are respected by communities - DONE - influenced the youth to stop killing lions, retaliation has dropped significantly.

TWIX - action points identified,

1. Collaboration on prosecution across border (rapid responses)
2. Enhanced collaboration with communities (provision of deterrent materials)

Beyond this, to strengthen inter-agency approach through information sharing on TWIX platform. The stakeholders have met on 10th April 2024 beyond the project timeline to continue with discussions related to IWT. Joint cross border patrols have been implemented at the KWS, Enduimet and community scouts levels along the Kenya – Tanzania border. The intelligence team from both Kenya and Tz were given an extra day to discuss wildlife security alone.

3.3 Monitoring of assumptions

Monitoring assumptions took place annually for the project and there were no major changes to the assumptions through the course of the project timeframe.

1. ***The majority of community members will not assist external poaching gangs and will actively report poaching and IWT incidents if community members targeted under this project are benefiting from enhanced livelihoods and have increased understanding of the value of local wildlife and legislation concerning poaching and IWT***

The assumption held true, as it is expected enhanced cooperation from community members in reducing IWT because of enhanced livelihoods and understanding of the value of local wildlife and legislation on IWT. With livelihood support and awareness activities the community the project has seen an improvement

through the 'end of project' repeat well-being survey. Increased benefits from wildlife rose from 68.54% to 75.95%, economic well-being from 26% to 56%, satisfaction in ecosystem services from 24% to 70%, legitimacy and voices from 49% to 73%.

2. Increased involvement of community rangers, improved collaboration and increased coverage across the project area will initially increase the number of seizures and arrests but over time these will reduce.

The assumption held true, as the support for community game scouts/rangers in the area saw an increase the effectiveness of anti-poaching activities leading to improved area control and more frequent detection of IWT activities which will over time serve as a deterrent and thus reduce IWT incidents. 167 rangers have been capacity build to handle IWT related issues within Amboseli Ecosystem and EWMA.

Table: Number of people arrested and cases registered in court in Kenya and Tanzania.

Sum of NO. SUSPECTS	Column Labels						
Row Labels	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Grand Total
⊕ Sentenced	1	3		20	9	1	34
⊕ Ongoing			9	13	10	6	38
⊕ Suspect Won the case		1					1
⊕ withdrawn				1	1		2
⊕ (blank)	8	5		2	2		17
Grand Total	9	9	9	36	22	7	92

3. The benefits derived from diversified and enhanced livelihoods alongside increased awareness on the value of local wildlife and legislation associated with poaching and IWT are sufficient to prevent the majority of community members from collaborating with poachers and engaging in IWT.

The assumption holds true, as long as benefits derived from additional income sources outweigh those from IWT activities or alternatively the deterrents are strong enough in an efficient patrol force. Income streams from the alternative livelihoods stands at [REDACTED]

4. Children and youth are willing/motivated to join and participate in conservation club activities

The assumption held true, this is evident by the increase in voluntary membership and participation in wildlife clubs during the project. In Tanzania, we witnessed a 270% increase in membership to an environmental club (in this case Malihai club) by school children. In Kenya, we have recorded an 8% increase in membership to Wildlife Clubs of Kenya.

5. Livestock herding by children and youth provides the opportunity to encounter and report wildlife.

The assumption held true particularly among the Maasai who live directly with wildlife though it may be less among agricultural communities, but children also need to be protected as encounters with wildlife through livestock herding can be dangerous. An example experienced in Year 3 of the project, a Malihai club member for Tingatinga Primary school found a carcass of an elephant while herding cattle and reported the incident to the Malihai Patron who then reported to EWMA. However, it must be noted we do not encourage children below 18 through the project as we promote that school going age children have a right to access education and should be encouraged to be in school and not engage in herding during school hours.

6. *There will be political and community good will and trust between the Kenyan and Tanzanian sides of the project area.*

The assumption holds true, as this has also been confirmed in recent workshops with Government officials and community meetings. All parties reiterated the importance of partnerships and working together so as to reduce incidences of IWT within the project Geo scope. The project activities are tailored to enhance the working relationship between Kenya and Tanzania IWT actors.

7. *Data and information collected and submitted locally is cascaded upwards to influence and inform the Ministries in charge of wildlife.*

The assumption holds true, as data sharing with higher administrative levels is common practice. This will also be followed up by project staff as high level engagement will be critical, this will require a forum for wildlife managers in Kenya and Tanzania. There is increased use of the East Africa TWIX platform by the new 30 new users and 190 exchanged messages of data and information flows from the field upwards to decision makers in the ministries.

8. *Effective collaboration between wildlife agency rangers and community rangers can be brokered*

The assumption holds true, as such collaboration is ongoing, for example when IWT cases detected by community game scouts are reported to Government officials who respond and support accordingly.

9. *Submitted harmonized and improved data is used by TRAFFIC and policy makers to inform and strengthen enforcement and other measures to combat IWT*

The assumption held true. TRAFFIC through its well established platform (The Eastern Africa Trade in Wildlife Information eXchange (Eastern Africa - TWIX) is already facilitating the exchange of information and cooperation between law enforcement agencies responsible for combating illegal wildlife trade and implementing the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). Kenya and Tanzania are solid members of this platform and officials from member countries are connected via their work email addresses and a website containing useful resource materials and a database of seizures. Through this project, focal point/users from the specific transboundary landscape (Amboseli/Kilimanjaro) were trained in the use of TWIX and 30 new TWIX users have been registered as a result (supported by TRAFFIC through this project).

3.4 Impact

Project Impact:

Enhanced livelihoods, reduced poaching and IWT conserves threatened wildlife species and reduces poverty of vulnerable Maasai communities in a critical wildlife corridor across Kenya & Tanzania.

The geographic scope of the project was large, so with restricted resources the approach of targeting IWT hotspots was appropriate. However, despite this, the project only had sufficient resources to reach a few identified hotspots across the landscapes (and a small number of people within), and there are many more in surrounding areas. It was recognised there was a risk of displacement of activities (and output 3 was therefore key). To be fully effective, projects to be part of a wider strategy for tackling IWT in the area which tackles other factors connected to IWT and poaching.

The project made contributions toward its intended impact but required more time, resources, and complementary interventions to achieve the desired scale. Livelihood benefits have been apparent, yet more time and scaling are needed to secure these benefits and make them sufficient incentives for wildlife protection in the long term and at a scale appropriate to achieve the desired impact. The large geographical scale means that benefits need to be widespread, and disincentives must be highly visible to outweigh the risks of poaching.

Poaching and IWT could resurge with further environmental, climate, or economic shocks. The effectiveness of benefit-sharing mechanisms as well as other potential income streams which could help communities see benefits from protecting wildlife needs to be explored.

At a local level, it appears the project has contributed having an impact on IWT however has likely had a limited impact at a higher level. Outside of this project however, the WWF and TRAFFIC support the East Africa Wildlife Crime Hub, the project teams as well as the project implementation has been guided by the hub and the extensive expertise. In addition, the evidence and experience of the project contributed to efforts by the East Africa Wildlife Crime Hub to influence policy, improved enforcement and increased incentives to address IWT in East Africa.

4. Contribution to IWT Challenge Fund Programme Objectives

4.1 Thematic focus

The project contributed to the themes 1 (reducing demand for IWT products), 3 (strengthening law enforcement) and 4 (developing sustainable livelihoods to benefit people directly affected by IWT). Through increased awareness on the value of wildlife and consequences of IWT, improved law enforcement and alternative livelihood opportunities.

Reducing demand for IWT products

The project focused its efforts towards reducing the local domestic demand for IWT products, especially bushmeat. Several activities were targeted at reducing demand especially among youth and women. These included activities on awareness raising around IWT laws, legislation and penalties, change agent training and livelihoods incentives support.

Strengthening law enforcement

The project focused around strengthening law enforcement to combat wildlife crimes in the ecosystem. This was achieved through strengthening cross-border collaboration for improved enforcement, such as knowledge and data sharing, communication and joint operations, and the training of rangers. As part of

this effort, the project carried out a refresher training at the Enduimet, aimed at enhancing their capacity to relate to the ecosystem and wildlife in general including understanding of the Tanzania Wildlife conservation Act and its provision, associated regulations and other laws like criminal procedure act (CPA) etc, which are key in supporting IWT related cases. The refresher training also focused on improving the rangers' crime scene management skills, including evidence collection and transportation, to ensure proper handling of wildlife-related crimes and chain of custody of exhibits. To further equip the rangers within the EWMA, prosecutors from the Tanzania wildlife management authority (TAWA) conducted training on court decorum and the rights of the accused, including the right to a fair trial or hearing. The rangers also underwent training on human rights and standard operating procedures to ensure they are well-informed about their rights and understand how to follow established protocols while working.

Developing sustainable livelihoods to benefit people directly affected by IWT

This project has a strong focus on enhanced livelihood support for community groups (mainly women and youth) within the transboundary landscape. Many women are involved in the transport of IWT products especially "bushmeat" or the illegal harvesting of timber for charcoal burning. This project has focused on providing alternative livelihood options to women, particularly, sunflower production, Indigenous Poultry Farming and Chick Hatchery Enterprise, beadwork, beekeeping and grass production, and more broadly providing access to group savings and loans schemes to support enterprise development through improving access to microfinance services and promoting a saving culture within the society. See section 3 for more detail.

4.2 Impact on species in focus

The project has identified giraffe, elephant, pangolin, lion, and antelope as the focal species for conservation. To ensure their protection, the project has been working closely with a network of community change agents who provide intelligent authorities with critical information regarding illegal wildlife activities within the ecosystem. This collaboration has yielded positive results with the recent arrests of suspects involved in 2 cases of giraffe poaching, 2 cases of suspect dealing with ivory, and 1 case of dealing with antelope bushmeat. The arrests are a testament to the community's combined effort and goodwill towards reporting wildlife-related crimes as and when they occur within the ecosystem. The project's emphasis on engaging and empowering local communities in conservation efforts has proven to be a valuable tool in safeguarding these focal species, and it is expected to continue bearing fruit in the future.

A total of 56 camera traps for monitoring wildlife were procured and all of which were deployed in the field across the project area, including the actual Kitenden Corridor, Amboseli Conservancies and Enduimet WMA. Unfortunately, 36 of these camera's purchased on the Tanzania side were deployed in the last quarter of the project and thus have not produced enough data to confirm impact on the target species. These have assisted in monitoring our impact on the focus species within the project area, particularly on the Kenya side. The camera traps have provided evidence of wildlife distribution within the wildlife corridor. Out of the 5,163 images catalogued on the Kenya side, 1,289 were African Elephant, 1,179 Giraffe, 617 Plains Zebra, 181 Thomson's gazelle and 863 other species – ([See Annex 17 for the summary of the camera trap results up to March 2024](#)). The camera traps shall remain in use and the conservancies/WMA have been supported to ensure long term maintenance of the cameras and continued collection and analysis of the data. During patrols, rangers record sightings of focal species and through another project within the SOKNOT landscape, we will be piloting occupancy modelling as a tool to monitor key species populations in landscapes outside of formal protected areas such as the project geoscope.

4.3 Project support for multidimensional poverty reduction

The Kitenden Wildlife Corridor and surrounding project area of Amboseli and Enduimet, is inhabited by the Maasai community, who primarily rely on livestock keeping, or pastoralism. Unfortunately, the prolonged

drought within the region has severely impacted livestock rearing, resulting in many community members migrating in search of pasture. The prolonged drought (March/April 2020 to September 2023, 6 seasons) is estimated to have reduced around 70% of livestock and wildlife within the ecosystem, leading to increased poverty in the area.

This project came at the right time, providing an alternative livelihood for the Maasai community. The project has improved their standard of living for beneficiaries through the establishment of nature-based enterprise projects, such as grass production for seed and hay, bee-keeping for honey and products, Sunflower farming and improved goat breed fattening and selling. Refer to section 3 above for more detail on livelihood support and poverty reduction.

Indirect benefit that will be observed in the long-term is that the planting of grass seed banks will help in restoring the land by rehabilitating areas that have been destroyed by erosion. Also the presence of bees in the hives around or near crops will lead to a boost in pollination, ultimately resulting in improved food security. We anticipate that the planting of sunflower crops in existing agricultural lands will not only increase income for member households but the production of 'seed cakes' with the by-product can be used as a source of livestock feed, an essential need especially through droughts currently gripping the region.

Through educating and raising awareness within the community, we have encouraged a shift in attitudes and behaviours towards the value of wildlife conservation. This has been achieved through the use of change agents who are drawn from the community and are committed to ending illegal wildlife trade.

The above are targeting adult or young women and men. In addition, this project worked closely with primary aged school children which we hope will indirectly contribute to poverty alleviation in the long term through the following:

Improved ecosystem services- School youth have been trained and guided in undertaking habitat restoration activity through growing of indigenous trees. Nearly 2000 seedlings have been planted through all the schools. The youth have acquired new knowledge, skills and interest in tree growing. This is important especially in a community that is predominantly pastoralists. Increasing the indigenous tree cover and creating habitats for wildlife by growing trees contributes significantly to ecosystem services like rains, water cycle, minimising soil erosion, conducive environment and combating climate change. Local community members have also embraced the culture of growing indigenous acacia trees in their homesteads

- Increased Awareness about the value of wildlife- Through these activities as outlined above in Section 3.1, the school children and teachers have learnt that their livelihoods depend on the well-being of wildlife and natural resources, and therefore need to play a role to conserve wildlife. They now better understand the various challenges facing the region as a result of human activities and the need for interventions.
- Schools as IWT Conservation Action Learning Centres- The project has transformed the 10 schools in the Amboseli and Enduimet ecosystems as centres of IWT & conservation action learning to the community. The population of children found in the schools and participating in the wildlife clubs all come from the local community. They are the future custodians of this wildlife rich ecosystem. These children spend most of their time in the schools learning. The IWT project in these schools has made it possible for the children to be equipped with the right conservation knowledge, skills and engaged in conservation actions. The installation of IWT information boards, posters, tree growing amongst other activities have transformed the schools as model learning centres not only for the children but the community.

4.4 Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI)

Please quantify the proportion of women on the Project Board ¹ .	45% women make up the WWF-UK's Threatened Habitats & Species Goal Board. This is the board who has overall authority for the project.
Please quantify the proportion of project partners that are led by women, or which have a senior leadership team consisting of at least 50% women ² .	Three of the eight partner organisations are led by women: Namely WWF-UK, TRAFFIC-East Africa, and TAWA Outreach Department National Director (Mali Hai Clubs). 38%

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	

The project is dedicated to promoting gender equality throughout all stages of implementation. This commitment is reflected in the high percentage of women involved, with women accounting for 75% of our current beneficiaries and 25% are men. This is a clear indication of the positive impact our project is having on promoting gender equality.

The Wildlife Clubs of Kenya has focused on observing gender equality in all the specified IWT project activities. This has been incorporated in the Wildlife Clubs of Kenya policy that requires the male and female children be represented in the project activities. The gender requirements have been executed in the project from the start, for example in Kenya, during the school survey to gather the baseline information from the children on the IWT knowledge, attitudes and practices. In these surveys out of the 5,956 participating children 51% were girls and 49% boys. In the project implementation in Kenya out of the 1,476 children trained by the IWT project 52% are girls and 48% boys. Out of the 161 children who have participated in the park ecology field trips 53% are girls and 47% are boys.

Please refer to [Annexure 10](#) for additional information on how WWF led projects engage with communities, including gender equality and inclusion, within the SOKNOT (SOUthern Kenya-NORthern Tanzania) transboundary landscape.

¹ A Project Board has overall authority for the project, is accountable for its success or failure, and supports the senior project manager to successfully deliver the project.

² Partners that have formal governance role in the project, and a formal relationship with the project that may involve staff costs and/or budget management responsibilities.

5. Monitoring and evaluation

The monitoring of the programme was re-designed during the inception meeting ([See annex 4 for the inception workshop report](#)), with the co-participation of all stakeholders. Following the inception, the baselines for the project were collected around a) people wellbeing in areas of governance, financial status and access to services, human wildlife conflict and tolerance; b) illegal wildlife trade with surveys to traders and consumers in hotspot areas; c) school surveys for the awareness and behaviour change of teachers and students. All these indicators demonstrate success of the program at outcome level and are directly linked to the 3 outputs livelihoods in hotspot areas, school children awareness, and effective enforcement and cross border collaboration.

The project partners also developed an activity log to register all activities during implementation and be able to aggregate standard indicators with unique number of beneficiaries and disaggregation of gender when relevant. We had regular in country team weekly progress meetings to share updates on fieldwork activities, bi-weekly project coordination team meetings and monthly all partner meetings to monitor activities to ensure they align with the project deliverables and take strategic decisions on adaptive management.

WWF UK conducted an internal programme evaluation for both Kenya and Tanzania. This enabled to evaluate if the project met its objective and also captured feedback from the implementing partners and project beneficiaries.

6. Lessons learnt

The early and continued engagement of stakeholders in this project led to good political and community support through implementation and will be continued.

Three aspects of project design and implementation that are highly appreciated by all stakeholders attending the various community engagements and workshops included (i) the focus on involving women and disadvantaged people in project implementation, (ii) the consultations of communities to ensure input, consensus and buy-in, especially to co-create the livelihood support options and the identification of beneficiaries and (iii) the establishment of grievance mechanisms that allow local people to express concerns throughout project implementation.

All stakeholders, and in particular local people, appreciate that this project is aiming to address IWT not only through 'conventional' law enforcement but also by addressing livelihood and education needs.

Effective and regular communication between WWF-UK and the WWF country offices and partners is key for the success of the project implementation. WWF-UK is cooperating very closely with the implementing teams with regular calls between partners and the in-country project officers and the WWF-UK Programme Manager. These regular calls allowed for quick troubleshooting and increased learning from each other.

It has been very useful to have in-person meetings with all project partners for planning and collaboration. As a result, we have ensured that there have been quarterly in person partner meetings, with every other meeting being an in-country meeting (i.e. Kenya partners) and the six-month mark being a full partners meeting (Tanzania and Kenya).

Unfortunately, there were significant challenges and delays related to livelihood support in the project because of the significant drought which gripped the region for much of the project duration.

The internal programme evaluation carried out at the end of the project has identified a list of recommendations on how future projects or similar projects could improve impact, by strengthening: Relevance, Effectiveness, Efficiency, Adaptive capacity, and Sustainability. ([See Annex 11 for the Executive Summary of the Programme Evaluation](#)). Here is a list of the key learnings as identified through the project evaluation:

- Co-creation of interventions and activities helped to build engagement and interest of target communities, however there are also risks in raising expectations so this needs to be carefully managed.

- The purpose of VSLAs is primarily to provide some capital for members, but learning from the Serengeti landscape suggested it would be more effective to give people the necessary skills to manage the VSLAs rather than just giving them the money. This was to ensure people take responsibility and have the skills to do so. While the model of training the trainers to support VSLA groups in using the web platform has been useful, as the app is updated, it is likely the ToTs will need further support. More ongoing engagement should be built in to interventions to ensure the capacity needed is in place.
- Working with champions in livelihoods activities was positive and both champions and other livelihoods participants are sharing what they know with other community members (e.g. on sunflower cultivation).
- Communities will find their own opportunities e.g. participants in the sunflower activities found a way to share their seeds with others who weren't participating.
- With a limited budget there is a need to be very focused in order to achieve results, and particularly not to risk failing to meet community expectations. For livelihoods activities, the entire value chain should be assessed at the outset, with private sector engaged at very early stages to ensure routes to market, and opportunities for value addition assessed.
- Livelihoods interventions need to be started in the first year, then successful approaches can be scaled up in the following years.
- Working on community outreach and awareness on IWT provided valuable opportunities for partners to build relations with community members (from whom they gain valuable information in relation to curbing IWT/poaching). Community members said they appreciated interacting with partners when the situation was calm. In previous times they may have only seen them when there was a problem to address and community members were angry, reducing the likelihood of positive interactions and community engagement in curbing IWT.
- Using reformed poachers and change agents from within the communities in outreach sessions has been an effective way to engage communities. And communities prefer to contact community rangers who can in turn contact wildlife authorities (who are seen as outsiders). Following outreach, a number of communities reached out to KWS with elephant tusks and giraffe meat recovered.
- Outdoor education for action is very effective but can only reach a number of students, supporting schools to embed the skills and knowledge in teachers is important to be able to sustain the activities over the longer term.
- More thought is needed on how to measure change and success of education programmes in the shorter term.
- Court visits and moot court procedures were effective in building confidence and morale of community rangers, however only a small number were reached. More rangers should be engaged in court visits as a matter of course.
- Engaging other stakeholders such as judges and magistrates, customs officials etc is helpful in strengthening understanding of why wildlife crimes have serious impacts for people and should be treated seriously.
- Scaled up transborder programmes are critical for all transboundary ecosystems- with the establishment and ongoing functioning of networks a key factor in building effectiveness.
- It will be important in the context of the announced decision to hand management of Amboseli NP over from KWS to the county authority to take what was learned from the Mara to inform strategies to advocate for what is needed. With a whole new set of stakeholders, clear governance systems and financial models will be needed to ensure resources generated by the park are used in its management and to benefit communities who are core to maintaining habitats and wildlife (and in turn combatting IWT).
- The way the project was managed with multiple partners with complementary skills, capacity and relationships/networks worked well in managing a multifaceted project. And regular meetings

among all partners was useful in this regard. Building partner capacity and resources should be seen as an effective means to working more effectively and sustainably in target landscapes with local communities.

7. Actions taken in response to Annual Report reviews

Feedback from our Year 1 and Year 2 report was welcomed by both WWF-UK and in country WWF offices (Kenya and Tanzania). The Grant Agreement from IWT was only received at the end of November 2021, although a start date of 1 November 2021 had been assumed, this impacted on preparations and staff recruitment 2022, therefore the Year 1 report covered a period of 5 months, which included approximately 3 months of project implementation (focused on inception and baseline data collection). Five recommendations were provided to the project team based on the Year 1 review and 8 recommendations were received based on the Year 2 report (see below).

Recommendation 1: Provide a sample agreement and minutes of planning meetings as evidence to support partnership management in project report Annexes

Please see Annex 6 attachments for examples of 1. the Partner grant agreement between WWF-UK and one WWF country office (in this case, WWF-Tanzania); 2. a partner sub-grant agreement between the WWF country office (in this case Kenya) and implementation partner (in this case, Amboseli Ecosystem Trust); and 3. example of partner planning meetings (agenda, action items, recurring frequency).

Recommendation 2: Provide Inception Report and baseline survey results in report Annexes.

Please see attached annex 4 for the Inception workshop report and Annex 5 for the IWT status baseline report.

Recommendation 3: Include the M&E plan in annual report Annexes and as proposed in the report review the project logframe and submit a change of request to IWT Challenge Fund.

The project utilises a live M&E data collection plan held on the shared project Google drive - this is kept up to date by all project partners and is reviewed by WWF-UK's Design & Impact Advisor. Access to this file can be granted upon request. We submitted the Change Request which included the changes to the project logframe, which was reviewed and approved. See Annex 2 for the approved logframe.

Recommendation 4: Provide a clear exit strategy and the approach that the project will be using to implement the strategy.

The project conducted an exit strategy workshop in Tanzania, bringing in all implementing partners. A number of the strategy put in place are already taking place an example is the established livelihoods and groups being support with partners and other SOKNOT projects for sustainability and measuring long term impact. [See annex 18 for a copy of the exit strategy, the agenda of exit strategy workshop and group photo.](#)

Recommendation 5: Provide sample materials of publicity materials, reports and publication in annual report Annexes.

Please see [Annex 7](#) for examples of publicity materials. In addition, impact video's have been filmed and are currently available in draft. These videos are being finalised and will provide the basis for case studies from the project. WeTransfer links to these impact videos are located at the end of the report in section 14.

Recommendation 6: Please provide supporting documents (e.g meeting reports, study tour reports, list of participants and/or photos) to support training, workshops, meetings, study tours and any activity supported by the project.

The project has provided a link to a detailed and extensive evidence folder that has been organized by the three outputs and associated activities. [Evidence folder link](#) – request access. In addition, examples of specific evidence have been catalogued, listed and attached to multiple emails on submission.

Recommendation 7: Please provide details of the six days cross border patrols in the next half year report.

The project provided details of the six days cross border patrols in the Year 2 half year report.

Recommendation 8: Please clarify whether a baseline has been established to monitor output indicator 3.4.

The project has court data for year 2022 – 2024 in Kenya and 2019 – 2024 in Tanzania. The available data has been used to indicate increased number of IWT cases reaching judiciary that result in prosecutions. This forms a baseline for year 1. ([see Annex 15 for complete dataset, including the baseline](#)).

8. Sustainability and legacy

This project is an important component of the wider southern Kenya northern Tanzania wildlife corridors programme, which WWF is committed to supporting this region & the broader landscape over the next 10 years (minimum) to ensure effective & sustainable impact. This project is promoted as a key project within this wider programme.

Through project design, inception and implementation there has been involvement of the Local Government Authorities and County Governments including government agencies like TAWA and KWS to promote the work and collaborate.

The project was designed in such a way that the anticipated outcomes will be sustained through them being embedded within the targeted communities and partner organisations, even though the project timeframe was reduced from 3 years to 2 years 5 months. For example, through training provided for women and men community rangers, skills share and training on TWIX, capacity building for women and youth as agents of change in IWT and guardians of nature, through the development of sustainable livelihoods including training & mentoring (especially women) on business enterprise skills, and through the fostering of wildlife stewardship for youth and women; ultimately enhancing long-term conditions for local communities to combat IWT.

During the first quarter of the final year of the project, the team developed an exit strategy plan that outlines implementing partners' effort towards sustain the different components of the project. ([See Annex 18 for the Exit Strategy Plan and Annex 11 for the Programme Evaluation Executive Summary which outlines which activities are likely to continue](#)). The Kenya and Tanzania intelligence team and cross border meeting have been conducted through other project support outside the project timeline.

The Camera Traps will be utilized by the partners and WWF to continue to monitor wildlife distribution within the critical wildlife corridor.

9. IWT Challenge Fund Identity

The IWT Challenge Fund support forms part of the overall Southern Kenya Northern Tanzania transboundary conservation programme and is implemented in synergy with other projects addressing different topics in or around the project area. Government authorities and other NGOs are aware of the contributions of different donors, and this was highlighted during the inception meetings taking place in parallel in both countries. Production of communication materials such as t-shirts printed with clear messages, banners, brochures, workshop materials as well as digital media coverage publicised this Fund and UK Governments contribution, [see Annexures 7 for evidence of such](#).

Local people are less aware as they are often confronted with different projects and donors in the same area and are usually not familiar with donor-specific funding conditions. However, IWT Challenge Fund was the only project being implemented in the project area during and hence it is clearly distinct and there are three aspects that were highly appreciated by all stakeholders including local people: (i) the focus on involving women and disadvantaged people in project implementation, (ii) the consultations of communities to ensure consensus and input prior to project implementation and (iii) the establishment of grievance mechanisms that allowed local people to express concerns throughout project implementation. This systematic approach to ensure satisfaction of local people with project activities was recognized as a strong feature of UK government-funded projects.

10. Risk Management

The project has a risk register (using the WWF template), [please see Annex 9 for a copy of the IWT project risk register](#). To identify and address any issues that arise from community members and project beneficiaries, we have undertaken extensive Environmental and Social Safeguards engagement with all 19 villages within the project area, during which we have initiated a clear grievance reporting process

(grievance mechanism) for communities to voice their concerns and to be addressed efficiently. Please [see Annex 8 for an example of the Grievance mechanism in Tanzania](#).

As part of the co-creation of livelihood enhancement support, we completed a risk assessment of the proposed and implemented livelihood options. We identified necessary mitigation needs to maximise the likelihood these interventions will be sustained beyond the life of the project. In addition, we have completed basic business plans for the livelihood options such as sunflower and goat fattening enterprises using WWF's Markets Practice guidelines on establishing Community Conservation Enterprises.

In addition, the team developed an exit specific risk register during the exit strategy workshop hosted in Year 3 of the project ([see Annex 19 for the exit risk register](#)).

11. Safeguarding

Has your Safeguarding Policy been updated in the past 12 months?	No
Have any concerns been investigated in the past 12 months	No
Does your project have a Safeguarding focal point?	<p>Yes</p> <p>WWF-Kenya: Peter Muigai (Environmental and Social Safeguards Coordinator) [REDACTED]</p> <p>WWF-Tanzania: Dr Salma Hegga (Environmental and Social Safeguards Advisor) [REDACTED]</p> <p>Supported by local ESS focal points within each village.</p>
Has the focal point attended any formal training in the last 12 months?	<p>Yes/No [If yes, please provide date and details of training]</p> <p>WWF's Environmental and Social Safeguarding training - internal certified training completed in 2023</p>
What proportion (and number) of project staff have received formal training on Safeguarding?	<p>Past: % [and number]</p> <p>Planned: % [and number]</p>
<p>Has there been any lessons learnt or challenges on Safeguarding in the past 12 months? Please ensure no sensitive data is included within responses.</p> <p>None</p>	
<p>Please describe any community sensitisation that has taken place over the lifetime of the project; include topics covered and number of participants.</p> <p>A total of 118 community members participated in special general meetings which focused on Environmental and Social Safeguards, livelihood support needs, gender transformation and project participation. Nine ombuds representatives were identified and supported from both the communities and schools to act as ESS focal persons. They are supported by 6 grievance boxes for project beneficiaries to drop in their anonymous complaints or suggestions. The ombuds representatives underwent a separate training that provided detailed information about the project, and the process for submitting grievances. (See Annex 20 for community consultation attendance on Environmental and Social Safeguards)</p>	
<p>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.</p> <p>None received</p>	

12. Finance and administration

12.1 Project expenditure

Project spend (indicative) since last Annual Report	2023/24 Grant (£)	2023/24 Total actual IWTCTF Costs (£)	Variance %	Comments (please explain significant variances)
Staff costs (see below)			6%	
Consultancy costs			0%	
Overhead Costs			-1%	*Please note, audit costs are included under this heading; as per original budget presentation. Audit costs of £3,000 are included.
Travel and subsistence			8%	Higher Operating costs - a greater proportion of IWT funds were allocated to Operating costs whilst match funds were utilised to cover more Other costs.
Operating Costs			10%	
Capital items (see below)				This is an adjustment to Y2 reported expenditures due to correction to exchange rate applied.
Others (see below)			-29%	Lower Other costs incurred . The final evaluation was rescheduled to April/May 2024; lower costs incurred for the wellbeing surveys conducted as part of the endline. Furthermore, a greater proportion of match funds were allocated to Operating costs.
TOTAL				

Staff employed (Name and position)	Cost (£)
Staff employed (Provide name and position)	
Tanya Smith - Senior Programme Advisor - WWF UK	
Noah Sitati, Landscape Coordinator, WWF Tanzania	
Kennedy Mawole, Finance Manager, WWF Tanzania	
Matrida Simfukwe, M&E, WWF Tanzania	
Gasto Mushi. Project Manager, WWF Tanzania	
IGNO ISAACK LAITAYOK, ECMWA Manager	
Martin Mulama, Landscape coordinator, WWF Kenya	
Project Manager, WWF Kenya	
Hosea Mwangi, Project Finance Officer, WWF Kenya	
Joel Muinde, Communication Coordinator, WWF Kenya	
Praxides Nekesa, Monitoring and evaluation, WWF Kenya	
Koikai Oloiptip, Project Officer, AET	
Abraham Loomuna, Assistant Project Officer, AET	
Susan Kinuthia, Finance and administration, AET	
Julie Thomson TRAFFIC director/ IWT adviser	
Shanny Pelle, Administration and finance support, TRAFFIC	

Allan Mashalla, TRAFFIC	
Zilpa Mpala, TRAFFIC	
<i>Following adjustments to Y2 salaries previously reported (revaluation due to correction in exchange rate applied)</i>	
Martin Mulama, Landscape coordinator, WWF Kenya (Y2)	
Bryan Mbego, Project Manager, WWF Kenya (Y2)	
Hosea Mwangi, Project Finance Officer, WWF Kenya (Y2)	
Joel Muinde, Communication Coordinator, WWF Kenya (Y2)	
Praxides Nekesa, Monitoring and evaluation, WWF Kenya	
TOTAL	

Capital items – description	Capital items – cost (£)
<i>Y2 adjustments to capital costs (revaluation due to correction in exchange rate applied)</i>	
Lenovo T14 core i5, 8gb ram, 256gb ssd (Kenya)	
Kingson laptop backpack (Kenya)	
Camera traps (20)	
TOTAL	

Other items – description	Other items – cost (£)
Consumables, WWF Tanzania Monitoring and Evaluation: wellbeing survey costs including staff travel, WWF Tanzania Reflection and Exit Strategy planning workshop costs, WWF Tanzania Consumables, WWF Kenya Monitoring and Evaluation: wellbeing survey costs, including staff travel, WWF Kenya.	
<i>Y2 adjustment to other costs (revaluation due to correction in exchange rate applied)</i>	
Consumables - Kenya / Loitokitok office consumables (Y2)	
M&E (including surveys) - Wellbeing Survey (Year 1) - Kenya Travel and accommodation for WWF staff, travelling to accompany Well Being Survey in Amboseli Community level safeguarding and grievance consultations and capacity building - Kenya (Y2)	
Community meetings with key stakeholders and community members, refreshments, travel / DSA from Dar to project area for WWF Staff, poloshirts, suggestion boxes and padlocks (Y2)	
TOTAL	

12.2 Additional funds or in-kind contributions secured

Matched funding leveraged by the partners to deliver the project	Total (£)
Year 1: 2021- 2022	
Year 2: 2022 - 2023	
Year 3: 2023-2024	
<i>* WWF UK was providing match of £19,000 towards the final evaluation, which was rescheduled to April/May 2024 - after the end date of the IWT project. As it was not incurred before 31 March 2024, it has not been shown in Y3 match total. In addition, match was anticipated on community grievance/safeguarding activities in Kenya funded by BMZ but related costs were not incurred before 31 March 2024. This is leading to reduced match provided to the project by 31 March 2024. Match funds for project closeout, evaluation, and safeguarding activities, however, incurred in April-June 2024 are equal to approximately GBP 33,601.</i>	
TOTAL	

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

TOTAL	

12.3 Value for Money

The key principles of the Value for Money (VfM) approach in WWF are based on the 4-Es: economy, efficiency, effectiveness, and equity. VfM involves weighting the costs and benefits of different choices and selecting the option that archives the best balance across these principles. Opportunity cost and alternatives for funding are considered, including what other actors might do if WWF and IWT did not support the programme.

We believe the project was good value for money, as the majority of the project outputs were achieved and delivered within the budget envelope, but also delivered additional communications and outreach opportunities by leveraging the WWF network. The project demonstrated the benefits of public and private partnerships, with match funding from our WWF supporters and member's base. We appreciated the flexibility provided by the IWT Challenge Fund that facilitated budget change requests, which allowed for us to reallocate budget efficiencies to take advantage of opportunities and changes in the operating environment. Similarly, most of the project communications (articles, blog posts, social media, print media etc) were not costed to the project, but delivered by in-house teams at WWF UK, WWF Kenya, and WWF TCO, greatly benefiting the outreach and impact of the project. Additionally, our strong relationships are evident in the VfM achieved by the project.

The individual cost per direct beneficiary reached over the lifetime of the project is [REDACTED] total project spend (IWT + Match funds) / 7,500 direct beneficiaries) or [REDACTED] for IWT fund only. It is important to remember that these beneficiaries are some of the most marginalised people in society and that locating and effectively engaging them requires higher costs as a result. For example, it requires more time dedicated towards the design, planning and implementation of engagement processes, and subsequently a larger commitment of financial and human resources. But such processes offer the potential for deeper downstream impacts including enhanced programme outcomes, and sustainability and equitability of benefit-sharing arrangements.

Just under half of our total IWT spend (49%) was on project activities (comprising Travel and Subsistence, Operating costs and other costs, including M&E), whereas the other half comprised staff (38%) and overhead costs (12%). The project has been economical, efficient and effective with resources available.

Our efforts at economy included applying good practice in procurement (for example we have standard practices in place and a competitive process, with value for money as a criteria) and only procuring items that were necessary.

In terms of effectiveness, we have largely met the Outputs of this project and largely achieving the Outcome proving high level of effectiveness. Please refer to the logframe (annex 1) and section 3 for more detail.

Finally in terms of equity, we ensured that women, youth, and marginalised groups were reached through the project. Co-designed benefits were key to ensure equitable distribution of livelihood support and in terms of school outreach, five schools in both countries were supported ensuring balanced and equitable involvement on both sides of the border. Under Output 2, gender split among school youth was almost 50% each.

13. Other comments on progress not covered elsewhere

A significant challenge that cannot be overstated was the drought which gripped Kenya and Northern Tanzania for two years of the project. The impacts include but are not limited to:

- Community participation in workshops and other project activities was lower than expected during 2022, as many members (esp. pastoralists) moved from the region with their remaining livestock in the search of grazing and water.

- Those remaining are experiencing much harder living conditions, with significantly reduced access to water and food. Women and youth are having to walk much greater distances to collect water and are often away from the village for most of the day.
- Increased competition between people, livestock and wildlife for limited resources (e.g. grazing, water), has led to increased Human-Wildlife Conflict and reduced tolerance to wildlife.

These challenges were difficult for the team to manage and many of the activities took place after some rain fell early 2023. However, we feel we were able to progress well in spite of one of the worst droughts on record for the region.

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).

Image, Video or Graphic Information:

File Type (Image / Video / Graphic)	File Name or File Location	Caption, country and credit	Online accounts to be tagged (leave blank if none)	Consent of subjects received (delete as necessary)
Image	https://we.tl/t-kaFO6pV98j (Link will expire 10 July)	IWT Change Agent in the field		Yes / No
Image	https://we.tl/t-kaFO6pV98j (Link will expire 10 July)	Female IWT Change Agent		Yes / No
Image	https://we.tl/t-kaFO6pV98j (Link will expire 10 July)	Rangers setting up camera traps		Yes / No
Image	https://we.tl/t-kaFO6pV98j (Link will expire 10 July)	Wildlife Club pupil with IWT art		Yes / No
Video	https://we.tl/t-kaFO6pV98j (Link will expire 10 July)	Impacts of livelihood support for communities in Kenya, WWF-Kenya		Yes / No In draft, need logo's added and subtitles
Video	https://we.tl/t-kaFO6pV98j (Link will expire 10 July)	Nature Guardians addressing IWT, Kenya, WWF-Kenya		Yes / No In draft, need logo's added and subtitles
Video	https://we.tl/t-kaFO6pV98j (Link will expire 10 July)	The role of community rangers in the IWT project, Kenya, WWF-Kenya		Yes / No In draft, need logo's added and subtitles

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