

## Biodiversity Challenge Funds Projects Darwin Initiative, Illegal Wildlife Trade Challenge Fund, and Darwin Plus Half Year Report

*Note: If there is any confidential information within the report that you do not wish to be shared on our website, please ensure you clearly highlight this.*

**Submission Deadline: 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022**

<b>Project reference</b>	IWT108
<b>Project title</b>	Demand reduction and behaviour change along China's parrot supply chains
<b>Country(ies)/territory(ies)</b>	China, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)
<b>Lead partner</b>	TRAFFIC International
<b>Partner(s)</b>	ReCTrad (the Network of Traditional Rulers for the Sustainable Management of Ecosystems in Central Africa) Wildlife Conservation Department (China CITES Management Authority, CITES MA) China Wildlife Conservation Association (CWCA) China Timber & Wood Products Distribution Association (CTWPDA)
<b>Project leader</b>	Ling XU (Ling.xu@traffic.org)
<b>Report date and number (e.g. HYR1)</b>	HYR1, 30 October 2022
<b>Project website/blog/social media</b>	N/A

**1. Outline progress over the last 6 months (April – Sept) against the agreed project implementation timetable (if your project has started less than 6 months ago, please report on the period since start up to end September).**

The project started in July 2022, so this HYR only covers progress made in the first three months (July-September). During this reporting period, the Project Team focused on sub contract signing, recruitment for Project Manager and project inception meeting. The virtual inception meeting was organized on 19 August, participated by all project staff from TRAFFIC offices of Cambridge (T-GLO), Central Africa (TCAF), Southeast Asia (TSEA) and China (TCHN). The Project Team reviewed the existing resources and discussed the workplan, logframe, budget and regular communication mechanism, aiming to help all team members better understand the project implementation as well as roles and responsibilities of everyone. The activities and tasks were then assigned based on RACI Matrix. During the meeting, it was agreed that monthly catch-up of this project would be held on the third Thursday of each month. After that, a brief introduction on this project was given to the partners.

The progress under each Output is reported as below.

*Output 1. By June 2023, profiles, motivations and behaviour of African Grey Parrot (AGP) and other endangered African parrot owners in China and actors along value chain of illegal AGP trade in Cameroon and DRC are understood.*

A 1.1 The membership form (Annex 1), member selection criteria (Annex 2), and term of reference (Annex 3) for China's SBC Expert Group were developed. Six SBC experts from industry association, consultancy, conservation institutions, advertisement, and academia were identified and agreed to join the SBC Expert Group (see Annex 4 for the bios). On 8<sup>th</sup> July 2022, co-financed by the Rufford Foundation, the training series "Catalyzing Chinese Consumers" was launched with the inaugural webinar, which was co-hosted by CWCA, the communication department of the NFGA. The webinar attracted 52 members representing a diverse constituency of interest across Chinese government, research academies, NGOs and the private sector. Four members of the newly established Chinese SBC expert community also joined and had an opportunity to add their voices and perspectives to the discussion. On 28<sup>th</sup> Sep 2022, the second webinar of the training series was delivered using the localized SBC toolkit and international intervention experiences to advise the Chinese public and private sectors on how they can help encourage responsible choices to reduce the global supply and demand of illegal wildlife products. Three of the SBC Expert Group members joined the panel discussion to share the experiences and lessons learned. The third and final webinar of the series will be hosted on 14<sup>th</sup> Oct 2022.

A 1.4 The approach and structure of the value chain study was initially discussed internally (between TCHN and TCAF) and externally with partners to define channels of data collection. TCAF extracted historical data from the AFRICA-TWIX database and is now liaising with ReTTA project for more data for a basic trend analysis. At this stage, it is found that AGP is not only traded in forms of live birds or eggs, but also body parts (i.e. skulls, feathers) and products. The questionnaire for the value chain study will be developed accordingly in Q3 of Y1.

A 1.7 A list of all endangered African parrots including AGP, along with protection and threaten levels compiled. An internal discussion was held to identify the elements of the purchasing and selling these high-value birds such as AGP, which will provide insights for the preliminary design of the questionnaire for online consumer survey. Data supports for the baseline of AGP trade will be compiled by October 2022.

A 1.8 Current legal provisions of AGP's captive breeding and sale situation have been studied and discussed, and online platforms selling channels were identified. Accordingly, an online survey plan has been developed for Chinese online platforms illegal sale of AGP and other endangered African parrots. The monthly online monitoring of trade in AGP and other endangered African parrots has started since September 2022.

*Output 2. By December 2024, demand reduction on APG and other endangered African parrots have been achieved by behaviour change campaign*

A 2.3 Two discussions of M&E were organized on 13<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> September for the design of

campaign and project M&E.

*Output 3. By end of 2024, a corporate engagement and behaviour change campaign is in place targeting Chinese nationals likely to be involved in poaching and trafficking AGP and other endangered parrots in Cameroon and DRC*

A 3.1 & 3.2 Meetings were held between TRAFFIC and CTWPDA for the development of CSR guide and the update of Code of Conduct for Chinese companies in African countries. Potential channels of the CSR guide and Code of Conduct delivery were discussed.

*Output 4. By December 2025, disseminate campaign outcome and lessons learned from the project to relevant stakeholders nationally, regionally and globally*

No activity this period.

**2. Give details of any notable problems or unexpected developments/lessons learnt that the project has encountered over the last 6 months. Explain what impact these could have on the project and whether the changes will affect the budget and timetable of project activities.**

None to date since the project just started.

**3. Have any of these issues been discussed with NIRAS-LTS International and if so, have changes been made to the original agreement?**

Discussed with NIRAS-LTS: Yes/No

Formal Change Request submitted: Yes/No

Received confirmation of change acceptance Yes/No

Change request reference if known:

**4a. Do you currently expect to have any significant (e.g. more than £5,000) underspend in your budget for this year?**

Yes  No  Estimated underspend: £

**4b. If yes, then you need to consider your project budget needs carefully.** Please remember that any funds agreed for this financial year are only available to the project in this financial year.

**If you anticipate a significant underspend because of justifiable changes within the project, please submit a re-budget Change Request as soon as possible. There is no guarantee that Defra will agree a re-budget so please ensure you have enough time to make appropriate changes if necessary. Please DO NOT send these in the same email as your report.**

**5. Are there any other issues you wish to raise relating to the project or to BCF management, monitoring, or financial procedures?**

No, not at this point.

**If you are a new project and you received feedback comments that requested a response (including the submission of your risk register), or if your Annual Report Review asked you to provide a response with your next half year report, please attach your response to this document.**

**Please note: Any planned modifications to your project schedule/workplan can be discussed in this report but **should also** be raised with NIRAS-LTS International through a Change Request. **Please DO NOT send these in the same email.****

Please send your **completed report by email** to [BCF-Reports@niras.com](mailto:BCF-Reports@niras.com). The report should be between 2-3 pages maximum. **Please state your project reference number, followed by the specific fund in the header of your email message e.g. Subject: 29-001 Darwin Initiative Half Year Report**