



Department  
for Environment  
Food & Rural Affairs



UK International  
Development

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## Illegal Wildlife Trade (IWT) Challenge Fund Annual Report

### IWT Challenge Fund Project Information

Project reference	IWT 121
Project title	Living with Wildlife: Improving Livelihoods in the Mole Ecological Landscape
Country/ies	Ghana
Lead Partner	Nature and Development Foundation
Project partner(s)	Mole National Park, C.K. Tedam University of Technology and Applied Science
IWTCF grant value	£ 463,614.00
Start/end dates of project	April 2023 – March 2026
Reporting period (e.g. April 2023-Mar 2024) and number (e.g. Annual Report 1, 2, 3)	April 2023 – March 2024 Annual Report 1
Project Leader name	Mustapha Kaluwe Seidu
Project website/blog/social media	<a href="https://ndfwestafrica.org/living-with-wildlife-improving-livelihoods-in-the-mole-ecological-landscape/">https://ndfwestafrica.org/living-with-wildlife-improving-livelihoods-in-the-mole-ecological-landscape/</a>
Report author(s) and date	NDF, MNP and CKTEDAM; 3 <sup>rd</sup> May, 2024

## **1. Project summary**

This project focuses on developing sustainable livelihoods to benefit people directly affected by illegal wildlife trade in the Mole Ecological Landscape. This is so because poaching and associated illegal bushmeat trade of ungulates and carnivores are common in the surrounding communities of the Mole National Park (MNP). This is pronounced in the north and north-western boundaries of the park which border the western and eastern wildlife corridors forming a migratory highway for elephants, buffalos, hartebeest, and other species of conservation concern from MNP to the Nazinga Game Reserve and the Kabore Tambi National Park in neighbouring Burkina Faso (Bouche, 2007). The Chakali Sungmaaluu and Moagduri Wuntanluri Kuwomsaasi (MWK) CREMAs are in these boundaries with communities such as Tantala, Zukpani, Holomuni, Gbantala and Grumbelle among others.

Communities living in this location are largely poor and depend on subsistence farming and poaching for a living. Several species of conservation concern such as lions, elephants, leopards and buffalos are poached and traded, a phenomenon which is very common in northern Ghana. Although illegal, trading in bushmeat serves as a source of immediate income for many households in many of the over 50 local communities surrounding the park, research by Tiimub et al. (2019) suggests that as much as 60% of participants interviewed around MNP were involved in both farming and poaching for livelihoods. This dependence on illegal wildlife trade is endangering wildlife populations which creates a vicious cycle of poverty.

Furthermore, given the large size (4,577 km<sup>2</sup>) of MNP, law enforcement is almost non-existent in some locations especially the northern and north-western parts of the park. To increase coverage, reduce the cost of traditional law enforcement and create legitimacy with park-fringing communities, the management of the MNP is promoting participatory wildlife management through the Community Resources Management Area (CREMA) concept to wean park-fringing communities off this dependency and invariably enhance local people capacity to enforce conservation laws to protect wildlife. The project is being implemented in the Chakali-Sungmaaluu and the Moagduri Wuntanluri Kuwomsaasi (MWK) CREMAs. These CREMAs respectively fall within the Wa East District of the Upper West Region and Mamprugu-Moagduri District of the Northeast Region all in Ghana (see Annex 4A: a map showing project locations and the beneficiary communities). These two CREMAs have a total of Thirty-four (34) communities with Chakali-Sungmaaluu having twenty-three (23) communities and MWK having eleven (11) communities.

## **2. Project stakeholders/ partners**

To ensure collaboration and teamwork amongst implementing partners as the foundation for the success of this project, all partners were involved in the project development phase. The strong collaboration and teamwork at the project development stages are replicated in the implementation of project activities with particular emphasis on the strengths of partner members. Each partner is assigned a leading role in the implementation of an output based on capability and capacity. The blend of civil society, public sector and academia in the consortium is offering a unique strength to the project team with diverse and multi-disciplinary expertise of implementing partners. As a result of the project implementation, the Mole National Park (MNP) is building a new culture by working to meet reporting requirements by donors and timely delivery of activities. NDF as a civil society organization is also building capacity in working with public institutions and academia to ensure the empowerment of park fringing communities. The CK Tedam University has opportunities to further understand the interplay between wildlife conservation and poverty through research for publication. All project implementing partners are represented on the steering committee of the project. The steering committee is the highest advisory body of the project providing support and guidance to the project management and implementation team. The steering committee also has representation from the Moagduri Wuntanluri Kuwomsaasi (MWK) and Chakali Sungmaaluu CREMAs as well as representation from the district assemblies of Wa East and Mamprugu Moagduri.

The district assemblies have the power and authority to mainstream project actions into the developmental plans of the district. On the engagement with the British High Commission in Ghana, staff of the Commission were engaged during the development stages. At the implementation stage, the project has been presented to the Climate, Nature and Food Security Desk of the FCDO, Accra-Ghana. The responsible officer at the FCDO showed much interest in the project and has requested yearly updates on the project in the form of reviewed and updated logframe. Attached in annex 4B is the notes on project discussions with the FCDO responsible officer.

### **3. Project progress**

#### **3.1 Progress in carrying out project Activities**

*Output 1: Women and men in two CREMAs trained and supported to implement nature-based sustainable livelihood measures to reduce poverty and inequality.*

Within the year under-reporting, 120 women were trained on sustainable shea production and provided with 120 shea nut picking rollers, 120 head pans and safety gadgets (120 Wellington boots and 120 gloves). The shea nut picking rollers were to eliminate the strenuous bending in the picking of nuts and at the same time quicken the picking process. Wellington boots and hand gloves eliminate snake and scorpion bites and injuries during picking.

The training was carried out in the second quarter as planned and it focused on efficient, effective and safe collection of organic shea nuts using the shea nut roller picker. The training also tackled sustainable production of shea butter while ensuring hygienic standards. A training manual on shea roller training was produced and can be downloaded [REDACTED]. Beneficiaries of the training came from 3 communities within the 2 CREMAs. These are Grumbelle, Tantala and Chagu. Attached as annexe 4C is a narrative report of the training.

Similarly, 40 beneficiaries from five communities within the Chakali Sungmaaluu and MWK CREMAs have been trained in sustainable honey production. These communities include Yisebisi, Tandow, Ducie, Kandia and Kpapalamuni. Each beneficiary was provided with two (2) bee hives, and associated equipment such as smokers, protective clothing and a honey extractor. So far, 37 beehives have been successfully colonised (at the end of March 2024). In line with the project workplan, the training was conducted in the third quarter of the project year. The 40 beneficiaries trained represent 133% of the target for the year. The initial project plan was to provide each beneficiary of the training supplied with 3 hives and associated equipment however, due to unpredictable heightening of prices of items, the budget allocated was rendered insufficient. The cost estimate could only support 2 hives per farmer plus associated essential equipment. To make up for the shortfall in the number of hives, beneficiaries were engaged and encouraged to reinvest proceeds from the two hives to construct more hives. Attached as annex 4E is the report on the training.

Still within the year under output 1, forty (40) beneficiaries from four different communities within the two CREMAs have been trained on sustainable rodent farming. These communities include Zukpeni, Tantala, Jeyire and Ducie. The beneficiaries were taught how to handle, feed and care for the rodents. They also received guidelines on how to identify pregnancy in female rodents and when to separate the females from the male. As part of the training, beneficiaries were given cages stocked with rodents. All activities stated were organised according to the time planned in the project proposal. Attached as annex 4D is the report of the training on rodent farming.

*Output 2: Agroforestry system developed and introduced to park-fringing communities to increase resilience and tolerance for wildlife.*

Within the period under-reporting, 180 farmers were engaged and selected as the first batch of beneficiaries for the intervention. A total of 178 farms have been mapped using GPS. The purpose of the mapping is to ascertain the sizes of the farms and also to ensure that the farms are not located within the Mole National Park. Results from the mapping indicates a total area of 210 hectares has been made available by beneficiary farmers for the implementation of the agroforestry intervention. Seedlings of cash crops and forest trees are being procured to be distributed to these farmers for planting in the second year of the project. This link below gives

evidence of progress about mapping of the farms. (

*Output 3: Capacity of the MWK and Chakali Sungmaaluu CREMAs built for participatory wildlife management.*

Within the year, 40 executives of the Chakali-Sungmaaluu CREMA were trained on CREMA management, law enforcement, gender, leadership and the wildlife laws of Ghana in a 2-day workshop. The training was conducted in the third quarter of the project year inline with the project workplan. In addition, visits were made to both the MWK and Chakali-Sungmaaluu CREMAs to create awareness about the establishment of community information centres and locate suitable sites within the community for the establishments. The CREMAs have also been engaged in the selection of volunteers to train as citizen rangers to support efforts of law enforcement against poaching and illegal wildlife trade in the areas. Discussions have been held with education offices within the districts on engaging selected schools for wildlife conservation education and the creation of wildlife conservation clubs. Attached as annex 4F is a narrative report on the training of the CREMA executives.

### **3.2 Progress towards project Outputs**

Great progress has been made towards the achievement of project outputs. This is because all milestones set for year 1 have been achieved. It is therefore very practical that outputs set for the project will be achieved by the close of the project timeframe.

*Output 1: Women and men in two CREMAs trained and supported to implement nature-based sustainable livelihood measures to reduce poverty and inequality.*

Prior to the start of this project, there were zero number of women using shea nut picking rollers in the project area. The target is to train 400 women in sustainable shea nut collection and provide them with 400 equipment with year one target of 100 women. By close of year one of project implementation, 120 women have been trained and provided with 120 shea nut picking rollers, 120 Wellington boots, safety hand gloves and head pans to apply the shea nut picking roller technology. The number of women supported is 20% more than the year one target. This is evidenced in the narrative report attached as annexe 4C. Although more women are requesting to benefit from the training and support, the project is yet to determine the number of people reporting that they are applying the shea roller technique and knowledge of best practices in the collection of shea nuts. This is so because the project started and the rollers were provided when the shea nut picking season for the area was over. A better assessment will be done in the ensuing project year.

On sustainable honey bee farming, the baseline for beehives is 80, a target of 300 beehives with 100 farmers (60 men and 40 women) by close of the project. The milestone for year one is 30 farmers with 90 beehives. By the end of the first year of project implementation, 40 farmers have been trained in sustainable bee farming and 80 bee hives have been supplied out of which 37 have been successfully colonized with 43 yet to be colonized.

On rodent farming, the baseline is 17 farmers. The project target is 100 beneficiaries with 100 cages stocked with 300 rodents. The milestone for year one is to have 33 farmers trained and equipped with a cage each stocked with either grasscutters or Togo hares based on the preference of the farmers. Within the year under reporting, 40 farmers were trained and each was supplied with a cage stocked with a male and Female Togo hare. All beneficiaries trained were supplied with Togo hares because all the grasscutters procured died before they could be distributed to the beneficiaries. To remedy the situation and avoid some beneficiaries having empty cages, each beneficiary was given a male and female Togo hare instead of 2 females and 1 male per beneficiary. Annexe 4D is the training report.

*Output 2: Agroforestry system developed and introduced to park-fringing communities to increase resilience and tolerance for wildlife.*

The target is that 200 hectares of agroforestry farms be established for 200 farmers. The year 1 milestone is to engage and select 50 farmers as beneficiaries and have their farms mapped with GPS. The baseline is zero. Within the year of implementation 180 farmers from nine communities have been selected. Out of this number, 178 farms belonging to these farmers have been mapped with a GPS. This ensured that the farms are not located within the boundary of the Mole National Park. It also gave the farmers the accurate sizes of their fields. The total land size for these 178 farms is 210 hectares. Undoubtedly, tremendous progress has been made on this output. Planting of these fields will start in the ensuing year.

**Output 3: *Capacity of the MWK and Chakali Sungmaaluu CREMAs built for participatory wildlife management.***

With baselines of zero, the targets for this output are 2 trainings for executives of the Chakali Sungmaaluu and MWK CREMAs, 10 information centers established for conservation education, training of 20 citizen rangers and wildlife education in 10 basic schools. The milestone for year one is to train 40 CREMA executives in one meeting as a way of building capacity and capability for participatory wildlife management. At the end of project year 1, a capacity building training had been organized for 40 CREMA executives. Additionally, communities have been identified for the establishment of the 10 information centres and district education offices in charge of schools in the area have also been engaged on wildlife education in the basic schools.

The leadership of the two CREMA executives have better understanding of the issues of leadership, collaborative wildlife management and law enforcement than they were before the start of the project. The Chairmen of both CREMAs, after this training, have been instrumental and active in the project implementation within their jurisdiction. The narrative report on the training is attached as annex 4H.

### **3.3 Progress towards the project Outcome**

**Outcome: *Park-fringing communities are empowered for increased benefits and participatory wildlife management***

On indicator 0.1 the project has added to building a cohort of CREMAs (executive members) with improved capability and capacity through the training on diverse topics that were organized for the CREMAs in focus. Strengthening the capacity of the CREMAs is a fundamental process in participatory wildlife conservation. Furthermore, increased capacity and capability of the *MWK and the Chakali Sungmaaluu CREMAs* is significant to building collective community resilience to poverty, which this project is gradually building. Executives of the CREMAs who were trained now attach high levels of importance to conservation activities around the park (within their CREMAs). This is evidenced in the regularity of their meetings. The executives now hold monthly meetings. Furthermore, Members of beneficiary communities are realising the significance of the Mole National Park and the benefits they stand to gain by reason of their proximity to the park and are joining in the fight against poaching and illegal wildlife trade. This is evidence by reports of calls from communities of identified illegal wildlife activities received by management of the Mole National Park. Executives of the CREMAs and the communities are thus being empowered for participatory conservation of the Mole National Park and for increased benefits.

In addition, indicator 0.2 is being met as many women and men from the landscape are actively participating in the nature-based solutions of improved and safe shea nut collection, honeybee and rodents farming. There is high number of people who want to participate than the project can support on the nature-based livelihood interventions as beneficiaries are of the firm belief that the intervention will reduce their poverty situation. There is also interest in planting cashew and mango as part of the project intervention as indicated in indicator 0.5.

It is therefore evidential the intended project outcome to have park fringing communities empowered for increased benefits and participatory wildlife management is highly attainable by end of the project and pointers set to measure the attainment are adequate. However,

empowerment is a continuous process hence further actions and interventions will be beneficial to sustaining and improving upon project gains.

### 3.4 Monitoring of assumptions

Assumption 1: Wildlife Division of the Forestry Commission is committed to collaborate with park-fringing communities on participatory wildlife management.

Comments: This assumption still hold true as collaborative resources management with communities is one of the key management strategies by the Mole National Park.

Assumption 2: Chiefs and elders of park-fringing communities are willing and committed to collaborate with park management.

Comments: The chiefs and elders of the park-fringing communities continue to be committed to collaborating with the Mole Park management through partnerships, engagements, and active involvement of all relevant stakeholders. Example include having the Mole National Park as an implementing partner and not just a project beneficiary, the chairmen of the two CREMAs and representatives from the two district assemblies concerned as members of the project steering committee also makes them feel special in the project implementation.

Assumption: Women are amenable to new shea nut collection technology.

Comments: The women love the shea rollers and the training. Even those who did not get the rollers because of budget constraints requested to be trained so that they could acquire the rollers on their own.

Assumption: Majority of honeybee hives will be colonized by honeybees.

Comments: So far, we have about 50% of beehives being colonised. The project team is taking steps to re wax the hives so that the bees will be attracted to it.

Assumption: Beneficiaries will rear the animals with a commercial mindset.

Comments: There is continuous monitoring of this assumption as it is too early to determine whether it still holds true or not.

Assumption: Community members will avail themselves for the training offered.

Comments: All implementing partners reported of high turnout of training participants. This shows high level of interest in project activities.

Assumption: Farmers will adopt new produce different from their traditional crops

Comments: There is high enthusiasm for agroforestry crops by community members. Already, the government of Ghana is introducing similar interventions through the District Assemblies. Therefore, the farmers are happy to adopt the agroforestry interventions.

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

**Impact:** *Decreased pressure on wildlife population in the Mole National Park with the benefit of reducing poverty among park-fringing communities.*

Beneficiaries of project interventions are made aware that they are getting the support because of the existence of the park and the wildlife it contains. Management of the Mole National Park participate in every project intervention to emphasis the relationship between the park and project activities. Nature-based livelihoods such as improved shea nut picking, honeybee farming, agroforestry as well as improved capacity of CREMA executive is helping change behaviour toward park management. The tolerance and appreciation of wildlife through understanding of the relationship between the park and support received is helping reduce poaching and conflict. Although the project is still in its early phase, the execution of nature-based sustainable livelihood interventions will reduce poverty and inequality through improve household income. These nature-based interventions are additional livelihoods to the people and represent significant

improvement in their standard. The project is further increasing resilience and productivity of farms through the introduction of tree crops such as cashew and mango to farmers in an agroforestry system. So far 210 hectares belonging to 178 farmers have been mapped ready to be planted with their choice of tree crop during the raining season. In addition, building capacity and capability of members of the Chakali Sungmaaluu and MWK CREMAs for participatory management of the Mole National Park is contributing to decreasing illegal wildlife trade within the two CREMA areas.

#### **4. Thematic focus**

The project is in alignment with theme four (4) which is, *developing sustainable livelihoods to benefit people directly affected by IWT*. Activities in output 1 include training and supporting 600 women and men in two CREMAs to implement nature-based sustainable livelihood measures to reduce poverty and inequality. This is being done through mechanical and safe organic shea nut picking, hygienic honey processing and rearing of small animals as well as Village Saving and Loans Association scheme. In the 1<sup>st</sup> year of project implementation, 200 beneficiaries have been trained and supported with shea nut picking rollers to increase shea nut picking. Honey beehives and associated equipment have been supplied to diversify sources of income and to cultivate the culture of rearing honeybees instead of wildlife hunting with fire. The rodent farming that has been started is also changing behaviour towards animal instead of hunting and poaching. The planting of tree crops in an agroforestry setting is to further increase resilience of park-fringing communities to illegal wildlife trade and climate change. The tree crops withstand the impact of changing weather conditions and serve as insurance against uncertain rainfall patterns. A total of 180 farmers have been selected to be first batch beneficiaries of this intervention out of which 178 have had their farms mapped with GPS. The project will indirectly contribute to law enforcement through building capacity and capabilities of members of Chakali Sungmaaluu and MWK CREMAs. It is envisaged that these three outputs will contribute to poverty reduction among park-fringing communities and in effect decrease poaching pressure on the wildlife population in the Mole National Park.

#### **5. Impact on species in focus**

As a result of recent project activities around the Mole Ecological Landscape, communities within the two CREMAs have increasingly become aware of the importance of conserving the animals in the park and are showing signs of increased collaboration with the management of the park. This was evidenced in feedback from participants during visits to the communities. These links capture responses from some community members and beneficiaries.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bKAKqoltgJo>,

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XfAgZBs9wSw>

Again, in line with the project logframe to get the poaching incidences in the area reduced by 30%, records from the Mole National Park reveal that in 2022 (before the start of this project) 22 poaching cases were recorded around the Mole National Park and eleven (11) of the cases came from current project areas. However, in 2023, (when the project started), 10 poaching cases were recorded and seven (7) came from project areas. This represents a 55% decrease in overall poaching around the park and a 36.3% decrease in the project communities. Although this represent significant drops, there is the need for continuous observation of the trend for a few years to fully attribute the reduction to the project intervention. By the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2024, six (6) poaching cases have been recorded of which one incidence is from the project site.

#### **6. Project support for multidimensional poverty reduction**

The aim of the project is to empower park-fringing communities for increased benefits and participatory wildlife management. The expected project impact is to contribute to decrease poaching pressure on wildlife population in the Mole National Park with the benefit of reducing poverty among park-fringing communities.

Chakali Sungmaaluu and MWK CREMAs: The two CREMAs have been revived leading to active executive meetings on management of the CREMAs and impacts on the park and wildlife. The

is leading to improved understanding and appreciation of the value of the park and wildlife. The project is being implemented in Thirty-four (34) communities with eight (8) major interventions to benefit selected people from all the communities. These interventions are spread to communities to ensure that as many communities benefit from the project interventions.

The attainment of increased collection of shea nut through shea roller technology will directly increase household income of some 400 women. Already some 120 women have received training and rollers and will start to utilize the same during the the upcoming shea nut collection season. Honeybee farming is a thriving business in the landscape. The introduction of this to beneficiary communities has started positive improvement in their perception of their income status and resilience to annual cycle of poverty. Within the year under reporting, 80 beehives have been distributed. A significant number have been colonised and will soon start producing honey in large quantities. Project interventions such as sustainable bee farming, safe and increased shea nut collection, sustainable rodent farming, agroforestry schemes and VSLA schemes are expected to impact poverty through increased household income and food security directly.

Other interventions have indirect impact on poverty. The setting up of community information centres for community education on illegal wildlife trade and zoonotic pathogens, biodiversity conservation education in basic and junior high schools and capacity building of community executives in leadership and resource management are also indirectly geared towards alleviating poverty in the long-term through creation of awareness about the value of wildlife. The activities are also empowering park-fringing communities to actively participate in the management of the resources of the Mole National Park. Currently, the general feeling of the beneficiaries is that the park needs to be protected and therefore the need to stop wildlife trade and consumption.

## 7. Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI)

Long-held cultural views of gender roles are not easily displaced. However, through gradual engagement, there is the potential to positively influence project beneficiaries to favour women. In that context, this project strived to ensure gender equality in participation. At the project implementation level within the year under-reporting, 130 women participated and benefitted from shea nut picking roller technology and capacity building of CREMA executives compared to 120 men who benefitted from rodent and honeybee farming (please see reports of shea nut roller training, report on CREMA capacity building). This is a great achievement in the settings of the project. The target is to achieve 60% of women benefitting from the project by 2026.

Please quantify the proportion of women on the Project Board <sup>1</sup> .	The steering committee is the highest advisory body of the project and it has a membership of 11 including the Chairman. The committee has a 9% female proportion.
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 <sup>2</sup> .	The overall project coordinator is a female and reports to the project lead and the Steering Committee.

GESI Scale	Description	Put X where you think your project is on the scale
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<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> 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.



<b>Not yet sensitive</b>	The GESI context may have been considered but the project isn't quite meeting the requirements of a 'sensitive' approach	
<b>Sensitive</b>	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
<b>Empowering</b>	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	X
<b>Transformative</b>	The project has all the characteristics of an 'empowering' approach whilst also addressing unequal power relationships and seeking institutional and societal change	X

## 8. Monitoring and evaluation

The indicators of contribution of outputs and activities to the outcome can be measured from the results of those activities which have already been implemented. Within the year under reporting, the provisions of training on shea nut picking roller technology to 120 women with support accessories has attracted many women who have registered for the next training scheduled for the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of the second year. It is empowering women in beneficiary communities to improve their income status. The honeybee farming is another nature-based intervention that hold potential to change traditional way of hunting for honey in the wild (see beneficiary testimony in Youtube video under section 5). Many community members within the CREMA requested to be given the beehives because of the availability of market and the income generation potential. Except the grasscutters, all the other rodents are doing well and some have given births. There is effective and frequent evaluation of project implementation and so there will be adaptive management of some of the activities to fully realised the outcome.

To measure progress and assess the effectiveness of strategies employed in the implementation of project activities, all implementing partners were made to provide monthly and quarterly reports. The Project Coordinator inturn reviewed the reports against project timelines and logframe to ascertain progress. Field monitoring and expenditure verification was carried out by the Project Coordinator and the Finance Manager to verify project implementation and expenditure. Informal discussions on challenges, risks and potential issues were held amongst partners to address the issues identified.

Additionally, as a step to good governance and to track progress of implementation against workplan and project logframe, a steering committee was constituted. It consists of experts from both implementing partners and other relevant stakeholders. The committee headed by a chairman (who is the assistant director for the Mamprugu-Moagduri district) is to provide support and guidance to the project management and implementation team. The committee held its maiden meeting within the year under reporting. Attached as annexe 4H is the minutes of the meeting.

The monitoring and evaluation work is shared by all partners with NDF having a supervisory role. Within the year, a joint field monitoring visit to all project intervention sites by the project management team was held. This provided a good opportunity for the team to evaluate the success of interventions that have already been rolled out. Lastly, an annual partners meeting was held which offered the opportunity for partners to discuss activities implemented and demonstrate that activities lead to outputs and outputs are contributing to expected project outcome.

## **9. Lessons learnt**

Correct timing of project intervention is key: Training and provision of shea nut picking rollers has to be done some time between April and May of the year. In the original workplan, the training on shea roller technology where, women shea nut collectors are to be trained to use the shea nut roller picker for the collection is slated for the first and second quarter according to the workplan. In the 1<sup>st</sup> year due to administrative processes required before kick starting the project, the training was conducted at the tail end of the second quarter (September). Though that was still within the timeframe according to the workplan, realistically it was quite late as the season for collection of the nuts was just ending. The resultant effect is that the women could not use the rollers in the first year of the project for collection of the nuts hence data could not be collected on how beneficial the training and the use of the roller had impacted their work. Moving forward, the 2<sup>nd</sup> year training is planned for April which is the opening of the season for collection of the nuts.

It was also observed that, access roads connecting most of the CREMA communities become inaccessible during the peak of the rainy season for the area (August & September) hence, project activities slated for these months will have to be executed earlier or after these months.

Again, on the management side, 100% mortality rate was recorded for the grasscutters procured for the sustainable rodent farming activity. The mortality was attributed to long transportation distances and improper handling. The implementing partner in charge has been advised to procure the animals locally.

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

Issues raised in the review of the project proposal for funding have been responded to in the half-year report.

## **11. Risk Management**

High mortality rates for the rodents have been identified as a new risk. In the instance where the rate of mortality is not curbed completely or significantly lowered, the resultant effect is that the venture will not be profitable and farmers may abandon their enterprises. However, no variation has been made to the project design as a mitigation strategy has already been envisaged. Which is, to source the rodents locally and properly attend to them with great care before distributing to beneficiaries. This approach we consider to lower the risk of mortality. Attached as annex 4J is the updated risk register.

## **12. Sustainability and legacy**

Project sustainability is a key consideration to ensure sustained engagement with park management and protection of wildlife. Therefore, the deliberate selection of the Management of the Mole National Park as implementing partner represents continuity of their legal and institutional mandate to ensure sustainable and collaborative natural resource management in Ghana. There is an active involvement by the Management in the park in this project than any other project implemented by third parties. Their role as partners will ensure continuity even after close of the project. The revival of the Chakali Sungmaaluu and MWK CREMAs represent a build on an existing interventions.

Shea nut collection is a livelihood intervention done by women in the landscape since time immemorial. This project is enhancing the quick and safe collection so that women can collect more tonnages in a safe manner. It is unlikely that women will abandon quicker and safer mode of collection when they have been trained and provided with support. The trainees have expressed joy for the support and promised to use it for the intended purpose. Traditionally, farmers and local people travel long distances in the vicinity of the park to hunt for rodents for subsistence and commercial. The introduction of this rodent farming (as demonstrated by

participants) represent time saving for other economic activities and also increase income when they sell them. Rabbit and grasscutter farming fit into existing practices.

The project adopts adaptive management in project implementation. Such that when monitoring and evaluation reveals that some intervention needs to be modified, it will be modified in consultation with partners and the Donor. Currently there are no plans to change any of the intended sustainable benefits of the project as they are all still valid.

### 13. IWT Challenge Fund identity

The project recognises visibility as very important to project achievements. Therefore, all documents developed by the project such as invitations, reports, contracts and attendance list bear the project logos, the IWT Challenge Fund and UKAid logos. Attached as annexe 4J is the project logo designed. All equipment purchase under the project have also been branded with the IWT Challenge Fund and UKAid logo. IWT Challenge Fund funding of the project is uniquely identified. The project is not part of any bigger project or receives funding from other donors. Separate accounts have been created for it under NDF’s ACPACC accounting system and also in the bank. Furthermore, a page on NDF website has been dedicated to the project (<https://ndfwestafrica.org/living-with-wildlife-improving-livelihoods-in-the-mole-ecological-landscape/>). The page bears information on the project activities, donors, and partners. The social media handles of NDF and implementing partners have been linked back to the IWTCF and the FCDO. In all postings about the project, the IWTCF and the UKAid are dully acknowledge.

### 14. Safeguarding

Has your Safeguarding Policy been updated in the past 12 months?	Yes
Have any concerns been reported in the past 12 months	No
Does your project have a Safeguarding focal point?	Yes [Mr. Glen Asomaning, ██]
Has the focal point attended any formal training in the last 12 months?	No [The focal point has not attended any training on safeguarding within the period under reporting.]
What proportion (and number) of project staff have received formal training on Safeguarding?	Past: 100%  [All eleven project staff have received training on safeguarding during the inception phase and a refresher at the annual partners meeting]  Planned: % [and number]
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 safeguarding incidences were encountered during the period under reporting.]	

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

Currently the project has no planned safeguarding activities except for the regular participants' enlightenment on safeguarding policies of the organization and on the project prior to the start of every meeting or engagement with project beneficiaries.

Please describe any community sensitisation that has taken place over the past 12 months; include topics covered and number of participants.

As a way of enhancing organizational capacity and capabilities to listen, respond and learn from safeguarding issues and concerns that may be raised, and also as a way of ensuring safeguarding measures on this project, a pull-up banner on actions and inactions that are of safeguarding concerns has been designed and printed for use in all meetings and engagements under the project. Prior to starting every meeting, beneficiaries and participants are taken through all the actions stated on the banner and encouraged to make complaints whenever they encounter or realise any of the actions from an implementer of the project. The banner has both mobile phone and email contacts for whistleblowing. Participants are assured of confidentiality and anonymity in the whistleblowing.



Safeguarding banner.jpeg

Attached here is a picture of the pull-up banner produced.

Have there been any concerns around Health, Safety and Security of your project over the past year? If yes, please outline how this was resolved.

No issues or concerns have been raised on Health, Safety and Security of the project within the period under reporting.

## 15. Project expenditure

Table 1: Project expenditure during the reporting period (April 2023-March 2024)

Project spend (indicative) since last Annual Report	2023/24 Grant (£)	2023/24 Total actual IWT Costs (£)	Variance %	Comments (please explain significant variances)
Staff costs (see below)				Variance is insignificant
Consultancy costs				The fees charged by consultants engaged during year 1 were moderate resulting in the surplus.
Overhead Costs				Variance is insignificant
Travel and subsistence				Travels in the year were less than anticipated.
Operating Costs				No variances.
Capital items (see below)				Variance is insignificant.
Others (see below)				The actual cost in the first year was higher than budgetted

				due to increases in prices than expected. Also more logistical items for project beneficiaries were procured in the year to minimise effects of cost increases on the project.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£ 155,016.33</b>	<b>£155,667.19</b>		

**Table 2: Project mobilised or matched funding during the reporting period (1 April 2023 – 31 March 2024)**

	Secured to date	Expected by end of project	Sources
Matched funding leveraged by the partners to deliver the project (£)			Unrestricted reserve from Nature and Development Foundation (NDF).  Internally generated Funds through fees from CK Tedam University of Technology and Applied Science  Forestry Commissions (FC)'s, operational allocation from levies and fees.
Total additional finance mobilised for new activities occurring outside of the project, building on evidence, best practices and the project (£)	-	-	

**16. Other comments on progress not covered elsewhere.**

Progress and challenges of implementation within the year are captured in the report.

**17. OPTIONAL: Outstanding achievements or progress of your project so far (300-400 words maximum). This section may be used for publicity purposes.**

I agree for the Biodiversity Challenge Funds to edit and use the following for various promotional purposes (please leave this line in to indicate your agreement to use any material you provide here).

Empowering Communities for increased benefits and participatory wildlife management of the Mole National Park: Beneficiaries Pledge to Protect Wildlife.

In a heartwarming video interview, Alhassan and Bawa pledged to abandon hunting practices within the Mole National Park. Their stories serve as a powerful testament to the project's success in uplifting communities from poverty to conserving wildlife. Alhassan and Bawa's experiences showcase the positive impact of the project. With their hope of increased household income due to project intervention, they have found meaningful alternatives to hunting, allowing them to contribute to the conservation of the park's rich biodiversity. Their story serves as an inspiration for others, highlighting the potential for communities and wildlife to thrive together.

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	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bKAKqoltgJo">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bKAKqoltgJo</a> ,	Livelihood support interventions are stopping individuals from poaching in Ghana. Credit:- Nature and Development Foundation (NDF)	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/share/XA7ZKqg5YPVfzom2/?mibextid=LQQJ4d">https://www.facebook.com/share/XA7ZKqg5YPVfzom2/?mibextid=LQQJ4d</a>	Yes
Video	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XfAgZBs9wSw">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XfAgZBs9wSw</a>	Livelihood support interventions beneficiaries pledge to protect wildlife in the MNP of Ghana. Credit:- Nature and Development Foundation (NDF).	<a href="https://www.linkedin.com/company/ndfwestafrica/">https://www.linkedin.com/company/ndfwestafrica/</a>	Yes
Image	7H7A2422	Shea Roller Technology training for beneficiaries in the Grumbelle community of Ghana. Credit:- Nature and Development Foundation (NDF)	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/share/XA7ZKqg5YPVfzom2/?mibextid=LQQJ4d">https://www.facebook.com/share/XA7ZKqg5YPVfzom2/?mibextid=LQQJ4d</a>	Yes
Image	7H7A2436	Beneficiaries of the shea roller technology training at Chagu community of Ghana. Credit:- Nature and Development Foundation (NDF).	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/share/XA7ZKqg5YPVfzom2/?mibextid=LQQJ4d">https://www.facebook.com/share/XA7ZKqg5YPVfzom2/?mibextid=LQQJ4d</a>	Yes
Image	7H7A2465	Demonstration of shea nut collection using the rollers. (Training at Tantala community) in Ghana. Credit:- Nature and Development Foundation (NDF).	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/share/XA7ZKqg5YPVfzom2/?mibextid=LQQJ4d">https://www.facebook.com/share/XA7ZKqg5YPVfzom2/?mibextid=LQQJ4d</a>	Yes
Image	7H7A2488	Beneficiaries of training on using the shea nut roller at Grumbelle community in Ghana. Credit:- Nature and Development Foundation (NDF).	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/share/XA7ZKqg5YPVfzom2/?mibextid=LQQJ4d">https://www.facebook.com/share/XA7ZKqg5YPVfzom2/?mibextid=LQQJ4d</a>	Yes
Image	7H7A2491	Beneficiaries of Shea Roller Technology training at Grumbelle in Ghana. Credit:- Nature and Development Foundation (NDF).	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/share/XA7ZKqg5YPVfzom2/?mibextid=LQQJ4d">https://www.facebook.com/share/XA7ZKqg5YPVfzom2/?mibextid=LQQJ4d</a>	Yes
Image	9H7A1931	A Togo hare with the successful delivery of 3 kits at Ducie in Ghana. Credit:- Nature and Development Foundation (NDF)	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/share/XA7ZKqg5YPVfzom2/?mibextid=LQQJ4d">https://www.facebook.com/share/XA7ZKqg5YPVfzom2/?mibextid=LQQJ4d</a>	Yes

## Annex 1: Report of progress and achievements against logframe for Financial Year 2023-2024

Project summary	Progress and Achievements April 2023 - March 2024	Actions required/planned for next period
<p><b>Impact</b></p> <p>Decreased pressure on the wildlife population in the Mole National Park with the benefit of reducing poverty among park-fringing communities.</p>	<p>Community members are showing optimism for sustainable livelihood options offered by the project. Beneficiaries view these livelihood options as an alternative to poaching in the Mole National Park thus, poaching pressure and poverty levels will eventually be reduced.</p>	
<p><b>Outcome:</b> Park-fringing communities are empowered for increased benefits and participatory wildlife management</p>		
<p>Outcome indicator 0.1 [IWTCF-D03] By 2026 two (2) CREMAs (executive members) with improved capability and capacity because of the project. (Baseline:2 Target: Executives of 2 CREMAs hold regular meetings) (Y1:4, Y2:4, Y3:4)</p>	<p>40 Executives of the Chakali Sungmaaluu CREMA have been trained on CREMA Management, Leadership and Team Building, Gender Mainstreaming in Natural Resource Management and Law Enforcement. It is expected that the executives trained will now have the capacity and capability to contribute to managing their CREMA. Evidence of the training is provided in section 3.1 this report and annex 4F.</p>	<p>40 executives of the MWK CREMA will also be trained in the areas of Leadership and Team Building, Gender Mainstreaming in Natural Resource Management and Law Enforcement as a way of building their capacity and capability.</p>
<p>Outcome indicator 0.2</p> <p>[IWTCF-A01] By 2026, 600 beneficiaries from the two CREMAs (440 women and 160 men) are trained and equipped with nature-based livelihoods (Baseline 40; Target 600)</p>	<p>200 beneficiaries from Chakali Sungmaaluu and MWK CREMAs have been trained and supported with nature-based livelihoods.</p> <p>Annexes 4C, 4D and 4E are narrative reports on training beneficiaries in safe collection of shea nuts, rodent farming and bee farming respectively as nature-based livelihood options. Section 3.1 of this report also provides information on progress made on this indicator.</p>	<p>280 more beneficiaries will be trained on sustainable livelihood options and supported to implement the options.</p>
<p>Outcome indicator 0.3</p> <p>[IWTCF-A13] Number of households that have experienced an increase in household income because of involvement in project livelihood interventions (at least a year after the establishment of the livelihood measure/activity). (Baseline 0, Target 200)</p>	<p>The livelihood interventions rolled out to beneficiaries are all less than a year hence profitability is yet to be established.</p>	<p>Data on the household income of beneficiaries before introduction to the project's livelihood intervention and during involvement in project interventions will be collected and analyzed to determine profitability.</p>

<p>Outcome indicator 0.4</p> <p>[IWTCF-A03] By 2026, VSLA established with six groupings within the two CREMA (Baseline 1; Target 6) and members actively contributing.</p>	<p>The activity is slated for the second year of the project. Nonetheless, CREMA communities where these cooperatives will be established have been identified and engaged. Annex 4G provides evidence of these engagements.</p>	<p>All six VSLA will be established in year two to enable assessment of progress in the third and final year of the project.</p>
<p>0.5 [IWTCF-A15] Number of farmers reporting a decrease in unsustainable farming practices because of project activities. (Men 120: women 80) (Baseline 0: Target 200) by the end of the project.</p>	<p>A total of 178 farmers have been identified and engaged to be beneficiaries of the Agroforestry intervention. Actual training in sustainable farming practices and agroforestry is slated to commence in the second year of the project.</p>	<p>Train 200 farmers on sustainable farming practices and introduce them to agroforestry.</p>
<p>0.6 [IWTCF-B09] By the end of the project (2026) citizen rangers are ensuring law enforcement (patrolling) within the CREMA areas. (Baseline 1 hour of patrol once a month. Target: 4 hours of patrol twice a month)</p>	<p>Activities on citizen rangers are slated to commence in year two of the project.</p>	<p>Collaborate with CREMA executives to select and train volunteers.</p>
<p><b>Output 1</b> Women and men in two CREMAs trained and supported to implement nature-based sustainable livelihood measures to reduce poverty and inequality.</p>		
<p>Output indicator 1.1</p> <p>[IWTCF-A02] By 2026, number of people reporting that they are applying the shea roller technique and knowledge of best practices in the collection of shea nuts. (Baseline:0, Target: 400) (Y1:100, Y2: 200, Y3:100)</p>	<p>120 out of the 400 target have been trained to use the shea roller picker for the collection of shea nuts. Evidence of this training is provided in Annex 4C. The indicator is appropriate as it will enable the determination of beneficiaries who deem the action worthwhile and the impact of the action on their income generation as well as their safety.</p>	<p>200 more women will be trained and supported in year two of the project to safely collect shea nuts.</p>
<p>Output indicator</p> <p>1.2 [IWTCF-A10] 80% of sustainable enterprises (Shea, honey production and rodent farming) established as livelihood measures by the project are functioning by 2026 (Baseline 0: Target 480 enterprises) (320 shea, 80 honey, 80 rodent enterprises) (380 women, 100 men)</p>	<p>200 beneficiaries representing about 33% have been trained and supported to set up nature-based enterprises as livelihood measures within the year under-reporting (120 shea, 40 in rodent farming and 40 in bee keeping). Owing to the fragile nature of the enterprises, the impact of the action (training and the support provided) can be termed gainful when a greater percentage of the enterprises still function by the end of project actions. The indicator is therefore appropriate. Annexes 4C, 4D, and 4E are reports on the training.</p>	<p>some interventions will attain a year old in operation hence, information will be gathered from beneficiaries to assess the profitability of otherwise. Information from here will also guide future actions on livelihood interventions.</p> <p>At least 40 beneficiaries (80% female and 20% male) will be trained and supported with hives and accessories in the second year.</p>



<p>1.3 [IWTCF-A11] Number of sustainable rodent farming enterprises that are profitable at least a year after establishment. (Baseline: Target: 100) (Y1:33, Y2:34, Y3:33)</p>	<p>38% of rodent farmers engaged in the year have recorded delivery and pregnancy. Year one beneficiaries earmarked for grass cutters had to be given rabbits instead as all 50 grass cutters procured and sent to beneficiary communities died few days after. 95 out of 99 rabbits distributed are alive and functioning.</p>	<p>In year two, 40 more beneficiaries will be trained and each will be supplied with a cage stocked with a male and 2 females of choice rodent.</p> <p>As a way of encouraging seriousness and commitment to the enterprises, Year 1 beneficiaries will be visited with a veterinary officer to assess the rodents and address identified issues. Data will also be collected from beneficiaries whose interventions attain a year old to ascertain profitability.</p>
<p>1.4 [IWTCF-A04] % VSLA cooperatives established and are functioning at project end (by 2026). (Baseline 1: Target 6) (Y2: 3, Y3:3)</p>	<p>Implementation of this action is slated to begin in year two of the project however, initial contacts for the formation of the VSLA group have been made in 6 communities.</p>	<p>Formation of 6 VSLA groups. Conduct training and provision of start-up kits to VSLA groups.</p>
<p><b>Output 2.</b> Agroforestry system developed and introduced to park-fringing communities to increase resilience and tolerance for wildlife.</p>		
<p>Output indicator 2.1. 2.1[IWTCF-B02] By 2026, number of farms around the MNP boundary mapped with GPS and verified to be outside/within the boundaries of Mole National Park. Baseline:0 Target 100) Y1 :50 Y2:50</p>	<p>A total of 178 farms have been mapped with GPS and verified to be outside the boundaries of MNP. This is evidenced through the below link; <a href="https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/3b4b4fe7377547ae6485c510cac77d">https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/3b4b4fe7377547ae6485c510cac77d</a></p> <p>The essence is to establish that, the farms being considered for the agroforestry intervention are not located within the boundaries of the Mole National Park. The indicator is therefore very fitting as it builds confidence against encroachment into the park boundaries.</p>	<p>Maps of individual farms will be developed and printed for beneficiaries as records of the location of their farms to the Mole National Park,</p>
<p>Output indicator 2.2. 2.2 [IWTCF-A08] Number (hectares) of sustainable agroforestry farms of Cashew, mango orchards, moringa and other native trees established. (Baseline:0, Target:200 hectares belonging to 120 men and 80 women).</p>	<p>Activities that links to this indicator are slated to begin in the second year of the project.</p> <p>Nonetheless, some beneficiaries have been identified and contracts for seedlings supply have been awarded.</p>	<p>Receiving of seedlings and setting up of farms of beneficiaries in agroforestry style will commence after training the beneficiaries. The activity is planned to start in the second quarter of year two.</p>

2.3 [IWTCF-A02] Number of farmers reporting they are applying new skills and knowledge in agroforestry, fire management and crop raiding prevention 6 (or more) months after training. (Baseline 0: Target: 200) (Men 120, Women 80) by end of project.	Activities that links to this indicator are slated to begin in the second year of the project.	The project will collaborate with the Ministry of Food and Agricultural (MOFA) reps at the district assembly level to engage farmers on a community basis and train them in good agricultural practices. The firefighting officers will also be engaged.
2.4 [IWTCF-D27] By 2026, number of offtake agreements signed with buyers to purchase shea nut, moringa and Honey.	Activities that links to this indicator are slated to begin in the second year of the project.	The profile and value offer of purchasing companies/businesses will be requested and assessed. The buyer with the good offer will be selected and linked to the producers on a community basis.
<b>Output 3.</b>		
Capacity of the MWK and Chakali Sungmaaluu CREMAs built for Participatory Wildlife management.		
3.1 [IWTCF-D02] By 2026 Number of CREMA executive committee members that have benefitted from training on leadership, group formation, law enforcement and the new wildlife law of Ghana. (Baseline:0, Target 40) (Y1:40, Y2:40)	40 CREMA executives have been trained in leadership, group formation, law enforcement and the new wildlife law of Ghana. Annex 4 is the narrative report on the training.	A second phase of the training will be held for 40 CREMA executives next year
3.2 [IWTCF-C03] Number of community information centres established for education on illegal wildlife trade, zoonotic pathogens, and the need to conserve endangered species. (Baseline:0, Target 10) (Y2:10)	CREMA communities to benefit from this intervention have been selected. Engagements with community leaders and other stakeholders have been held. and sites within the communities have been earmarked for the establishment.	Installation of the information centres and institution of management to man the centres will be executed in the second year.
3.3 [IWTCF-B01] Number of people trained as volunteers in law enforcement skills and are participating in citizen rangers' activities (Baseline :0 Target 20)	CREMA executives have been consulted and discussions are underway towards the selection of volunteers and training them.	Actual execution is slated for the second year of the project.
3.4 [IWTCF-C05] By 2026, number of basic schools and pupils in the two CREMAs visited and reached with behaviour change messaging on wildlife conservation, zoonotic pathogens, and illegal wildlife trade. (Baseline:0 Target: 10 basic schools, 10 communities, 1000 pupils by 2026) (Y2: 5schools, Y3:10 Schools).	Permission to visit and engage the schools have been obtained from District education offices responsible for schools within the CREMAs.	Actual visits to schools to engage pupils will commence in the second year in line with project timetable.

## 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
<b>Impact:</b> Decreased pressure on wildlife population in the Mole National Park with the benefit of reducing poverty among park-fringing communities.			
<p><b>Outcome:</b> Park-fringing communities are empowered for increased benefits and participatory wildlife management</p>	<p>0.1 By 2026, there are regular Executive meeting of Chakali and MWK CREMAs (Baseline 0; Target 12) (Y1:4, Y2:4, Y3:4)</p> <p>0.2 By 2026, 600 beneficiaries from the two CREMAs (440 women and 160 men) are trained and equipped with nature-based livelihoods (Baseline 40; Target 600)</p> <p>0.3 By 2026, VSLA established with six groupings with the two CREMA (Baseline 1; Target 6) and members actively contributing.</p> <p>0.4 Number of farmers engaged in agroforestry activities (men 120: women 80) (Baseline 0: Target 200) by end of project</p> <p>0.5 Number of poaching incidences in the project area reduced 30% (Baseline of 2021: 17: Target 12)</p>	<p>0.1 Minutes of CREMA Executive meeting</p> <p>0.2 Quarterly and annual reports of MNP</p> <p>0.3 Mid-term evaluation report</p> <p>0.4 Project progress reports</p> <p>0.5 Final evaluation report</p> <p>0.6 VSLAs constitution and registration</p>	<p>Wildlife Division of the Forestry Commission is committed to collaborating with park-fringing communities on participatory wildlife management</p> <p>Chiefs and elders of park-fringing communities are willing and committed to collaborate with park management.</p>
<p><b>Output 1</b> 1. women and men in two CREMAs trained and supported to implement nature-based sustainable livelihood measures to reduce poverty and inequality</p>	<p>1.1 By 2026, number shea rollers purchased and distributed increased leading to increased yield (Baseline 0: Target 400) (Y1:100, Y2: 200, Y3:100)</p> <p>1.2 By 2026, number of women and men trained on nature-based livelihood measures (Baseline 0: Target 600)</p> <p>1.3 Number of farmers participating (Baseline 40: Target 100) by end of project (Y1:30, Y2:40, Y3:30)</p> <p>1.4 The number of beehives supplied to farmers by end of project (Baseline 80: Target 300)</p>	<p>1.1 Project progress reports</p> <p>1.2 Park quarterly and annual reports</p> <p>1.3 Project monitoring reports</p> <p>1.4 Project evaluation reports</p>	<p>Women are amenable to new shea nut collection technology</p> <p>Majority of honeybee hives will be colonized by honeybees</p> <p>Beneficiaries will rear the animals with a commercial mindset</p> <p>Community members will avail themselves for the training offered.</p>

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
	<p>1.5 By 2026, numbers of farmers who have access to grasscutter and Togo Hares Baseline: 17, Target: 100)</p> <p>1.6 Number of farmers who have access to grasscutter and Togo Hare cages (Baseline 0: Target 300).</p> <p>1.7 The number of VSLA cooperatives established (Baseline 1: Target 6) (Y2: 3, Y3:3)</p>		
<p><b>Output 2</b></p> <p>agroforestry system developed and introduced to park-fringing communities to increase resilience and tolerance for wildlife</p>	<p>2.1 By 2025, number of farms in the park boundaries mapped using GPS machine (Baseline 0: Target 100) Y1:50, Y2:100</p> <p>2.2 By 2026, number of farmers who have accessed seedlings of agroforestry trees of cashew, mango, moringa (Baseline 0: Target 28,600) (Y2,100: Y3, 100)</p> <p>2.3 By 2026, number of farmers who are trained on GAP, agroforestry management and fire management and crop raiding (Baseline 0: Target 200)</p> <p>2.4 By 2026, number of offtake agreements signed with buyers to purchase Shea nut, moringa and Honey)</p>	<p>2.1 Project reports</p> <p>2.2 Park quarterly and annual reports</p> <p>2.3 Monitoring reports</p> <p>2.4 Project mid-term and final evaluation reports</p> <p>2.5 District Assembly annual reports</p> <p>2.6 Polygon maps</p> <p>2.7 Offtake agreements with producing groups</p>	<p>Farmers will adopt new produce different from their traditional crops</p> <p>Community members will avail themselves for the training offered.</p> <p>Farmers will protect tree crops planted from fire</p>
<p><b>Output 3</b></p> <p>3. Capacity of the MWK and Chakali Sungmaaluu CREMAs built on CREMA management and support law enforcement</p>	<p>3.1 By 2025, number of CREMA Executive Committee members that have received training (Year 1: 40; Year 2: 40) on leadership, group formation, law enforcement and the new wildlife law of Ghana (Baseline 0: Target 40)</p> <p>3.2 By 2026, number of community information centres (Baseline 0: Target 10) in 10 communities for education on illegal wildlife trade (Milestone: Y2, 10</p> <p>3.3 By 2025, number of trained</p>	<p>3.1 Project progress reports</p> <p>3.2 Quarterly and annual MNP reports</p> <p>3.3 Monitoring reports</p> <p>3.4 Mid-term and final evaluation report</p> <p>3.4 Event photos</p>	<p>CREMA Executives and members will avail themselves for the training offered. Teachers and pupils will be interested in participating in the wildlife education</p> <p>Community members and children will apply knowledge acquired through the various educational programmes.</p>

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
	volunteers participating in citizen rangers' program (Baseline 0: Target 20) 3.5 By 2026, number of basic schools and pupils in the two CREMAs visited and educated on wildlife conservation (Baseline: Target 10 basic schools and 1000 pupils) (Y2: 5, Y3:10)		
<p><b>Activities</b> (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><b>Activities</b> (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. Each activity should start on a new line and be no more than approximately 25 words.)</p> <p>1.1 Train and equip 400 women with shea rollers for efficient and safe collection of organic shea nut to increase quality and quantity.</p> <p>1.2 Train and equip 100 community members (60 men and 40 women) with 300 honeybee hives and associated set of equipment for hygienic honey production</p> <p>1.3 Train and equip 100 farmers with 100 cages stocked with 150 grasscutters (cane rats) and 150 Togo hares.</p> <p>1.4 Train and provide start-up kits for Village Savings and Loan Schemes (VSLA) with women and men groups supporting at least six cooperatives</p> <p>2.1 Identify, select and map at least 100 farms with a GPS machine to ensure farms are not in the park.</p> <p>2.2 Supply 28,600 seedlings to 200 farmers (120 men 80 women) to establish at least 200 hectares of agroforestry farms of cashew, mango orchards, moringa and other native trees.</p> <p>2.3 Train 200 farmers on good agricultural practices and agroforestry management, fire prevention and management and mitigation of crop raiding</p> <p>2.4 Create market linkages with buyers to ensure sustainable production and supply of crops. Invite potential buyers to interact with farmers during training sessions.</p> <p>3.1 Build capacity of Chakali Sungmaaluu and MWK CREMAs on leadership, law enforcement and wildlife laws.</p> <p>3.2 Establish in each CREMA 10 member citizen ranger volunteers and equip them to conduct biodiversity monitoring in the CREMAs</p> <p>3.3 Establish 10 community information centers in 10 park-fringing communities for education and awareness creation on conservation and illegal wildlife trade.</p> <p>3.4 Visit 10 basic schools within the two CREMAS to form 10 wildlife club and conduct conservation education.</p>			

## Annex 3 Standard Indicators

**Table 1 Project Standard Indicators**

IWTCF Indicator number	Name of Indicator after adjusting wording to align with IWTCF Standard Indicators	Units	Disaggregation	Year Total 1	Year Total 2	Year Total 3	Total to date	Total during project	planned the
IWTCF-D03	0.1 By 2026 two (2) CREMAs (executive members) have improved capability and capacity because of the project. (Baseline:2 CREMAs, Target: Executives of 2 CREMAs hold regular meetings -12)	Meetings	None	4	4	4	2	12	
IWTCF-A01	0.2 By 2026, 600 beneficiaries from the two CREMAs (440 women and 160 men) are trained and equipped with nature-based livelihoods (Baseline 40; Target 600)	People	Men & Women	163	274	163	200	600	
IWTCF-A03	0.4 By 2026, VSLA established with six groupings within the two CREMA (Baseline 1; Target 6) and members actively contributing.	Grouping	None	-	6	-	0	6	
IWTCF-A15	0.5 Number of farmers reporting a decrease in unsustainable farming practices because of project activities. (Men 120: women 80) (Baseline 0: Target 200)	People	Men & Women	-	100	100	0	200	
[IWTCF-B09]	0.6 By end of project (2026) citizen rangers are trained and are ensuring law enforcement (patrolling) within the CREMA areas. (Baseline 0. Target: 2 trainings each for two citizen ranger groups)	Training	None	0	4	0	0	4	
[IWTCF-A13]	0.3 Number of households that have experienced an increase in household income because of involvement in project livelihood interventions (at least a year after the establishment of the livelihood measure/activity). (Baseline 0, Target 400)	Households	None	0	200	200	0	400	
IWTCF-A02	1.1 By 2026, number of people reporting that they are applying the shea roller technique and knowledge of best practices in the collection of shea nuts. (Baseline:0, Target: 400)	People	women	100	200	100	0	400	
IWTCF-A10	1.2 80% of 600 sustainable enterprises (Shea, honey production and rodent farming) established as livelihood measures by the project are functioning by 2026 (Baseline 0: Target 480 enterprises)	People	Men & Women	163	274	163	200	600	
IWTCF-A11	1.3 Number of sustainable rodent farming enterprises that are profitable at least a year after establishment. (Baseline: 0, Target: 100)	People	Men & Women	33	34	33	40	100	

IWTCF Indicator number	Name of Indicator after adjusting wording to align with IWTCF Standard Indicators	Units	Disaggregation	Year Total 1	Year Total 2	Year Total 3	Total to date	Total during planned the project
IWTCF-A04	1.4 Number of VSLA cooperatives established and are functioning at project end (by 2026). (Baseline 1: Target 6)	Groups	None	0	3	3	0	6
IWTCF-B02	2.1 By 2026, number of farms around the MNP boundary mapped with GPS and verified to be situated outside/within the boundaries of the MNP. (Baseline:0 Target 100)	Maps	None	50	50	0	178	100
IWTCF-A08	2.2 Number (hectares) of sustainable agroforestry farms of Cashew, mango orchards, or moringa and other native trees established. (Baseline:0, Target:200 hectares belonging to 120 men and 80 women). 28, 600 seedlings will be supplied to farmers.	Land size	None	0	100 ha	100ha	0	200 ha
IWTCF-A02	2.3 Number of farmers reporting they are applying new skills and knowledge in agroforestry, fire management and crop raiding prevention 6 months after training. (Baseline 0: Target: 200) (Men 120, Women 80) by end of project.	People	Men & Women	0	100	100	0	200
IWTCF-D27	2.4 By 2026, number of offtake agreements signed with buyers to purchase shea nut, moringa and Honey.	Contracts	None	0	3	3	0	6
IWTCF-D02	3.1 By 2026 Number of CREMA executive committee members that have benefitted from training on leadership, group formation, law enforcement and the new wildlife law of Ghana. (Baseline:0, Target 40)	Training	None	1 training for 40 people	1 training for 40 people	0	1 training for 40 people	2 training for 40 people
IWTCF-C03	3.2 Number of community information centres established for education on illegal wildlife trade, zoonotic pathogens, and the need to conserve endangered species. (Baseline:0, Target 10)	Information centres	None	0	10	0	0	10
IWTCF-B01	3.3 Number of people trained as volunteers in law enforcement skills and are participating in citizen rangers' activities (Baseline :0 Target 20)	People	Men	0	20	0	0	20
[IWTCF-C05]	3.4 By 2026, number of basic schools and pupils in the two CREMAs visited and reached with behaviour change messaging on wildlife conservation, zoonotic pathogens, and illegal wildlife trade. (Baseline:0	Schools	None	0	5	5	0	10

IWTCF Indicator number	Name of Indicator after adjusting wording to align with IWTCF Standard Indicators	Units	Disaggregation	Year Total 1	Year Total 2	Year Total 3	Total to date	Total during project	planned the
	Target: 10 basic schools, 10 communities, 1000 pupils by 2026) (Y2: 5schools, Y3:10 Schools).								

**Table 2 Publications**

Title	Type (e.g. journals, best practice manual, blog post, online videos, podcasts, 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)
Shea Roller Training Manual	Manual	Bambilla Midas, Margaret Appiah, Apaliya Cephas and Obed Yaoseh - 2024	Male	Ghanaian	Nature and Development Foundation	<a href="https://ndfwestafrica.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/SHEA-ROLLER-MANUAL.pdf">https://ndfwestafrica.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/SHEA-ROLLER-MANUAL.pdf</a>



## 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 <b>correct template</b> (checking fund, type of report (i.e. Annual or Final), and year) and <b>deleted the blue guidance text</b> before submission?	✓
<b>Is the report less than 10MB?</b> If so, please email to <a href="mailto:BCF-Reports@niras.com">BCF-Reports@niras.com</a> putting the project number in the subject line.	X
<b>Is your report more than 10MB?</b> If so, please discuss with <a href="mailto:BCF-Reports@niras.com">BCF-Reports@niras.com</a> about the best way to deliver the report, putting the project number in the subject line.	✓
<b>Have you included means of verification?</b> You should not submit every project document, but the main outputs and a selection of the others would strengthen the report.	✓
If you are submitting photos for publicity purposes, do these meet the outlined requirements (see section 17)?	✓
Have you involved your partners in preparation of the report and named the main contributors	✓
Have you completed the Project Expenditure table fully?	✓
Do not include claim forms or other communications with this report.	