



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs



UK International
Development

Partnership | Progress | Prosperity

Illegal Wildlife Trade (IWT) Challenge Fund Main & Extra: Annual Report

IWT Challenge Fund Project Information

Scheme (Main or Extra)	Main
Project reference	IWT 121
Project title	Living with Wildlife: Improving Livelihoods in the Mole Ecological Landscape
Country/ies	Ghana
Lead Organisation	Nature and Development Foundation
Project partner(s)	Mole National Park, C.K. Tedam University of Technology and Applied Science
IWTCTF grant value	463,614.00
Start/end dates of project	April 2023 – March 2026
Reporting period (e.g. April 2024-Mar 2025) and number (e.g. Annual Report 1, 2, 3)	April 2024 – March 2025 Annual Report 2
Project Leader name	Mustapha Seidu
Project website/blog/social media	https://ndfwestafrica.org/living-with-wildlife-improving-livelihoods-in-the-mole-ecological-landscape/
Report author(s) and date	NDF, MNP and CKTEDAM; 30 th April, 2025

1. Project summary

This project promotes sustainable livelihoods for communities directly impacted by illegal wildlife trade in the Mole Ecological Landscape, particularly along the north and north-western boundaries of Mole National Park. These areas, including the Chakali Sungmaaluu and MWK CREMAs, lie along critical wildlife corridors where poaching and bushmeat trade threaten migratory species such as elephants, buffalos, and hartebeest.

Poverty and reliance on subsistence farming and poaching are widespread in communities surrounding Mole National Park. Despite being illegal, bushmeat trade remains a key income source, with research (Tiimub et al. 2019) showing that, up to 60% of residents engage in both farming and poaching. This dependence threatens wildlife populations and reinforces a cycle of poverty.

Due to the vast size of Mole National Park, law enforcement is limited, especially in its northern and north-western areas. To address this, the park 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's capacity to enforce conservation laws to protect wildlife. The project was inspired by a call by stakeholders during CREMA exchange visits and transboundary park management dialogues under the Savannah Integrated Biodiversity Initiative funded by EU. It was further inspired by the success of similar interventions which have contributed to reduce incidences of poaching and illegal wildlife trade around the Murugu-Mognori and Grubagu-Wowata CREMAs. The project is being implemented in two such CREMAs, Chakali-Sungmaaluu and Moagduri Wuntanluri Kuwomsaasi (MWK), spanning 34 communities across the Wa East and Mamprugu-Moagduri districts in Ghana (see Annex 4A For reference to the location map of the project).

2. Project stakeholders/ partners

The consortium of the Nature and Development Foundation, the Mole National Park (Wildlife Division of the Forestry Commission) and the CK Tadem University of Applied Science and Technology was purposely chosen because of the multi-disciplinary requirements of the project implementation. As a result of this fundamental understanding for a sustained conservation gains, all the project partners were actively involved during the project development phase. This collaborative spirit established during the project development phase was continued during project implementation within the reporting period, utilizing the unique strengths of each partner. Each organization is assigned a lead role for specific outputs based on their capabilities and capacity. The consortium's combination of civil society, public sector, and academia provides the project team with a unique blend of diverse and multidisciplinary expertise.

In the spirit of continuous improvement, the Mole National Park (MNP) has increased its capacity of working with civil society organizations, built a new culture of meeting donor reporting requirements and ensuring the timely delivery of project activities. NDF, as a civil society organization, has strengthened its capacity of working effectively with public institutions (with their bureaucratic requirements) and academia. The understanding of the above institutions is invaluable for successful empowerment of the park-fringed. CK-Tedam University is also benefiting from the project by deepening its research into the connection between wildlife conservation and poverty, with opportunities for academic publication.

All project implementing partners are represented on the project's Steering Committee, the highest advisory body which provides strategic guidance and support to the project management and implementation team. The Steering Committee also includes representation from the Moagduri Wuntanluri Kuwomsaasi (MWK) and Chakali Sungmaaluu CREMAs, as well as from the district assemblies of Wa East and Mamprugu-Moagduri. These district assemblies have the authority to integrate project initiatives into their district development plans.

Regarding challenges and lessons learned, there were impediments to the procurement processes adopted by the CK-Tedam University which resulted in increased cost of items beyond the project budget. This is so because as a public institution, it has to follow the Public Procurement Act in the procurement of goods and services. This project resolved the challenges

by allowing the NDF to make the procurement on behalf of the CK-Tedam. This did not only resolved the issue but led to the procurement of the required number of beehives and accessories and rabbits as was originally planned.

In terms of external engagement, staff from the British High Commission in Ghana were involved during the project's development phase. At the implementation stage, the project was presented to the Climate, Nature, and Food Security Desk at the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) in Accra, Ghana. The responsible officer at FCDO expressed strong interest in the project and requested annual updates through a reviewed and updated logframe (see Annex 4B1 page for email evidence of updates being shared with the FCDO officer).

Furthermore, in January 2025 there was informal communication that the Senior Political Advisor for Northern Ghana at the FCDO was visiting FCDO-supported projects in the northern regions. The project in the spirit on collaboration, proactively reached out to him and shared information about the project. Email evidence of this engagement is attached in Annex 4B2.

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.

During the reporting year, 200 women were successfully trained and equipped with skills to use the shea roller technique for efficient and safe collection of organic shea nuts. The shea roller technique aims at improving both the quality and quantity of nuts gathered. The training also touched on sustainable shea butter production while adhering to hygienic standards. Beneficiaries were drawn from five (5) communities Gbantala, Kpalwogu, Katua, Wontori, and Yizesi, within the two project CREMAs, with 40 women trained in each community. Each of the 200 women received one shea nut roller, a pair of safety boots, a pair of hand gloves, and a gathering basin. The shea rollers were introduced to reduce the physical strain associated with traditional shea nut collection methods which involves bending down and sieving through the dried grasses with bare-hands for sheanut. The improved roller technology and the safety accessories does not only enhance efficiency of sheanut collection but minimise the risk of injury. The safety boots and hand gloves serve to protect beneficiaries from snake and scorpion bites, as well as other injuries during the gathering process. The training was conducted in the first quarter of the year, in alignment with the scheduled project workplan. A training manual on sheanut roller training was developed during the first year of the project. The training sessions utilized the shea roller training manual developed. A detailed narrative report of the training is attached as Annex 4C.

Within the period under reporting, the project initiated market linkages with potential buyers of sheanuts. There was a trial lift last year but this did not work well because of the inefficient organization of the group. This process will be enhanced in the issuing sheanut season to ensure that beneficiaries obtain best prices for the sheanuts.

Similarly, within the period under reporting, 60 new beneficiaries from five communities (Yisebisi, Tandow, Chassie, Kandia, and Jeyiri) within the Chakali Sungmaaluu and MWK CREMAs were trained in sustainable honey production. Each beneficiary received three (3) beehives, a complete beekeeping suit, a smoker, a hive tool, a bee brush and safety boots. While the first-year batch focused solely on training men, this year's cohort included about 60% women (36 out of the 60 trained) to promote gender inclusion, with the expectation that previously trained men would mentor the new female participants. The 40 beneficiaries trained in the project's first year were also made to participate in this year's training to serve as a refresher and were each provided with an additional hive to meet the project target of three hives per beneficiary. The training was conducted in the second quarter, in line with the project workplan (see Annex 4D for the narrative report). As of March 2025, 258 out of the 300 distributed beehives had been successfully colonised. Following technical assessments (Annex 4E: Report on March 2025

assessment of project intervention) an experimental harvest was conducted from selected hives, yielding an average of two gallons (10 litres) of honey per hive. Furthermore, this year, the 60 beneficiaries trained in beekeeping exceeded the year 2 target of 40 by 50%. Thus, bringing the total to 100 trained farmers, thereby achieving the overall training target. With this milestone reached, in the next year, the team will shift focus to sustaining beneficiary engagement, strengthening access to profitable markets, and promoting reinvestment into the beekeeping enterprises. These efforts, we believe, will reduce beneficiaries' reliance on high-risk activities such as poaching for subsistence. See below a link to a video on honey harvesting activities undertaken ([Empowering Communities & Conserving Wildlife in Ghana through Apiculture](#))

Furthermore, within the period under reporting, sixty (60: 40 women, 20 men) beneficiaries from five communities, Tantala, Zukpeni, Ducie, Jeyiri, and Chassie, within the two CREMAs were trained in sustainable rodent farming. The training covered proper handling, feeding, and care of rodents, including techniques for identifying pregnancy in females and appropriate separation of males and females to enhance breeding success. To enrich the learning experience, the 40 beneficiaries trained in the first year also participated in this year's sessions, to share their experiences and to refresh their knowledge. Each of the 60 new beneficiaries received a cage and essential equipment, including three rabbits (one male and two females). In addition, each of the previous 40 beneficiaries received either a female or male rabbit as a top-up to meet the project's target of three animals per beneficiary. Replacement animals were also provided where death had occurred. As of March 2025, beneficiaries across the five communities had sold approximately 75 rabbits at an average price of GHS 100.00 per rabbit. (Annex 4E: Report on March 2025 assessment of project intervention). Beneficiaries have expressed great satisfaction with this progress, as it has contributed meaningfully to improving their household incomes. This income growth is expected to further discourage their participation in illegal wildlife trade activities. A detailed report on the rodent farming training is attached as Annex 4F. Below are video links to what some beneficiaries shared about the intervention ([Empowering Communities with Rodent farming & Wildlife Conservation in Ghana](#)) and media coverage of the training sessions,

)

Furthermore, under Output 1, during this reporting period, training was conducted for eight (8) Village Savings and Loan Association (VSLA) groups across six communities within the two CREMAs. In the MWK CREMA, at least 20 beneficiaries each were selected from the Mugu and Dabozesi communities. In the Chakali Sungmaaluu CREMA, some adjustments were made following an assessment of the population sizes and income-generation potential of the initially selected communities. These included Kpalwogu, Holomuni, Tissa, and Klonjon. It was determined that sustaining VSLAs in Kpalwogu and Holomuni would not be viable. In consultation with the CREMA executives, the project reallocated the VSLA activities to Motigu, Tissa, Klonjon, and Dolisa communities. Consequently, six (6) VSLA groups were established across the 4 communities, with two groups each formed in Motigu and Tissa, where interest and willingness to participate were notably high. The training was delivered in two parts: the first introduced the fundamental principles of the VSLA methodology, while the second focused on the practical operation of the groups, including savings, lending, social fund contributions, and record-keeping procedures. Each newly established group was provided with a complete start-up kit. Initial reports from the field indicate that all eight VSLA groups have commenced meetings and contributions. Follow-up monitoring visits will assess the average savings amounts and address any operational challenges. A detailed report on the training is attached in Annex 4G. All groups were established within the timeframe outlined in the project workplan. Below is a link to a blog post on the training:

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

Within the period under reporting, significant progress was made regarding activity 2.1. Within the period, 120 farmers from six communities (Motigu, Sogla, Kojokura, Yizesi, Tuvuu, and Yikpabongo within the two CREMAs) were engaged and added to the agroforestry intervention. This is in addition to the 180 farmers who were engaged during the previous year. The plots of these 120 new farms were mapped using GPS machines. In total, 300 farmers have made 335.56 hectares available for the project.

It is significant to note that none of the farms were found to be located within the boundaries of Mole National Park. The mapping exercise is now fully completed, and the evidence is available via the link below. [REDACTED]

Pursuant to this Output, 25,152 seedlings were distributed to 180 farmers across nine communities in the Chakali Sungmaalu and MWK CREMAs. This was done as a follow up to the plot mapping that was carried during the previous reporting year. The communities where seedlings were distributed include Gurumbelle, Ducie, Torsa, Kulkpong, Gbantala, and Chasie (Chakali Sungmaalu CREMA) and Tantala, Yizebisi, and Dabozesi (MWK CREMA). Farmers received cashew, mango, and native species (dawadawa, mahogany, rosewood), based on preferences and farm size. Evidence found in annex 4E page. Additionally, NDF has contracted two suppliers to raise 17,160 seedlings for the 120 newly mapped farms. The move is to ensure early nursery preparation for the ensuing planting season.

During the year, in line with the project workplan, nine (9) training workshops were conducted across nine communities in the first and second quarters, targeting the 180 farmers selected in the first year for the agroforestry intervention. The project team collaborated with the Department of Food and Agriculture and the Ghana National Fire Service in the Wa East and Mamprugu Moagduri districts to deliver the training sessions. The training focused on good agricultural practices, agroforestry management, and fire prevention and bushfire control. Reference materials on these topics were developed and distributed to all participants. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Additionally, the training addressed issues related to animal crop raiding and mitigation strategies. For next year's agroforestry intervention, 120 new farmers have been selected from six different communities (Motigu, Sogla, Kojokura, Yizesi, Tuvuu, and Yikpabongo). Each farmer has selected their preferred cash crops, and farm mapping has been completed. Training for these new beneficiaries is scheduled for the upcoming year. Attached as annex 4H is the agroforestry training report.

Also, during the reporting period, the project collaborated with the Business Advisory Units of the Wa East and Mamprugu Moagduri District Assemblies to deliver market linkages capacity-building workshops for CREMA executives and selected beneficiaries of the nature-based interventions. Two workshops, one per CREMA, were held in the second quarter, focusing on business management, supplier agreements, customer relationship management, and online marketing. Facilitated by District Business Advisory Officers and the NDF team, the training aimed to equip participants with skills to access premium markets. As a result, the shea nut picking groups have been linked to a shea-buying company. , An off-take agreement will be signed within the issuing season. Additionally, companies interested in purchasing organic honey have been invited for evaluation to secure favourable market linkages for the beekeepers as well. Attached as annex 4I is a report on the market linkages workshop.

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

In the first quarter, MWK CREMA executives were trained in leadership, team building, conflict management, and gender integration. The training has strengthened collaboration between park authorities and CREMA executives, contributing to more effective participatory wildlife

conservation, especially in areas with frequent wildlife-related arrests. Annex 4J is a report on the training.

Still within the year, in line with workplan, the team successfully established and operationalised all ten (10) Community information centers (CICs) in the selected communities within the Chakali Sungmaaluu and MWK CREMAs. The CICs are serving as awareness and Education Hubs providing spaces where community members can access information about wildlife conservation. (project photo gallery link-
[REDACTED])

During the year, twenty (20) volunteers, drawn from the two CREMAs were successfully trained and equipped to support community-level wildlife monitoring as citizen rangers. Two training sessions were held at Mole National Park for them. At the end of the training, each ranger received items, including Wellington boots, cutlasses, and socks, to facilitate their activities. Following the second training, the citizen rangers were officially inaugurated and have commenced active monitoring within their communities and CREMA areas. This is promoting community participation in conservation activities and strengthening law enforcement support in the area. So far, about 4 arrests have been made with the assistance of the citizen rangers and these have been reported to park authorities. Execution of activities was within the time frame of the project workplan. Evidence is attached Annex 4K – report on training citizen rangers. The link below is a Facebook post following the inauguration.
[REDACTED]

Also, within the year, wildlife conservation education activities were successfully rolled out across ten (10) schools in both the Chakali Sungmaaluu and MWK CREMAs. A total of 2,535 individuals including 42 teachers (34 male, 8 female) and 2,493 students (1,276 male, 1,217 female) were reached with messages promoting behavioural change and conservation awareness. Wildlife clubs were established in each school, with at least two patrons nominated per club to oversee activities. All clubs have nominated their executives and discussions for their official inauguration have commenced. The action is building a sense of stewardship. During a visit, a student snapped, “Mole National Park our pride, our identity. Let's protect and preserve it for generations yet unborn. Great move Mole National Park’. The activity was executed in line with the project workplan. (A Narrative report is attached as Annex 4N)

3.2 Progress towards project Outputs

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

Significant progress has been made toward achieving Output 1, with all Year 2 milestones met and, in some areas, exceeded. Based on the current trajectory, the project is highly likely to fully achieve this output by the end of the project period. Each intervention provides an accessible, community-based livelihood that reduces economic dependence on poaching. Together, they build financial resilience, improve wellbeing, and promote local ownership of sustainable practices. The delivery of technical training, equipment, and group support (VSLAs) is strengthening both individual and collective capacity to escape poverty and embrace conservation-aligned alternatives.

As a baseline, there were no women using shea nut picking rollers in the project area. The target is to train and equip 400 women by the end of the project. By the end of the second year, a total of 320 women (Y1-120, Y2-200) have been trained and provided with 120 sets of rollers and accessories (including Wellington boots, gloves, and pans). Project monitoring and evaluation indicate that all trained women are actively using the technology, with reported benefits such as reduced risk of snakebites and injuries (evidenced in Annex 4L Mid-term evaluation report), and improved income from premium-priced sales (evidenced in a household income report attached as annex 4M).

Regarding honeybee farming, the baseline was 80 beehives, with a total target of 300 hives managed by 100 farmers. The Year 2 milestone was 210 hives and 70 farmers. The project has exceeded this Year 2 milestone. The project successfully trained 100 farmers (60 men, 40 women) instead of 70 and distributed 300 beehives. Of these, 258 hives are colonised, with 148 ready to harvest. Evidence is documented in the (Annex 4E).

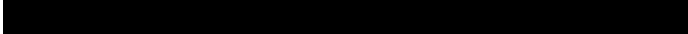
In rodent farming, the baseline was 17 farmers. The project aimed to reach 100 farmers by March 2026. Within the reporting period, 60 new farmers were trained and each equipped with a cage and three Togo hares (one male, two females). The total target of 100 have been achieved when the 60 beneficiaries in Year 2 are added to the 40 beneficiaries in Year 1. Togo hares were selected over grasscutters due to availability and survival rates. Beneficiaries have begun to earn income, with about 75 hares sold across five communities at an average of GHC 100 per animal (Annex 4E).

For financial inclusion, the baseline was one VSLA group, with a total target under the project being six. The Year 2 milestone was three groups. The project has exceeded this, establishing eight VSLA groups across six communities, each with 20 members. All groups have commenced contributions, although formal cooperative registration is pending (Annex 4G).

Output indicators are being tracked through partner reports, quarterly monitoring, and training records, with disaggregated data on gender and participation maintained for all interventions.


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

The project set a target to establish 200 hectares of agroforestry farms for 200 farmers, starting from a baseline of zero. By the end of Year 1, 180 farmers from nine communities had been selected, and 178 farms were mapped using GPS technology. This mapping exercise confirmed that no farms encroach on the Mole National Park and provided accurate land size data. These farms covered 210 hectares, already surpassing the original target. In Year 2, an additional 120 farmers were engaged, and 120 new farms were mapped, bringing the total to 300 farmers with 335.56 hectares committed to the project. Within the year under reporting 25,152 seedlings, comprising cashew, mango, dawadawa, mahogany, and rosewood, were distributed to the initial 180 farmers, tailored to their preferences and farm size. (Annex 4E, page). A further 17,160 seedlings are currently being prepared for the new group of 120 farmers ahead of the next planting season. The GPS mapping exercise not only supports accurate planning but also protects Mole National Park from encroachment.

These actions are enhancing ecological resilience and offering viable alternatives to destructive practices such as slash-and-burn agriculture and poaching. (see **project photo gallery -**  Given the strong progress across all activities, the project is well-positioned to meet and even exceed its agroforestry targets by project close.

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

As baseline, there were no trainings, community information centers (CICs), citizen rangers, or wildlife education activities in place. The targets included two training sessions for CREMA executives, the establishment of ten community information centers, training of twenty citizen rangers, and wildlife education in ten basic schools. By the end of the first year, the project successfully conducted capacity-building sessions for CREMA executives. These efforts have strengthened CREMA governance and their collaboration with park authorities, leading to more effective community-level conservation. (Annex 4K). By the end of the second year, ten

community information centers were established and are now operational, serving as hubs for ongoing conservation education in the selected communities ([project photo gallery](#)-


The project also trained and inaugurated twenty citizen rangers and equipped them with essential field tools to conduct wildlife monitoring in their areas (Annex 4K, page). Wildlife conservation education has been rolled out across ten basic schools, reaching a total of 2,535 individuals, including 42 teachers and 2,493 students. Wildlife clubs were established in each school, with nominated executives and patrons leading the clubs. Overall, the project is on track to meet its targets by closure, having made significant strides in strengthening CREMA governance, promoting wildlife education, and enhancing community-led wildlife monitoring.

3.3 Progress towards the project Outcome

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

The project is steadily advancing toward achieving its intended outcome. Through the implementation of interconnected activities under Outputs 1, 2, and 3, economic empowerment, institutional capacity, and local ownership of conservation are being fostered in park-fringing communities. These combined efforts are helping to reduce reliance on illegal wildlife trade and build a culture of sustainable resource management.

Under Output 1, the development of nature-based livelihoods such as improved shea nut collection, honeybee farming, rodent rearing, and the linkages to markets has provided communities with safer and more profitable alternatives to poaching. These interventions are not only reducing environmental harm but also reshaping local attitudes toward conservation by demonstrating that protecting nature can be economically rewarding.

Output 2 contributes directly to achieving the project outcome by introducing agroforestry systems that promote co-existence with wildlife. The mapping of farms using GPS has ensured that no project activities encroach on Mole National Park boundaries, and farmers have been trained to adopt sustainable land-use practices. These activities are strengthening local ecological resilience and increasing tolerance toward wildlife.

In addition, Output 3 has focused on building community governance and enforcement capacity which is an essential component regarding the project outcome. Through the revitalization of CREMAs and the training of citizen rangers, communities are now better equipped to manage their natural resources and participate meaningfully in conservation. These structures are fostering stronger community-led surveillance and law enforcement within project landscapes.

Progress against the outcome indicators supports this positive trend. On indicator, 0.1; CREMA executives have been successfully trained in leadership, governance, and law enforcement, equipping them with the skills to lead conservation efforts. With Indicator 0.2, More than 520 community members (400 women and 120 men) are now actively participating in nature-based livelihood activities. A household-level survey suggests that at least 300 households have experienced improved income as a direct result of project interventions. Indicator: 0.3, Eight Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLAs) have been established, enhancing financial inclusion and economic resilience. Indicator 0.4: In the area of land use, at least 180 farmers have shifted from unsustainable practices to adopt agroforestry, while on indicator 0.5, trained citizen rangers are actively patrolling and protecting CREMA areas.

The outcome indicators remain relevant and appropriate for tracking progress. Based on the advances recorded to date, the project is on a strong trajectory to achieve its intended outcome by the end of the funding period. However, to ensure long-term durability and scalability of these gains, continued stakeholder engagement and post-project support are recommended.

3.4 Monitoring of assumptions

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

Comments: This assumption still holds true. Collaborative resource management with communities remains one of the key strategies employed by Mole National Park management.

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

Comments: This assumption continues to hold. Chiefs and elders remain actively engaged through various partnerships and stakeholder engagements. Evidence includes the appointment of Mole National Park as an implementing partner, and the inclusion of CREMA chairmen and District Assembly representatives as members of the Project Steering Committee, enhancing their sense of ownership and involvement.

Assumption 3: *Women are amenable to new shea nut collection technology.*

Comments: This assumption holds true. Women have shown strong enthusiasm for the shea rollers and related training. Even women who did not receive rollers due to budget limitations have requested training to independently acquire and use the technology.

Assumption 4: *The majority of honeybee hives will be colonized by honeybees.*

Comments: Progress toward this assumption is positive, with approximately 86% of beehives colonized. The project team is actively managing the remaining gap by rewaxing hives to attract more bees.

Assumption 5: *Beneficiaries will rear animals with a commercial mindset.*

Comments: This assumption is being partially met. While some beneficiaries have realized sales from their animals, there have been instances of negligence leading to animal loss. The project continues to monitor this closely and is providing additional support to reinforce the commercial approach.

Assumption 6: *Community members will avail themselves for the training offered.*

Comments: This assumption holds true. All implementing partners have reported high turnout and active participation during trainings, indicating strong community interest and commitment.

Assumption 7: *Farmers will adopt new produce different from their traditional crops.*

Comments: This assumption holds true. Farmers have shown high enthusiasm for agroforestry crops. The Government of Ghana's related initiatives through District Assemblies have further encouraged adoption. Already, 180 farmers are demonstrating the adoption of good agronomic practices such as mulching and integration of trees on farms.

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

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

The project is contributing significantly to the higher-level impact of tackling illegal wildlife trade by reducing the economic dependence of park-fringing communities on poaching and the bushmeat trade. Through sustainable nature-based livelihoods such as improved shea nut collection, honeybee and rodent farming, and agroforestry, communities are being provided with practical, income-generating alternatives that reduce the incentive to engage in illegal wildlife activities. The empowerment of CREMAs and the deployment of trained citizen rangers have also strengthened community-based enforcement and surveillance, thereby enhancing the protection of wildlife habitats. Simultaneously, the project is advancing human development and poverty reduction by increasing household income, promoting financial inclusion through VSLAs,

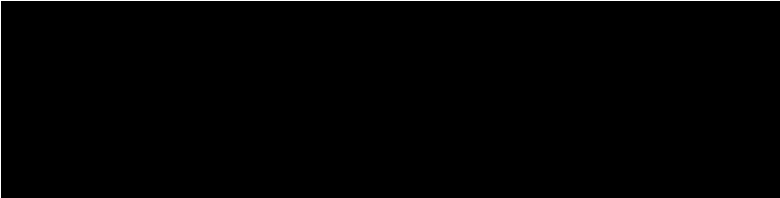
and improving food security and resilience. Women and youth, in particular, are gaining new skills, tools, and economic opportunities, which are enhancing overall wellbeing and creating the foundation for long-term social and environmental sustainability. This is evidenced by all reports attached.

4. Thematic focus

The project aligns with Theme Four: *Developing Sustainable Livelihoods to Benefit Communities Directly Affected by Illegal Wildlife Trade (IWT)*. Activities under output 1 focus on training and supporting 600 women and men across two CREMAs to implement nature-based sustainable livelihood initiatives that reduce poverty and inequality. This is being done through mechanical and safe organic shea nut picking, beekeeping for hygienic honey processing, small animal husbandry, and Village Savings and Loans Association schemes. By the end of the project's second year, a total of 320 beneficiaries have been trained and equipped with shea nut picking rollers to enhance productivity, 300 honey beehives and associated equipment have been provided to promote honeybee rearing as an alternative to wildlife hunting with fire and diversify income sources. Rodent farming interventions have been introduced to 100 beneficiaries to shift attitudes away from hunting and poaching wildlife. Agroforestry initiatives, including the planting of tree crops, have been implemented to strengthen the resilience of park-fringing communities against IWT and climate change, with 300 farmers engaged in this intervention, all of whom have had their farms mapped using GPS technology. Beyond livelihood development, the project indirectly supports law enforcement through the establishment of citizen ranger programs in the Chakali Sungmaaluu and MWK CREMAs, contributing to poverty reduction and ultimately decreasing poaching pressure on wildlife within Mole National Park.

5. Impact on species in focus

As a result of 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 and report from a mid-term evaluation (Annex 4L), which was conducted by an independent consultant. These links capture responses from some community members and beneficiaries.



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) representing 50% of the cases originated from areas now covered by the project. However, in 2023, (when the project started), 22 poaching cases were recorded and three (3) representing 13.6% came from project areas suggesting an early positive impact of project interventions. In **2024**, while overall poaching cases increased slightly (to 27), only **14.8%** came from project sites still significantly lower than the pre-project rate (Annex 4E page). This indicates a **marked reduction in poaching pressure from project areas**, highlighting the potential effectiveness of project livelihood and conservation strategies. Although there are significant drops, there is a need for continuous observation of the trend for a few years to fully attribute the reduction to the project intervention.

6. Project support for multidimensional poverty reduction

This project, implemented in Ghana's Mole Ecological Landscape, a region within a lower-middle-income country, advances knowledge and practice in biodiversity conservation and poverty reduction through community-led solutions. It contributes to the global public good by demonstrating how participatory wildlife management, when linked with sustainable nature-based livelihoods, can significantly reduce poaching pressure while improving human well-being. The project strengthens local governance structures (CREMAs), builds capacity in agroforestry and alternative livelihoods, and provides concrete data on how diversified incomes can shift behaviour away from illegal wildlife trade (Attached project reports). By documenting these approaches and results, the project adds to the global evidence base for integrated conservation and development models that are scalable and replicable across similar contexts in Sub-Saharan Africa and beyond.

The primary beneficiaries are poor and vulnerable communities living along the northern boundaries of Mole National Park, where poaching and bushmeat trade have historically been both a threat to biodiversity and a coping mechanism for poverty. The project has directly engaged with these communities through needs assessments, participatory planning, and local leadership structures to ensure that interventions such as beekeeping, shea nut collection, rodent farming, and Village Savings and Loan Associations align with local priorities. The results are clear: over 520 beneficiaries are now earning income from nature-based enterprises (Annex 4E, 4C, 4D, 4F) eight VSLA groups are operational (Annex 4G), and at least 300 households have reported improved incomes. Indirectly, the project is also contributing to long-term poverty reduction by enhancing ecosystem services through agroforestry, reducing human-wildlife conflict, and building stronger institutions for natural resource governance. Notably, poaching cases from project areas dropped from 50% of total cases in 2022 to just 13.6% in 2023, indicating a shift in both behaviour and opportunity (Annex 4K, Annex 4E), a key milestone in this year's achievements.

7. Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI)

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.	
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	X
Transformative	The project has all the characteristics of an 'empowering' approach whilst also addressing unequal power relationships and seeking institutional and societal change	

Long-standing cultural views on gender roles are not easily changed; however, through consistent engagement, the project is creating positive shifts toward greater gender equity among beneficiaries. During the reporting period, deliberate efforts were made to ensure women's participation across all interventions. As a result, 280 women benefited directly from training and support in shea nut picking-roller technology, rodent farming, and honeybee farming. In addition, wildlife conservation education was extended to 1,217 female students and 8 female teachers, compared to 1,276 male students and 34 male teachers who were similarly reached. Twenty men also benefited from rodent and honeybee farming initiatives. (Please refer to the respective reports on shea nut roller training, rodent farming, honeybee farming, and wildlife education in schools for further details., Annexes 4C, 4F, 4D and 4N)

A significant milestone during the reporting period was the expansion of the project's steering committee, the highest advisory body. Its membership increased from 11 to 13 to include two female representatives, one from each CREMA, thereby raising female representation from 9% to 23% (Annex 4O). Finally, it is noteworthy that the overall Project Coordinator, who holds a senior leadership role, oversees project management and implementation, and reports directly to the Project Lead and Steering Committee, continues to be a woman, further underscoring the project's commitment to gender equity in leadership.

8. Monitoring and evaluation

The indicators of contribution of outputs and activities to the outcome can be measured from the results of activities implemented. Over the past years, the training and support provided to 320 women in the use of shea nut picking roller technology with personal protective accessories, has empowered women in beneficiary communities to improve their income status. The success of this intervention has generated greater demand than the project can currently support, highlighting its positive impact. Similarly, the honeybee farming initiative has begun to replace traditional hunting for wild honey ([REDACTED]). Many CREMA community members are requesting to be included in the beekeeping programme due to the promising market opportunities and income generation potential.

Although the grasscutter farming intervention faced some challenges, the Togo hare farming activities are progressing well, with some animals already reproducing and beneficiaries realising sales. To ensure activities contribute effectively to the intended Outcome, the project has employed adaptive management practices. For example, rodent farming and honeybee farming training initially planned for the following year were accelerated and completed this year. This proactive approach allows for increased monitoring, early identification of challenges, and the opportunity to record results within the project's active lifespan.

To measure progress and assess the effectiveness of project strategies, all implementing partners are required to submit monthly and quarterly reports. The Project Coordinator reviews these reports against project timelines and the logical framework (logframe) to monitor advancement. Field monitoring visits and expenditure verifications are conducted by the Project Coordinator and Finance Manager to ensure that implementation activities and financial disbursements align with project goals. Informal discussions among partners help to promptly address emerging challenges, risks, and issues.

As part of ensuring good governance and robust monitoring, a Steering Committee comprising experts from all implementing partners and relevant stakeholders was established. Chaired by

the Assistant Director for the Mamprugu-Moagduri District, the Steering Committee provides strategic support and guidance to the project management team and meets twice a year to review progress. (See Annex 4O for the minutes of the meeting)

Monitoring and evaluation responsibilities are shared among all partners, with NDF providing supervisory oversight. Within the year under reporting, a joint field monitoring visit to all project intervention sites was undertaken. A mid-year independent evaluation was also carried out by experts. These exercises provided critical opportunities to assess the effectiveness and impact of interventions. Furthermore, the annual partners' meeting offers a platform to review and discuss activities implemented, confirming that project activities are leading to the intended outputs, and that outputs are contributing to the achievement of the expected Outcome.

9. Lessons learnt

For the common good of the project, arrangements were made between CK-Tedam University (an implementing partner of the project) and NDF (lead implementer of the project) to have NDF take over procurement of the remaining beehives, Rodent cages, Rodents, and start-up toolkit for VSLA cooperatives. The arrangement became needful due to the cumbersome and long bureaucratic nature of the partner's procurement processes. This arrangement ensured the right quantities of support items were supplied to beneficiaries and thereby enhancing timely usage and improving productivity for increased benefits to beneficiaries.

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

Response to Review Comment on Gender Disaggregation

The current reporting has made a deliberate effort to provide gender-specific information across all relevant activities and outputs. Data on training attendance, access to livelihood interventions, agroforestry and wildlife education in schools have been clearly broken down by gender. This approach has enhanced our ability to monitor gender equity and inclusion, and it will remain a standard reporting practice throughout the project's implementation.

Response to Review Comment on Capturing Additional Poverty Dimensions

The project acknowledges the importance of capturing multidimensional aspects of poverty beyond income. During this reporting period, deliberate steps were taken to formally capture additional dimensions such as health, safety, food security, confidence, and empowerment. These were integrated through beneficiary interviews and testimonies. For instance, rodent farming and honey production have contributed to improved household food diversity and nutrition. The use of safe shea nut picking technology has enhanced physical safety for women collectors. The Village Savings and Loan Associations established hold potential to contribute to financial security and build confidence among members, especially women. Furthermore, training and participation in community governance (e.g., CREMA leadership roles) and the inclusion of women in the agroforestry intervention are fostering empowerment. Efforts to strengthen data collection on these dimensions will continue in subsequent reporting periods.

Response to Review Comment on Attitude Change Among Executive Members

The project agrees that formal tracking of attitude change among executive members provides a more robust measure of impact. Observations indicate an increased sense of ownership, proactive decision-making in wildlife protection and improved collaboration with park management. Steps are being taken to introduce structured reflection sessions and feedback meetings during engagements with CREMA executives to capture shifts in perception and attitudes toward conservation. We believe this approach will better evidence behavioural changes in future reporting.

Response to Review Comment on GESI Table

The project acknowledges the guidance and has selected only one option on the GESI table in this report. We appreciate the feedback and will continue to adhere to this format moving forward.

11. Risk Management

The high mortality rate of rodents transported from distant locations, compounded by the inability of local suppliers to meet demand, led to a modification in project design, with all beneficiaries being provided Togo hares instead. Additionally, poor cage placement exposed animals to adverse weather conditions, resulting in cases of pneumonia and other illnesses. Climate change further strained local feed availability for the hares, while bushfires threatened both honeybee hives and animal feed sources. Moreover, the cumbersome and bureaucratic procurement processes of some partners risked delaying project timelines. As a way of mitigation, the selection of subsequent beneficiaries prioritised availability and access to conducive areas for cage placement, ensuring shelter and protection from adverse elements. Also, the lead implementer assumed responsibility for key procurements to expedite the delivery of items such as beehives, rodent cages, and VSLA toolkits. Lastly, bushfire prevention and management education were integrated into agroforestry training for communities. Attached as annex 4P is the updated risk register.

12. Scalability and durability

Key stakeholders, particularly the Management of Mole National Park were selected as an implementing partner due to their institutional mandate and legal authority to ensure sustained natural resource management. Their involvement represents an unprecedented level of commitment. This partnership ensures that gains made through the project will be maintained beyond its close, forming a strong foundation for long-term sustainability.

The revival and empowerment of the Chakali Sungmaaluu and MWK CREMAs further enhance community-based wildlife management, building on previously established structures. Through their engagement in planning and implementation, community members have become aware of the project's benefits and have demonstrated strong ownership. Interventions such as rodent and rabbit farming offer alternatives to traditional hunting practices, aligning well with existing livelihood strategies while reducing pressure on wildlife. Beneficiaries have shown enthusiasm for these interventions, which are proving to be both time-saving and viable income-generating enterprises (key indicators of their attractiveness and potential for scaling). The shea nut picking initiative is another culturally rooted livelihood that the project has improved through the introduction of safer and more efficient technology. Women trained in the use of shea nut rollers have welcomed the innovation, and its demonstrated benefits make it unlikely that they will revert to traditional, more laborious methods. Testimonials and feedback highlight increased confidence and empowerment, particularly among women who now earn more and participate more actively in community decision-making.

From a systems perspective, the project has adopted an iterative management approach. Monitoring and evaluation findings are used to make real-time adjustments, ensuring that interventions remain effective and context-relevant. This adaptive model has proven crucial in maintaining project momentum and effectiveness under changing local circumstances, such as procurement delays and climate-related challenges. In terms of policy alignment, the project's objectives reinforce ongoing government efforts in biodiversity conservation and rural development. The engagement of local government representatives on the project's Steering Committee, such as the Assistant Director of the Mamprugu-Moagduri District, demonstrates institutional buy-in, which is key for future scaling. The project also incorporates good governance mechanisms, including regular partner meetings, field monitoring, and transparent reporting processes, which further promote accountability and replication.

Finally, the project has begun to shift attitudes and behaviours at multiple levels. Conservation education reaching over 2,400 students and teachers has increased awareness and appreciation of wildlife, while interventions like citizen ranger training and CREMA strengthening promote long-term community stewardship. Progress toward the original exit plan is on track, with durable gains like livelihood equipment, improved farming skills, and institutional strengthening already taking root. The continued participation of stakeholders and the embedding of project activities in existing structures are strong indicators of a legacy.

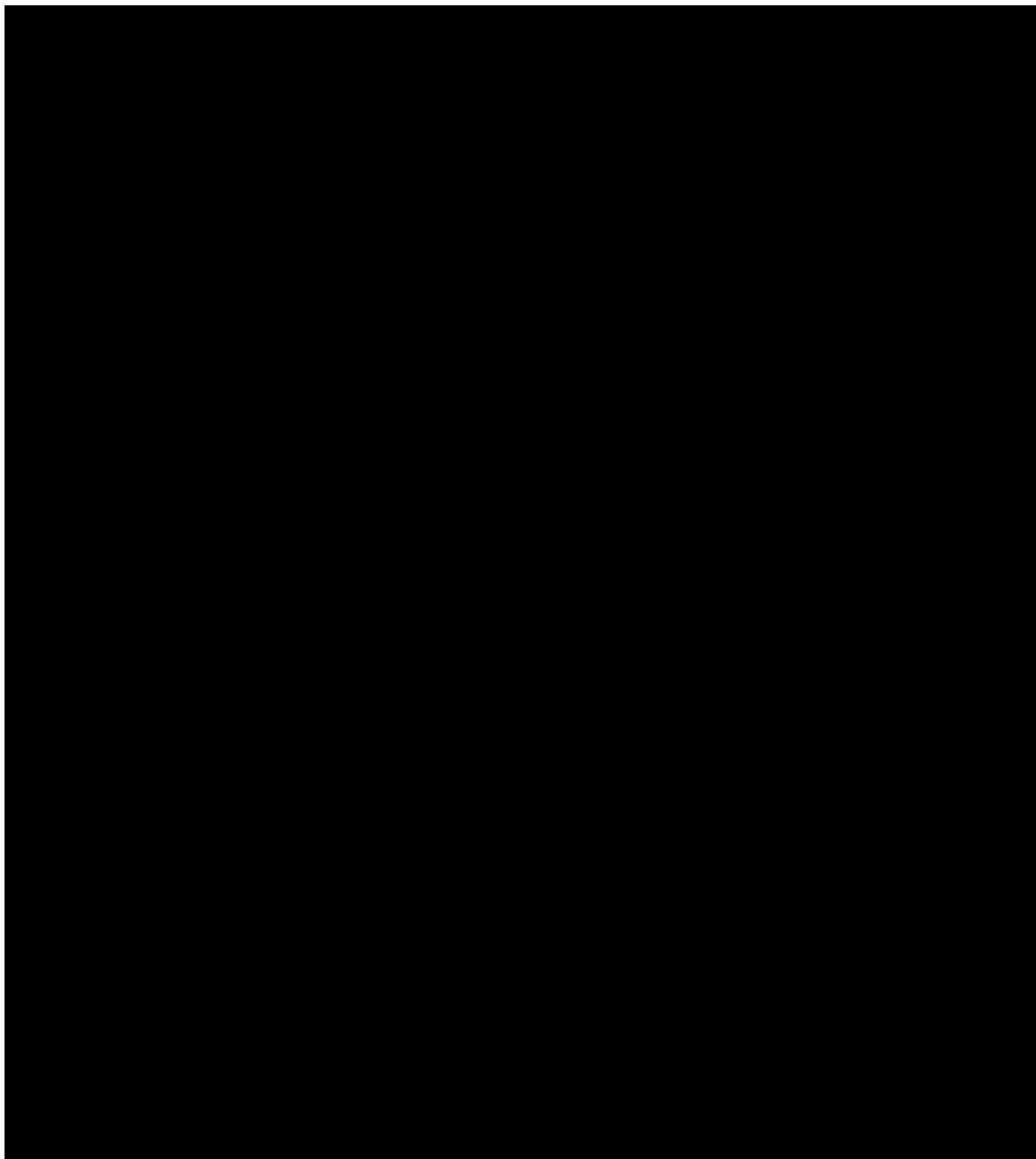
13. IWT Challenge Fund identity

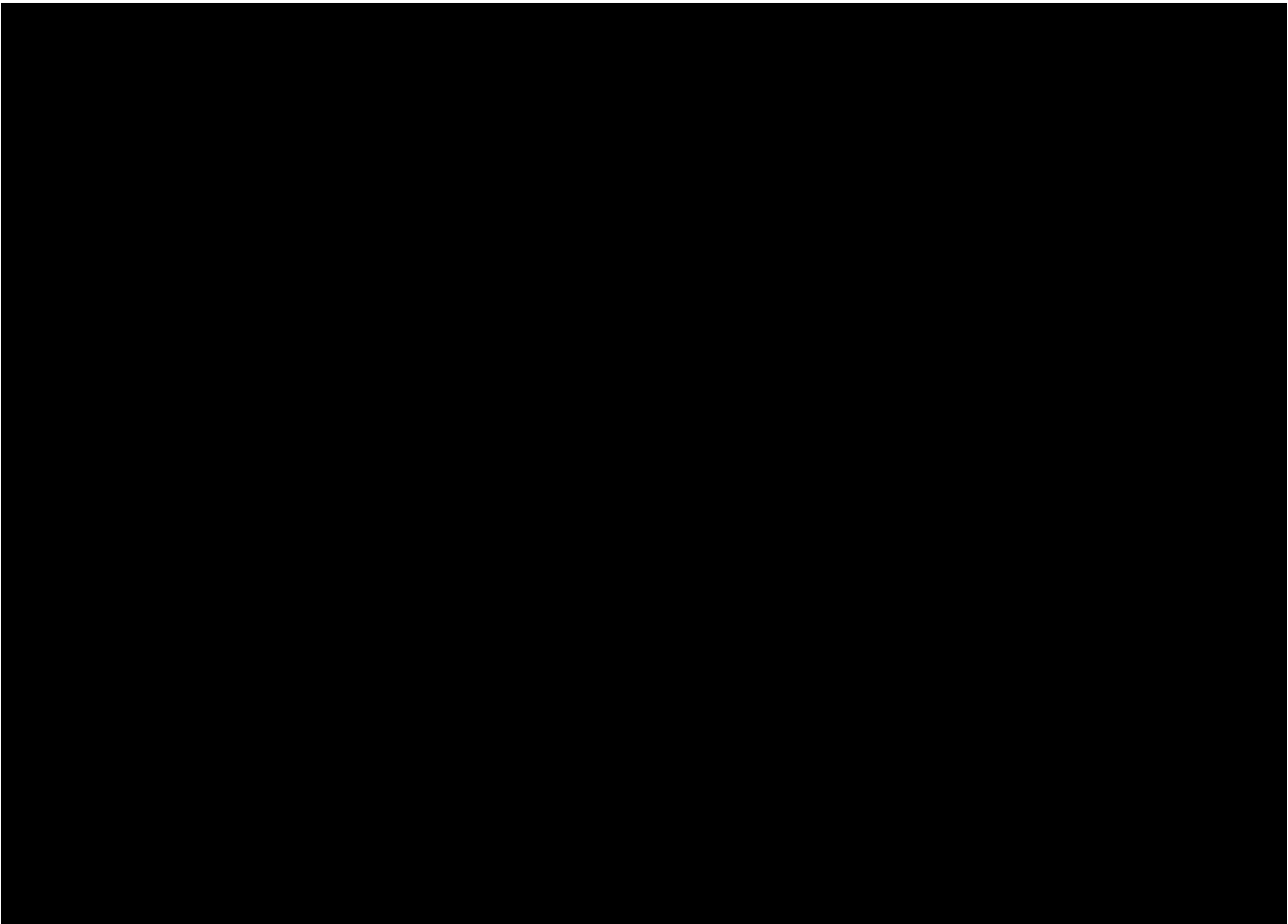
The project recognises visibility as very important to project achievements. Therefore, all documents developed by the project such as invitations, reports, contracts and attendance list bear the project logos, the IWT Challenge Fund and UKAid logos. All equipment purchased under the project have also 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 and does not receive 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 ([REDACTED]).

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





15. Project expenditure

Table 1: Project expenditure during the reporting period (April 2024-March 2025)

Project spend (indicative) since last Annual Report	2024/25 Grant (£)	2024/25 Total actual IWT Costs (£)	Variance %	Comments (please explain significant variances)
Staff costs (see below)				
Consultancy costs				
Overhead Costs				
Travel and subsistence				
Operating Costs				
Capital items (see below)				

Others (see below)				
TOTAL	155,641	155,699.76		

Table 2: Project mobilised or matched funding during the reporting period (1 April 2024 – 31 March 2025)

	Secured to date	Expected by end of project	Sources
Matched funding leveraged by the partners to deliver the project (£)			Nature and Development Foundation - Reserves Mole National Park – Internally Generated Funds CK-Tedam – Internally Generated Funds
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

All relevant progress updates have been addressed in the appropriate sections of this 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).

The project photo gallery link is <https://ndf.pixieset.com/livingwithwildlifefieldgallery/>

Use the following 4-digit PIN to download photos:

Download PIN: 6455

File Type (Image / Video / Graphic)	File Name or File Location	Caption including description, country and credit	Social media accounts and websites to be tagged (leave blank if none)	Consent of subjects received (delete as necessary)
				Yes / No
				Yes / No
				Yes / No
				Yes / No

Annex 1: Report of progress and achievements against logframe for Financial Year 2024-2025

Project summary	Progress and Achievements April 2024 - March 2025	Actions required/planned for next period
<p>Impact</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 a positive attitude for the 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>Outcome- Park-fringing communities are empowered for increased benefits and participatory wildlife management</p>		
<p>Outcome indicator 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>Forty (40) executives from the MWK CREMA have received comprehensive training in CREMA governance, leadership and team building, gender mainstreaming in natural resource management, and law enforcement. As a result, these executives are now better equipped with the skills and knowledge required to manage their CREMA effectively. They have since instituted regular monthly meetings to address emerging issues and plan coordinated actions.</p> <p>(Evidence provided in section 3.1 of report and Annex 4J)</p>	<p>A refresher training will be organized for forty (40) executive members from both MWK and Chakali Sungmaaluu CREMAs, focusing on leadership and team building, gender mainstreaming in natural resource management, and law enforcement.</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>A total of 320 beneficiaries comprising 280 women and 40 men from the Chakali Sungmaaluu and MWK CREMAs have been trained and supported to implement nature-based livelihoods such as shea nut picking, rodent farming, and beekeeping.</p> <p>(Evidence provided in section 3.1 of report and Annexes 4C, 4D & 4F)</p>	<p>An additional eighty (80) beneficiaries will be trained and supported to implement sustainable livelihood options, further contributing to poverty reduction and reduced pressure on natural resources.</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>Eight (8) functional VSLA groups have been successfully established across six communities. These groups are actively meeting, saving, and providing financial support to their members.</p> <p>(Evidence provided in section 3.1 of report and Annex 4G)</p>	<p>An assessment will be conducted to evaluate the impact of VSLA and livelihood interventions on the economic well-being of participating members.</p>

0.4 Number of farmers engaged in agroforestry activities (men 120: women 80) (Baseline 0: Target 200) by end of project	One hundred and eighty (180) farmers 29 women and 72 men, are currently participating in agroforestry activities introduced by the project. These efforts contribute to land restoration, climate resilience, and sustainable livelihoods. Evidence provided in section 3.1 of report and Annex 4H)	One hundred and twenty (120) new farmers engaged in Year 2 of the project will be trained and supported to establish agroforestry farms, contributing to land restoration and climate resilience.
0.5 Number of poaching incidences in the project area reduced 30% (Baseline of 2021: 17: Target 12).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)	Twenty (20) young men have been trained and inaugurated as citizen rangers. They are now actively involved in patrolling and supporting law enforcement within the CREMA areas, helping to reduce illegal wildlife activities and improve local conservation outcomes. Evidence provided in section 3.1 of report and Annex 4H)	The performance and coordination of citizen ranger activities will be reviewed to identify areas for improvement and ensure more effective law enforcement within the CREMA areas.
Output 1 Women and men in two CREMAs trained and supported to implement nature-based sustainable livelihood measures to reduce poverty and inequality.		
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)	200 shea rollers purchased and distributed to 200 women and trained to use the shea roller picker for the collection of shea nuts. Cumulatively, 320 women have been trained and equipped. Evidence provided in annex 4C.	80 more women will be trained on the shea roller technology and equipped with shea rollers and related accessories.
1.2 By 2026, number of women and men trained on nature-based livelihood measures (Baseline 0: Target 600)	320 beneficiaries (280 women, 40 men) were trained and supported to establish nature-based enterprises: 200 in shea nut collection, 60 in rodent farming, and 60 in beekeeping. Year 1 beneficiaries have begun to earn income from their ventures. Evidence provided in annex 4C.	Train and support 80 additional beneficiaries to scale up nature-based livelihoodsTrain and support 80 additional beneficiaries to scale up nature-based livelihoods
1.4 The number of beehives supplied to farmers by end of project (Baseline 80: Target 300)	220 beehives were distributed to trained farmers. This included 60 new beneficiaries (40 women, 20 men), and 40 Year 1 beneficiaries received an additional hive each, meeting the project design of three hives per farmer. Evidence provided in annex 4D.	Deliver hands-on training in hive management, honey harvesting, and processing

1.5 By 2026, numbers of farmers who have access to grasscutter and Togo Hares Baseline: 17, Target: 100)	Due to challenges sourcing grasscutters, all 60 newly trained farmers were supported with Togo hares. Year 1 beneficiaries received an additional hare to align with project design. Evidence provided in annex 4F.	Continue efforts to source grasscutters for interested farmers while monitoring outcomes with hares.
1.6 Number grasscutter and Togo Hare cages farmers have access to (Baseline 0: Target 300).	60 farmers were each equipped with a cage stocked with 3 hares (1 male, 2 females). Evidence provided in annex 4F.	Monitor animal health and cage conditions; provide support as needed for sustainability.
1.7 The number of VSLA cooperatives established (Baseline 1: Target 6) (Y2: 3, Y3:3)	Eight (8) VSLA groups were successfully established across six communities, exceeding the project target. Evidence provided in annex 4G.	Continue monitoring and supporting VSLA performance; address emerging challenges.
Output 2. Agroforestry system developed and introduced to park-fringing communities to increase resilience and tolerance for wildlife.		
2.1 By 2025, number of farms in the park boundaries mapped using GPS machine (Baseline 0: Target 100) Y1:50, Y2:100	122 farms were mapped and confirmed to be outside the Mole National Park boundaries, exceeding the target. Mapping helped build confidence and avoid encroachment. Evidence provided via this link; LIVING WITH WILDLIFE PROJECT FARMS .	Distribute printed polygon maps to farmers for their reference.
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)	25,152 seedlings (cashew, mango, native species) were distributed to 180 farmers. Evidence provided in annex 4E.	Distribute Additional 17,160 seedlings to 120 more farmers remaining and support planting activities.
2.3 By 2026, number of farmers who are trained on GAP, agroforestry management and fire management and crop raiding (Baseline 0: Target 200)	180 farmers were trained in good agroforestry practices, fire prevention and crop-raiding mitigation. Evidence provided in annex 4H	Train 120 additional farmers to reach the final target.
2.4 By 2026, number of offtake agreements signed with buyers to purchase Shea nut, moringa and Honey)	One offtake agreement was signed for shea nuts between CREMAs and a buyer. Evidence provided in annex 4E.	Facilitate and finalize a second agreement for honey sales.
Output 3. Capacity of the MWK and Chakali Sungmaaluu CREMAs built for Participatory Wildlife management		
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)	Forty (40) executives from MWK CREMA trained in leadership, governance, and wildlife law. Evidence provided in annex 4J.	Conduct refresher training for both CREMAs.

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)	10 community information centres were established and are operational. Evidence provided in picture....	Monitor usage and address management issues as needed.
3.3 By 2025, number of trained volunteers participating in citizen rangers' program (Baseline 0: Target 20)	20 young men trained and inaugurated as citizen rangers for law enforcement support in CREMA areas. Evidence provided in annex 4K	Continue monitoring and coordination of ranger activities.
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)	2,535 individuals reached through school-based wildlife conservation education, including 34 male and 8 female teachers, and 1,276 male and 1,217 female students. Evidence provided in annex 4O.	

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

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
Impact: Decreased pressure on wildlife population in the Mole National Park with the benefit of reducing poverty among park-fringing communities .			
Outcome: Park-fringing communities are empowered for increased benefits and participatory wildlife management	0.1 By 2026, there are regular Executive meeting of Chakali and MWK CREMAs (Baseline 0; Target 12) (Y1:4, Y2:4, Y3:4) 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) 0.3 By 2026, VSLA established with six groupings with the two CREMA (Baseline 1; Target 6) and members actively contributing. 0.4 Number of farmers engaged in agroforestry activities (men 120: women 80) (Baseline 0: Target 200) by end of project	0.1 Minutes of CREMA Executive meeting 0.2 Quarterly and annual reports of MNP 0.3 Mid-term evaluation report 0.4 Project progress reports 0.5 Final evaluation report 0.6 VSLAs constitution and registration	Wildlife Division of the Forestry Commission is committed to collaborate with park-fringing communities on participatory wildlife management Chiefs and elders of park-fringing communities are willing and committed to collaborate with park management.

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
	0.5 Number of poaching incidences in the project area reduced 30% (Baseline of 2021: 17: Target 12		
Output 1 1. women and men in two CREMAs trained and supported to implement nature-based sustainable livelihood measures to reduce poverty and inequality	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) 1.2 By 2026, number of women and men trained on nature-based livelihood measures (Baseline 0: Target 600) 1.3 Number of farmers participating (Baseline 40: Target 100) by end of project (Y1:30, Y2:40, Y3:30) 1.4 The number of beehives supplied to farmers by end of project (Baseline 80: Target 300) 1.5 By 2026, numbers of farmers who have access to grasscutter and Togo Hares Baseline: 17, Target: 100) 1.6 Number of farmers who have access to grasscutter and Togo Hare cages (Baseline 0: Target 300). 1.7 The number of VSLA cooperatives established (Baseline 1: Target 6) (Y2: 3, Y3:3	1.1 Project progress reports 1.2 Park quarterly and annual reports 1.3 Project monitoring reports 1.4 Project evaluation reports	Women are amenable to new shea nut collection technology Majority of honeybee hives will be colonized by honeybees Beneficiaries will rear the animals with a commercial mindset Community members will avail themselves for the training offered.
Output 2 agroforestry system developed and introduced to park-fringing communities to increase resilience and tolerance for wildlife	2.1 By 2025, number of farms in the park boundaries mapped using GPS machine (Baseline 0: Target 100) Y1:50, Y2:100 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)	2.1 Project reports 2.2 Park quarterly and annual reports 2.3 Monitoring reports 2.4 Project mid-term and final evaluation reports 2.5 District Assembly annual reports 2.6 Polygon maps 2.7 Offtake agreements with producing groups	Farmers will adopt new produce different from their traditional crops Community members will avail themselves for the training offered. Farmers will protect tree crops planted from fire

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
	<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>Output 3</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 volunteers participating in citizen rangers' program (Baseline 0: Target 20)</p> <p>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>	<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 Community members and children will apply knowledge acquired through the various educational programmes.</p>
<p>Activities (each activity is numbered according to the output that it will contribute towards, for example 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 are contributing to Output 1)</p> <p>Activities (each activity is numbered according to the output that it will contribute towards, for example 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 are contributing to Output 1. 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>			

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
<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>			

Table 1 Project Standard Indicators

Please see the Standard Indicator guidance for more information on how to report in this section, including appropriate disaggregation.

IWTCF Indicator number	Name of indicator using original wording	If this links directly to a project indicator(s), please note the indicator number here	Units	Disaggregation	Year 1 Total	Year 2 Total	Year 3 Total	Total to date	Total planned during the project
IWTCF-D04	Number of CREMAs with enhanced capability and capability	Indicator 0.1	Number of CREMAs	Local	1	1		2	2
IWTCF-A02	Number of people with reduced multidimensional poverty.	Indicator 0.2, Indicator 1.2	Number of people	Men & Women	-	400		400	600
IWTCF-A06	Number of VSLA Groups established that are functioning at project end (at least a year after establishment)	Indicator 0.3	Number of Associations/Groupings	Gender of members	-	8		8	6
IWTCF-A03 (b)	Number of farmers with improved resilience to Climate Change	Indicator 0.4, Indicator 2.2,	Number of People	Men & Women	-	180		180	200
[IWTCF-B05]	Number of wildlife crime-related arrests facilitated by the project	Indicator 0.5	Number of arrests	Community		4			Number of poaching reduced by 30%.
IWTCF-A01	Number of people with enhanced livelihoods	Indicator 1.1, Indicator	Number of People	Women and Men	120	200		320	400
IWTCF-A02 (a)	Number of people with improved food security	Indicator 1.5, Indicator 1.6	Number of People	Men & Women	40	60		100	100
IWTCF-A05	Number of Village Savings and Loans (VSLA) groups established	Indicator 1.7	Number of Groups	Men & Women	-	8		8	6
IWTCF-D10	Number of records added to accessible databases	Indicator 2.1	Number of records	Country	178	122		300	100
IWTCF-A04	Number of people reporting a decrease in unsustainable practices as a result of project activities	Indicator 2.3.	Number of people	Men and Women		180		180	200

IWTCF Indicator number	Name of indicator using original wording	If this links directly to a project indicator(s), please note the indicator number here	Units	Disaggregation	Year 1 Total	Year 2 Total	Year 3 Total	Total to date	Total planned during the project
IWTCF-D08	Number of CREMA executives attending training	Indicator 3.1	Number of people	Men and Women	40	0	0	40	40
IWTCF-C02	Number of communication channels carrying campaign message	Indicator 3.2	Number of channels	Information Centres	0	10		10	10
IWTCF-B03	Number of patrols by law enforcement rangers supported through the project	Indicator 3.3	Number of patrols	Community	0	20	0	20	20
[IWTCF-C04]	Number of people reached with behaviour change messaging	Indicator 3.4	Number of people	Men and Women	0	5	5	0	10

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)
Empowering Women Shea Nut Pickers: Training and Tools Provided to Enhance Livelihoods and Conservation Efforts	Blog Post	Obed Yaoseh and Margaret Appiah. 2024	Female	Ghanaian	Nature and Development Foundation, Accra	https://ndfwestafrica.org/empowering-women-shea-nut-pickers-training-and-tools-provided-to-enhance-livelihoods-and-conservation-efforts/
Village Savings and Loans Training Empowers Women in Northern Ghana	Blog Post	Obed Yaoseh and Margaret Appiah. 2025	Female	Ghanaian	Nature and Development Foundation, Accra	https://ndfwestafrica.org/village-savings-and-loans-training-empowers-women-in-northern-ghana/

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)
Mole National Park trained and inaugurated 21 community citizen rangers as part of the "Living with Wildlife: Improving Livelihoods in the Mole Ecological Landscape" project	Social Media Post	Martin Ndergo Abodiba 2025	Male	Ghanaian	Mole National Park, Damongo.	https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1FtwGQSkqW/?mibextid=wwXlfr
Alternative Livelihoods Project: 600 people in Wa East benefit from UKAID-supported project.	Online video - FB	Professor Asaah Mohammed -2024	Male	Ghanaian	Joy News for C.K Tadam University – Navrongo	https://www.facebook.com/watch/?mibextid=rS40aB7S9Ucbxw6v&v=3859165057662305&rdc=1&rdr#
Empowering Communities with Apiculture & Wildlife Conservation in Ghana	Youtube / Online Video	Obed Yaoseh – 2025	Male	Ghanaian	Nature and Development Foundation, Accra	https://youtu.be/d1SM6iNk3rs
Good Agronomic Practices for Cashew / Mango Production	Best Practice Poster	Obed Yaoseh - 2024	Male	Ghanaian	Nature and Development Foundation, Accra	https://ndfwestafrica.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/GOOD-AGRONOMIC-PRACTICES-FOR-CASHEW-MANGO-PRODUCTION.pdf
Apiculture Harvesting	Social Media Post	Obed Yaoseh 2025	Male	Ghanaian	Nature and Development Foundation, Accra	https://www.linkedin.com/posts/activity-7308409723265961984-w65p?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop&rcm=ACoAADGMbZIB8QypglwbS9mwUpycZ3MRyn8V4Fs
Empowering Communities & Conserving Wildlife in Ghana through Apiculture	Youtube / Online Video	Obed Yaoseh 2025	Male	Ghanaian	Nature and Development Foundation, Accra	https://youtu.be/d1SM6iNk3rs?si=eR_c95qFNROngIrT

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)
Empowering Communities with Rodent farming & Wildlife Conservation in Ghana.	Youtube/ Online Video	Obed Yaoseh 2025	Male	Ghanaian	Nature and Development Foundation, Accra	https://youtu.be/jDfBqckDa34?si=9GQBPv19e-2aSjCq

The **project photo gallery** link is <https://ndf.pixieset.com/livingwithwildlifefieldgallery/>

Use the following 4-digit PIN to download photos:

Download PIN: 6455

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, scheme, type of report (i.e. Annual or Final), and year) and deleted the blue guidance text before submission?	✓
Is the report less than 10MB? If so, please email to BCF-Reports@niras.com putting the project number in the subject line.	X
Is your report more than 10MB? If so, please consider the best way to submit. One zipped file, or a download option is recommended. We can work with most online options and will be in touch if we have a problem accessing material. If unsure, please discuss with BCF-Reports@niras.com about the best way to deliver the report, putting the project number in the subject line.	✓
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.	✓
Have you provided an updated risk register? If you have an existing risk register you should provide an updated version alongside your report. If your project was funded prior to this being a requirement, you are encourage to develop a risk register.	✓
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.	