Illegal Wildlife Trade (IWT) Challenge Fund
Annual Report

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

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

Submission Deadline: 30th April 2024

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

IWT Challenge Fund Project Information

Project reference	**IWTR9S2/1022**
Project title	Tanzanian national SMART rollout to strengthen counter wildlife trafficking.
Country/ies	Tanzania
Lead Partner	Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS)
Project partner(s)	Tanzania Wildlife Management Authority (TAWA) and College of African Wildlife Management, Mweka (CAWM).
IWTCF grant value	£599,999.00
Start/end dates of project	01/04/2023 to 31/03/2025
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	Aaron Nicholas
Project website/blog/social media	*https://tanzania.wcs.org/Landscapes/Ruaha-Katavi.aspx*
Report author(s) and date	Aaron Nicholas (WCS), Rudolph Mremi (CAWM), Abraham Eustace (TAWA), April 30th 2024.

1.   Project summary

The project builds on prior successful piloting of the Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool (SMART) in game reserves in coordination with TAWA HQ, and subsequent reduction in wildlife poaching. The College of African Wildlife Management (CAWM) will develop and deliver a SMART trainer course, based on previous SMART support. Six dedicated TAWA staff will be trained to deliver SMART to four additional game reserves, supporting a TAWA requested national SMART rollout to combat the IWT.

The most impactful SMART products on disrupting illegal activities in Tanzania include i) general SMART reports that can provide details of patrol efforts and outcomes; ii) summary queries that extract information related to patrol effort, coverage, or identify different illegal activities; and iii) evidence of outcomes from actions launched in relation to SMART data. SMART data has also been used to identify the most strategic locations for new ranger posts and to justify patrol payments based on demonstrated effort and outcomes.

Experience from the most recent ivory poaching crisis shows that protected areas with weakest law enforcement capacities and systems were worst hit – targeted by poachers because of the

relatively low risk. Evidence indicates that the threat of ivory poaching may be increasing again and sites most at risk include those without SMART. Building capacity here, and across the network of game reserves, will help thwart another wave of ivory poaching, which would threaten Tanzania's elephant populations as well as the country's tourism industry upon which more than one out of 10 Tanzanians depend upon for employment.

The four target project species are the African elephant (*Loxodonta africana*), Lion (Panthera leo), Leopard (*Panthera pardus*), and Ground pangolin (*Smutsia temminckii*). All are threatened to varying degrees by IWT in Tanzania.

The project will be delivered in Kijereshi, Mkungunero, Swagaswaga and Maswa Game Reserves (see Figure 1), building on the existing SMART footprint in Tanzania:
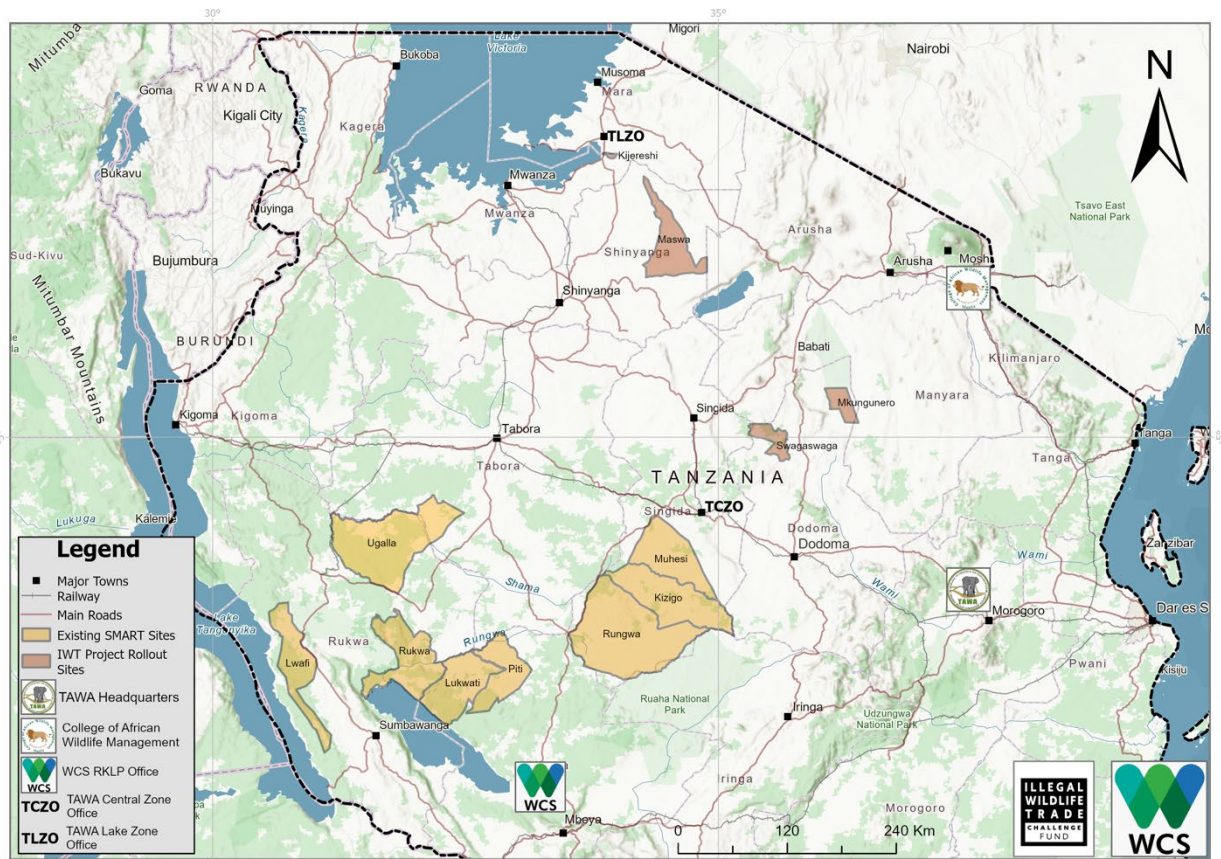

Figure 1: SMART roll-out sites under the IWT Challenge fund

Communities adjacent to the four selected TAWA game reserves, will benefit from direct employment with TAWA for activities such as road clearing. TAWA staff in turn will support local economies through their everyday purchases. Communities will directly benefit from species conservation through stable or improved benefit-sharing (hunting companies typically share +/- ████████ with villages adjacent to their concessions), and indirectly through tourism-related livelihoods (e.g., employment, local commerce related to providing foodstuffs or other consumables) that depend on both wildlife and security (i.e., reduced illegal activities), and ecosystem services. The use of benefit-sharing proceeds is typically decided on by village councils and normally support projects that have the widest community impact (such as health, education etc.).

2. Project stakeholders/ partners

The formal project partners are the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), Tanzania Wildlife Management Authority (TAWA) and College of African Wildlife Management, Mweka (CAWM). To effectively achieve the project milestones, each partner is mandated to implement the specific roles as follows:

i) TAWA – is the ultimate beneficiary of the project, which aims to support TAWAs request for assistance to rollout SMART nationally in support of strengthened IWT. The project will train and then support TAWA led SMART training in four priority game reserves.

ii) CAWM – The College is responsible for the development and delivery of SMART training to a cohort of six TAWA staff for them to be able to deliver training in their sites (respective game reserve). CAWM will also help in mentoring the TAWA SMART trainers throughout the project duration.

iii) WCS – oversees the delivery of the project, providing coordination and technical input at different levels and times. For example, WCS SMART experts will help the CAWM design a course for the TAWA trainers and local WCS staff will play an ongoing role in mentoring the TAWA trainers as they start training rangers.

In terms of coordination between the partners during the first year of the project, the following activities were implemented:

Initial project planning: Inception meetings were organized including all project partners to finalize partner agreements, review expected actions, timeframes, and deliverables. Following this, partners came together to agree on the selection of SMART roll-out sites and procurement needs/ processes. Further meetings were convened to select the six TAWA staff to attend SMART training and to plan for SMART data management.

SMART course development: An initial meeting was convened between the SMART experts from WCS, CAWM and TAWA to develop the SMART trainer course contents (curriculum). The draft curriculum was then reviewed and approved by all partners in a separate meeting. Alongside the curriculum development, a SMART refresher course for CAWM SMART instructors was conducted at CAWM, Mweka campus in Moshi, Kilimanjaro. During this training, SMART instructors had opportunity to go through the curriculum contents to instill the sense of ownership and be aware of the content to be delivered and the expected learning outcomes.

TAWA SMART trainer course: All partners worked together to deliver the SMART trainer course to TAWA staff at the CAWM. The training covered two major components of SMART application: basic and advanced SMART applications. Facilitation skills was also included as an added package for participants to facilitate their roles as SMART trainers in their respective game reserves. The overall training was hands-on and participatory, embracing learning techniques for participant to acquire the required knowledge and practical and transferable skills. After the SMART basic, advanced, and Facilitation (ToT) training, mock training was conducted to a cohort of six SMART participants from TAWA to test their ability to deliver SMART training. The training involved all partners as well as the six TAWA SMART trainers.

SMART training delivery: SMART training was delivered by the TAWA SMART trainers in two sites in the first year, with WCS shadowing. After training at the first site (Kijereshi Game Reserve), the CAWM conducted a refresher training session for the TAWA SMART trainers, before the trainers embarked on the training of rangers in a second site (Mkungunero Game Reserve).

Ongoing project delivery: WCS staff (both local and international) have played role in coordinating the project activities with and between all key partners, providing guidance (technical and financial) where needed.

Meeting minutes and training reports from the various partnership activities are annexed to this report as further evidence of the collaborative processes that took place:

- Initial inception meeting minutes
- Minutes for site selection and procurement.
- Minutes for trainer selection and data management
- Agreed SMART course outline and related CAWM-TAWA communications
- SMART trainer course delivery report
- Mock SMART training report
- SMART Training report – Kijereshi Game Reserve

- SMART refresher training report
- SMART Training report – Mkungunero Game Reserve

2.1 Progress in carrying out project Activities

Over the course of year one, the project aimed to achieve the following:

The project's main **Outcome** was to see the SMART system implemented in 4 game reserves, resulting in reduced poaching through strengthened monitoring, management, and law enforcement.

Initial actions required included:

- SMART roll-out site selection (4 game reserves).
- TAWA SMART trainer selection (6 trainees).
- SMART equipment procurement planning.
- SMART data management system clarification (at site and HQ levels).

Under **Output 1** - CAWM to be established as a national/ regional training institute offering SMART 'Train the Trainer' courses:

- The development and approval by TAWA of a SMART trainer course.
- Wider publicity for the CAWM SMART trainer development course.

Under **Output 2** - A cohort of at least 6 TAWA staff to be qualified as SMART trainers:

- Training of 6 TAWA SMART trainers at the CAWM.
- Mock training for the 6 TAWA SMART trainers.
- Refresher training for the 6 TAWA SMART trainers.

Under **Output 3** - To demonstrate that new capacity was built to implement SMART in four TAWA sites:

- Training of rangers in SMART at Kijereshi Game Reserve.
- Training of rangers in SMART at Mkungunero Game Reserve.

Under **Output 4** - SMART to be implemented and data from the four game reserves used to inform management decisions and improve responses to illegal wildlife trade and protection of IWT-threatened species:

- Generation of SMART reports and adaptive IWT feedback.

2.2 Progress towards project Outputs

The project is fully on course to achieve the expected outputs:

Output 1: CAWM to be established as a national/ regional training institute offering SMART 'Train the Trainer' courses. To achieve this, course development meetings were convened involving all key partners – initially WCS and CAWM met in July to draft the SMART trainer development course. The course was subsequently reviewed and accepted by TAWA in September.

ANNEX 2 – SMART trainer course outline/ correspondents related to the course approval.

Output 2: A cohort of at least 6 TAWA staff to be qualified as SMART trainers. TAWA initiated the selection of the trainees which comprised of 2 women (Bethsheba Andrew and Alfonca Sangawe) and 4 men (Vyoma Nyakame, Joel Yesaya, Ayoub Musa and Donald Shija).

A two-week back-to-back SMART training covering SMART basic and advanced components were delivered by the SMART instructors from CAWM. All six participants completed the training successfully and were awarded with certificates.

To further prepare the trainers for their roles as SMART trainers for rangers in their respective game reserves, WCS staff led a seven-day mock SMART training session with the new SMART

trainers in September/ October 2023. This training was important for them to practice delivery of SMART training before the actual on-site training.

In between site-based training (see Output 3), a refresher training course to TAWA SMART trainers was delivered by the CAWM, shadowed by WCS, with the TAWA trainers in January 2024.

ANNEX 3 – SMART Trainers training report and course certificates.

ANNEX 4 – Mock SMART training results.

ANNEX 5 - SMART Refresher training pre and post assessments.

Output 3: To demonstrate that new capacity was built to implement SMART in four TAWA sites, comprised of Kijereshi, Mkungunero, Swagaswaga and Maswa Game Reserves. The TAWA trainers led the first of these training courses, at Kijereshi Game Reserve between the 23rd of October and 11th of November 2023. The training was divided equally between the classroom and field, the field elements were based around developing patrol scenarios using the SMART planning tool, followed by post-patrol adaptive feedback sessions to review SMART data collected in order to define now patrol objectives.

Shadowing the training were two TAWA headquarters officers and staff from WCS. Twenty (20) TAWA rangers were trained – 14 from Kijereshi and a further 6 from the TAWA Lake zone office, comprised overall of 4 women and 16 men. Training was closed on 11th November 2023 by Lake Zone Assistant Conservation Commander.

The TAWA trainers led a second training course at Mkungunero Game Reserve between the 11th and 30th March 2024. Again, the training was divided between classroom and practical field components. Shadowing the training were three representatives from TAWAs national SMART technical team and staff from WCS. The Central zone TAWA Zonal Commander and Zonal Head of Protection also attended the first three days of the training. Twenty (20) TAWA rangers were trained – 17 from Mkungunero and 3 from the TAWA Central zone office, comprised of 5 women and 15 men.

ANNEX 6 - Site training report (providing details re: ranger attendance, pre-post training results and images from the training).

Output 4 is for SMART to be implemented and data from the four game reserves used to inform management decisions and improve responses to illegal wildlife trade and protection of IWT-threatened species.

The SMART reports produced by each new SMART site provide the basis for improved decision making. At the conclusion of Year 1, five SMART reports had been produced (all by Kijereshi Game Reserve – ANNEX 7). In the short time SMART has been in operation in Kijereshi, several SMART-based, IWT-reduction supporting decisions were made related to:

- The identification of areas critically impacted by illegal activities.
- Assessments of ranger and patrol team effort.
- Improved efficiency of patrol vehicle use.
- Assessing vehicle and foot patrol effort.
- Improved understanding of patrol coverage.

2.3   Progress towards the project Outcome

Year 1 witnessed essential progress towards the realization of the overall project outcome in terms of the development and delivery of a SMART training course by TAWA trainees to two sites identified by TAWA as IWT priorities.

As further SMART data is generated and collated through the production of site SMART reports, we expect to track a reduction in IWT-related encounter rates as data-driven adaptive feedback actions are developed.

We will seek to demonstrate improvement in general law enforcement terms, as well as specifically in terms of IWT threats to the four focal project species.

2.4   Monitoring of assumptions

Assumptions Review:

Cross-cutting level Indicators

Assumptions 1 & 2 & 4: TAWA willingly share SMART data with WCS. *Holds true - The sharing of SMART data (at least sufficient to track project progress) will be an accepted condition of support.*

Assumption 3: That those trained remain within their organizations. *Holds true – Commitment of TAWA and CAWM to retain their trainers and/or provide ongoing institutional based training to others stands.*

Assumption 5: Data should remain available within the SMART system, backed up beyond the SMART desktop computers. *Holds true – SMART Connect is being used to synchronize data with TAWA main server.*

Assumption 6: Needed SMART equipment can be sourced locally. *Holds true – Pre-procurement assessments conducted to ensure SMART equipment can be procured locally.*

Outcome level Indicators

Assumption 7: Patrols can detect a sufficient % of poaching incidents to track change over time. *Holds true – Regular SMART data reviews will support improved patrol coverage to ensure all areas are patrolled regularly.*

Assumption 8: See Assumptions 1,2 and 4 above.

Assumption 9: TAWA remains supportive of the deployment of SMART across its game reserves. *Holds true – In supporting this application, TAWA has again expressed their ongoing support to the national SMART roll out.*

Assumption 10: SMART data is effectively used to drive management and IWT-combatting decisions by TAWA at all levels. *Holds true – WCS mentorship will focus on seeing that SMART data is produced, compiled, and analysed regularly to guide improved efforts to combat IWT.*

Output level Indicators.

Assumption 11: No external factors influence CAWMs ability to offer this and other training for the near future. *Holds true - CAWM remains committed to delivering SMART course, as they have done for several years. Advertising the SMART Trainer course more widely confirms this.*

Assumption 12: COVID does not continue to impact ability for in person training and events or travel. *Holds true - COVID has not interrupted project delivery.*

Assumption 13: See Assumption 3 above.

Assumption 14: Selected TAWA trainers can grasp both Basic and Advanced aspects of SMART for their training purposes as a basis for conducting successful training. *Holds true – Trainer selection included an assessment of trainer capacity to deliver the training effectively.*

Assumption 15: No external factors influence the training plan for TAWA SMART trainers, ranger, and TAWA zonal staff. *Holds true – Close planning and coordination amongst partners assures that all planned training events take place.*

Assumption 16: TAWA rangers / focal points and zonal staff able to apply the SMART training received successfully. *Holds true – The provision of SMART training, equipment and mentorship will ensure rangers can apply SMART after training.*

Assumption 17: Adequate funding maintained in each roll out site to maintain effective law enforcement activities. *Holds true – TAWA will select sites that have the support to conduct LE activities.*

Assumption 18: TAWA server and capacity to manage data are maintained. *Holds true – TAWA's IT department has sufficient capacity to continue managing SMART data.*

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

The project supports a SMART rollout that will reduce IWT, leading to improved protection and conservation of focal species.

WCS, working with CAWM, developed and delivered a SMART trainer course, creating a cadre of six TAWA trainers, who will in turn be supported by focal points in year 2. The trainers are delivering SMART training to at least 80 rangers across four IWT-threatened game reserves. SMART has demonstrably reduced IWT in similar sites elsewhere in Tanzania, and the same impacts are expected.

The standardised basic and advanced SMART training courses delivered by the CAWM remains available for other trainers to utilize during and beyond the life of the project. CAWM have advertised this widely.

Through implementing SMART, sites are now starting to generate regular SMART reports that capture essential and custom data related to law enforcement and outcomes, driving a process of adaptive feedback that will, over time, strengthen patrol systems and reduce impacts on IWT-threatened species. We will continue to track evidence for this as the project is rolled out across the four priority IWT sites.

Through safeguarding IWT and other threatened species, tourism-related incomes and employment will be protected, including benefits shared with local communities, as well as essential ecosystem services, all essential aspects of poverty reduction.

3. Thematic focus

The project is working to support strengthened law enforcement.

The project addresses the supply end of the illegal wildlife trade (IWT) in hotspot game reserves targeted by TAWA for national SMART rollout. IWT networks undermine security, threatening tourism (an industry employing up to 11% of Tanzania's workforce – Khanam et.al., 2021; World Bank, 2019), negatively impacting community livelihoods and exacerbating the risk of poverty. The project is building capacity for improved patrol planning and implementation to proactively deter illegal poaching.

Building on past WCS-TAWA success, the project lays the groundwork for a TAWA-led phased national SMART rollout across remaining Tanzanian game reserves. WCS, working with CAWM, has developed and delivered a SMART trainer development course to TAWA which was then used to train a cadre of six TAWA SMART trainers (while also providing an opportunity to develop other SMART trainers in the region).

The project has taught and equipped the TAWA trainers to deliver standardised basic and advanced SMART courses to TAWA rangers in two new SMART sites in the first year of project implementation. SMART is now starting to drive the collation and sharing of IWT data at site,

zonal, and national levels, with expected improved results in protection planning and disruption of IWT networks.

Experience from the most recent ivory poaching crisis shows that protected areas with weakest law enforcement capacities and systems were worst hit – targeted by poachers because of the relatively low risk. Evidence indicates that the threat of ivory poaching may be increasing again and sites most at risk include those without SMART. Building capacity here, and across the network of game reserves, will help thwart another wave of ivory poaching, which would threaten Tanzania's elephant populations as well as the country's tourism industry upon which more than one out of 10 Tanzanians depend upon for employment.

4.   Impact on species in focus

Project implementation is not yet at a stage (only one of the four target sites is now producing SMART data to drive improved IWT-decision making) to demonstrate tangible impacts on the four target species.

5.   Project support for multidimensional poverty reduction

Through controlling the impact of IWT-related threats, the project will safeguard the benefits passed on to local communities (direct employment, benefit-sharing related to commercial hunting, and access to essential ecosystem services). Additionally, the project will help minimize IWT impacts on local households as improved SMART capacity and the ability to monitor threats in the project sites will more effectively deter individuals from participating in IWT as they become more aware of the risk of arrest and imprisonment.

Project implementation is not yet at a stage (only one of the four target sites is now producing SMART data that will in turn drive improved IWT-decision making) to demonstrate the above expected benefits.

6.   Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI)

Please quantify the proportion of women on the Project Board[1].	Not applicable.
Please quantify the proportion of project partners that are led by women, or which have a senior leadership team consisting of at least 50% women[2].	None of the project partners (WCS, CAWM or TAWA) have a senior leadership team consisting of at least 50% women.
At least 1/3 of the TAWA SMART trainers should be women.	This was achieved. Two of the six trainers were women: Bethsheba Andrew and Alphonca Sangawe.
The number of women trained at site level should be at least proportional to the ration of women to men in each location.	Achieved. For **Kijereshi** – Proportion of women on staff = 26.7%. Proportion of women trained = 20% For **Mkungunero** – Proportion of women on staff = 17.1%. Proportion of women trained in SMART = 25%

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

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

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 will not contribute to or create further inequalities.	We consider the project GESI to lie between Sensitive and Empowering in that we can see that TAWA is making a conscious effort to bring women into the project – in terms of trainers and trainees. We will continue to work to ensure that women are provided with preferential opportunities to be involved in the project where possible as the work proceeds to the two additional game reserves.
Empowering	The project has all the characteristics of a 'sensitive' approach whilst also increasing equal access to assets, resources and capabilities for women and marginalised groups	
Transformative	The project has all the characteristics of an 'empowering' approach whilst also addressing unequal power relationships and seeking institutional and societal change	

Please quantify the proportion of women on the Project Board[3].	
Please quantify the proportion of project partners that are led by women, or which have a senior leadership team consisting of at least 50% women[4].	

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	

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

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

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

7. Monitoring and evaluation

WCS led project monitoring and evaluation processes, making use of the existing strong connections with the other key partners (CAWM, and TAWA). At the start of the project technical and financial leads were identified and introduced from WCS, CAWM and TAWA – these persons played a key role in sharing important information and keeping others around them informed and engaged.

Contracts were also signed with each partner at the start of the project, outlining the expected actions, outcomes/outputs and assumptions. This also helped ensure alignment between all partners.

Given the WCS was present for all year 1 activities implemented, our presence served as an opportunity to not only ensure the success of each activity, but also to meet with partners and review overall project progress.

From a technical perspective, the above approach proved effective in the management of the delivery of planned actions. From a financial perspective, given the weaker prior relationships that existed between WCS and partner finance leads, we found it necessary to plan for specific financial monitoring visits over the year – these were used to review financial processes and overall compliance.

The project logframe was revised during year 1, taking account of the need to encompass the required number (5) of IWTCT standard indicators relevant to the overall project focus (law enforcement primarily). WCS did not consider these changes to be at a level requiring IWT approval.

At the end of Year 1, overall project progress is in line with what was planned, and no significant discrepancies need reporting (see log frame feedback below).

Prior to the submission of this report, a draft was also shared for partner inputs.

8. Lessons learnt

The following lessons can be shared at the end of Year 1:

i) The decision to focus the selection of TAWA SMART trainers on TAWA staff from within the focal rollout sites was advantageous in that it motivated those selected to get the most from the CAWM, mock and refresher training, knowing that they would be delivering SMART training to their known peers and within a game reserve / IWT setting that they could already relate to.

ii) The plan for each trainer to also double-up as the SMART Focal Point for their respective sites, further streamlined the process of assuring this support is in place and with sufficient capacity to play a strong role in managing all aspects of SMART at site level in the future.

iii) The involvement of TAWA staff from site, zonal and headquarters levels in all SMART ranger training programs in Kijereshi and Mkungunero further strengthened the SMART management links within TAWA and is testament to TAWAs ownership of the project.

iv) With good forward planning, it was also possible to combine some of the initial project establishment activities, saving time and money (site selection, trainer selection, procurement and databasing systems review).

v) There was obvious value to conducting as much SMART ranger training as possible in the field, but this had to take account of heavy rains and poor access conditions. The timing of training activities could also therefore have been better planned to reduce this challenge as much as possible.

vi) Perhaps the only challenge worth mentioning was the need to provide additional orientation for partner finance staff after the initial guidance provided to each. Organizations have different financial processes, and if we were repeating this work, we might have invested a little more time up front to ensure that key partner financial staff are adequately prepared before initiating project activities.

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

Not relevant for this report.

10.   Risk Management

No risks arose over the first 12 months that were not previously considered, and it was not necessary to adapt the project because of unforeseen risks.

ANNEX 8 - The project risk register.

11.   Sustainability and legacy

Wider recognition for the project included a special award presented to WCS by CAWM in recognition of their support to the promotion of conservation technology.

The CAWM also advertised the SMART trainer course more widely (see ANNEX 9). As a result, the CAWM received applications and trained four additional individuals: On Tanzanian (from Namalok Nature Reserve), two from Mozambique (who took the course as part-fulfilment of their bachelor's degrees in wildlife Tourism) and one from the Democratic Republic of Congo (who took the course as part-fulfilment of a Masters in African Wildlife Ecology and Conservation).

The TAWA trainers who were selected, trained and who have successfully now delivered SMART training in half of the intended roll out sites augurs well for the effective implementation of the project and sustainability of SMART roll out in Tanzania and elsewhere beyond that.

12.   IWT Challenge Fund identity

All partners were aware of the support of the IWTCF for this work.

The support of the IWTCF was recognized during various meetings and training events convened during the first year, for example through recognition on presentations and banners.

The CAWM shared the news of the certification of the TAWA SMART trainers on Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/p/Cxf_IXTty90/?utm_source=ig_web_button_share_sheet&igsh=MzRIODBiNWFIZA%3D%3D&img_index=1

It was unfortunate that the WCS Country Communications Manager resigned 2023, resulting in decreased social media exposure for all WCS-related work. A Regional Communication Manager will soon be hired, and we expect to see greater exposure for the project via social media as a result.

13. Safeguarding

Has your Safeguarding Policy been updated in the past 12 months?	No
Have any concerns been investigated in the past 12 months	No

Does your project have a Safeguarding focal point? Yes (Country-level)	Yes/No [*If yes, please provide their name and email.* *Noah Mpunga* – ▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮
Has the focal point attended any formal training in the last 12 months? Yes	Yes/No [*If yes, please provide date and details of training*] Institutional Review Board training, 12th June 2023 (attended also by 11 other WCS Tanzania project staff). To ensure ethical design for research and monitoring projects.
What proportion (and number) of project staff have received formal training on Safeguarding? WCS project staff have received safeguard training. TAWA work according to various codes of conduct and regulations. WCS is part of a ministerial working group providing guidance on the development of a social safeguards training course for Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism Staff. The above training course was piloted with 46 TAWA rangers in April 2024.	Past: % [and number] Planned: % [and number] WCS project: - Past: 100% (21) TAWA: - Past: 46 trained - Planned: 100% all rangers in Tanzania

Has there been any lessons learnt or challenges on Safeguarding in the past 12 months? Please ensure no sensitive data is included within responses. There has been a need for wildlife partners to work together in Tanzania to elevate the need for safeguards training amongst partner government staff. Training must align with existing codes of conduct, regulations etc., and should build on existing grievance redress structures where present (partners cannot set up parallel investigative structures). Of course, there is some urgency to this, and through working at Ministerial level, we hope to see this necessary work reach all needed government partners as soon as possible. There can be sensitivity around reference to 'human rights,' so the wording around such work also needs to be adapted to the context.
Does the project have any developments or activities planned around Safeguarding in the coming 12 months? If so, please specify. As per the above, WCS has wider plans to see safeguarding training taking place with as many government rangers / staff as possible as soon as possible.

14.   Project expenditure

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

Project spend (indicative) since last Annual Report	2022/23 Grant (£)	2022/23 Total actual IWT Costs (£)	Variance %	Comments (please explain significant variances)
Staff costs (see below)				
Consultancy costs				
Overhead Costs				
Travel and subsistence				Some activities were combined, saving overall costs
Operating Costs				
Capital items (see below)				
Others (see below)				
TOTAL	344,002	326,436	-5%	

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

	Matched funding secured to date	Total matched funding expected by end of project
Matched funding leveraged by the partners to deliver the project.	█████	█████
Total additional finance mobilised by new activities building on evidence, best practices and project (£)		

15.   Other comments on progress not covered elsewhere

16.   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).

File Type (Image / Video / Graphic)	File Name or File Location	Caption, country and credit	Online accounts to be tagged (leave blank if none)	Consent of subjects received (delete as necessary)

Image	CAWM TAWA SMART Trainer Certification.	TAWA trainers and other graduates receiving their SMART trainer certificates at the African College of Wildlife Management, Mweka Credit: WCS Tanzania.		Yes
Image	Kijereshi Ranger Training.	Rangers practicing the use of SMART on rugged hand-held device. Kijereshi Game Reserve. Credit: WCS Tanzania.		Yes
Image	Kijereshi Ranger Training 2.	Group photo of rangers training in SMART from Kijereshi Game Reserve. Credit: WCS Tanzania.		Yes
Image	Mkungunero Ranger Training.	Group photo of rangers training in SMART from Mkungunero Game Reserve. Credit: WCS Tanzania.		Yes
Image	Mkungunero Ranger Training 2.	Rangers practicing the use of SMART on rugged hand-held device in the field. Mkungunero Game Reserve. Credit: WCS Tanzania.		Yes
Image	Mkungunero Ranger Training 3.	Rangers practicing the use of SMART on rugged hand-held device. Mkungunero Game Reserve. Credit: WCS Tanzania.		Yes
Image	Mkungunero SMART database.	Mkungunero Game Reserve SMART Focal Point reviewing SMART database.		Yes

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

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2022 - March 2023	Actions required/planned for next period
Impact Conservation of focal species is improved through reduced poaching and illegal wildlife trade resulting from implementation of the SMART approach by TAWA.		The project made good progress in terms of developing TAWA capacity to train rangers in two of the four intended sites in the first year. One of these sites (Kijereshi) now has 5 months of experience using SMART and are indicating improvements in their ability to conduct law enforcement work. It remains too early to demonstrate how this work is positively impacting the IWT trade, status of the various focal species and continued ability of local communities to harness benefits from this and the other target game reserves.	
Outcome SMART system is implemented in four game reserves resulting in reduced poaching through strengthened monitoring, management, and law enforcement.	0.1 Monthly assessments of SMART findings made in each site after SMART introduction to guide improved IWT-related decision making. 0.2 Number of IWT-related poaching incidents reduced by 50% in each site within the period of implementation because of SMART deployment. 0.3 Number of arrests (linked to wildlife crime) facilitate by the project (disaggregated by level of	0.1 Kijereshi Game Reserve is the first site to have started implementing SMART monitoring and adaptive feedback. Section 3.1 highlights some of the improvements that have resulted. 0.2 It is too early to report progress against this indicator. 0.3 [Kijereshi] 8 arrests (100% poachers)	0.1 As SMART familiarity grows in additional sites, we aim to document adaptive feedback decisions related specifically to IWT-related crime from the various sites. 0.2 Continue tracking in all sites. 0.3 Continue tracking in all sites. 0.4 Continue tracking in all sites.

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2022 - March 2023	Actions required/planned for next period
	the offence charged e.g., poaching, trafficking etc.) **[IWTCF - B10]**. 0.4 Number of wildlife crime cases submitted for prosecution. **[IWTCF – B12]**. 0.5 Number of local/national organizations with improved capability and capacity as a result of the project. **[IWTCF – D03]**. (Disaggregated by organizational type). 0.6 Number of new and enhanced tools/approaches developed for tackling IWT. **[IWTCF – D26]**. 0.7 Number of databases established that are used for law enforcement. [IWTCF -B23]. 0.8 Estimated value (£) of physical assets to be handed over to host country. [IWTCF – D15].	0.4 [Kijereshi] 2 cases submitted for prosecution (6 settled by fines only at TAWA level). 0.5 2 (CAWM & TAWA – SMART trainers capacity built.). CAWM – Educational Organization. TAWA – Wildlife Authority. 0.6 2 (1 - CAWM SMART training course developed; 2 – Kijereshi SMART model developed). 0.7 1 (Kijereshi SMART database). 0.8 £56,844.88 (SMART devices and associated equipment for 4 sites).	0.5 Target is 2 (CAWM & TAWA). 0.6 Target is 4 (4 x SMART site models). 0.7 Target is 4 (One new database in each site). 0.8 Procurement completed.
Output 1. CAWM established as a national/regional training institute offering SMART Train the Trainer course.	1.1 One complete SMART curriculum package for Basic and Advanced levels adapted for delivery to TAWA by Y1Q2. 1.2 CAWM advertise the new SMART trainer development course on their social media platforms.	*1.1 Completed.* ANNEX 2. *1.2 Completed. Website link:* https://www.mwekawildlife.ac.tz/smart_2023.pdf	
Activity 1.1 - Develop outline for CAWM SMART trainer course, building on previous CAWM SMART experience.		*Completed.* ANNEX 2.	None.

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2022 - March 2023	Actions required/planned for next period
Activity 1.2 - CAWM mentorship of TAWA trainees.		Ongoing.	CAWM will continue mentoring the 6 TAWA SMART trainers as they roll out their work in all sites.
Output 2. Cohort of at least six TAWA Staff are qualified as SMART Trainers.	2.1 Number of TAWA trainers trained reporting to have delivered further training by the end of the project **[IWTCF – D01]** (Disaggregated by Gender; Age Group; Stakeholder Group: Indigenous peoples, Local communities, Nationals, Public sector, Civil society, Private sector). 2.2 At least six TAWA staff participate and pass SMART trainer refresher course by Y2Q4. (Disaggregated by gender).	*2.1 Ongoing. 6 x TAWA trainers trained, still delivering training to others.* <u>ANNEX 3.</u> *Training to be conducted at two additional sites in Year 2.* - *66% trainers (n=4) were men (all over 30 yrs old)* - *33% trainers (n=2) were women (1 under 30, 1 over 30 yrs old)* *2.2 Ongoing. First of two SMART refresher courses delivered to TAWA SMART trainers.* <u>ANNEX 5.</u> - *100% passed refresher training.* - *4 men, 2 women* *Second refresher course for TAWA SMART trainers to be delivered in Year 2.*	
Activity 2.1 - Meeting to guide the selection process for TAWA SMART trainers.		Completed. <u>ANNEX 1</u> (together with site selection, procurement and data management - all were combined in one meeting).	None.
Activity 2.2 - Basic SMART training for TAWA trainers.		Completed. <u>ANNEX 3.</u>	None.
Activity 2.3 - Advanced SMART training for TAWA trainers.		Completed. <u>ANNEX 3.</u>	None.
Output 3. Capacity built to implement SMART in four game reserves.	3.1 At least 86 TAWA staff from four sites and 2 zones receive SMART training (46 by Y1Q4 and 40 more by Y2Q4) [IWTCF – B01].	3.1. Ongoing. 46 trained to date (6 TAWA SMART Trainers and 40 TAWA rangers/zonal staff. <u>ANNEX 6.</u>	

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2022 - March 2023	Actions required/planned for next period
	(Disaggregated by age, gender, and stakeholder group). NB Gender Targets: 1/3 of trainers/SMART Site Focal Points are female; Ratio of female rangers trained at least proportional to male:female ranger ratio on site.	TAWA SMART trainers: - 6 total (all from wildlife authority) - 66% men (n=4), 33% women (n=2) - 1 below 30 yrs old (woman), 5 over 30 yrs old 40 more rangers/zonal staff from two additional sites to be trained in Year 2.	
Activity 3.1 - Selection meeting for identifying four priority IWT sites for SMART training.		Completed. ANNEX 1 (together with trainer selection, procurement, and data management - all were combined in one meeting)	None.
Activity 3.2 - Procurement meeting convened as basis for procuring needed SMART equipment for training/sites.		Completed. ANNEX 1 (together with site, trainer, and data management - all were combined in one meeting).	None.
Activity 3.3 - SMART data management planning meeting with TAWA.		Completed. ANNEX 1 (together with site, trainer selection and management - all were combined in one meeting).	None.
Activity 3.4 - Mock SMART training sessions convened to practice training techniques and materials.		Completed. ANNEX 4.	None.
Activity 3.5 - SMART refresher training provided for TAWA.		Ongoing. ANNEX 5.	Second refresher training to be conducted in Year 2.
Activity 3.6 - TAWA SMART training – site 1.		Completed. ANNEX 6.	None.
Activity 3.7 - TAWA SMART training – site 2.		Completed. ANNEX 6.	None.
Activity 3.8 - TAWA SMART training – site 3.		Not started.	Year 2 activity.
Activity 3.9 - TAWA SMART training – site 4.		Not started.	Year 2 activity.
Activity 3.10 - WCS TAWA HQ SMART mentorship, M&E support.		Ongoing.	This activity continues throughout the project lifetime.

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2022 - March 2023	Actions required/planned for next period
Output 4. SMART implemented and data from four game reserves is used to inform management decisions and improve responses to IWT and protection of IWT-threatened species.	4.1 At least 33 SMART reports generated and shared with TAWA HQ by new SMART sites by Y2Q4 (three in Y1 and 30 in Y2).	4.1 Ongoing. [Kijereshi] 5 x SMART reports produced to date. <u>ANNEX 7.</u> A total of 30 more SMART reports to be delivered before the end of Year 2 from the various sites.	
Activity 4.1 - SMART reports shared between site 1 (Kijereshi) and TAWA HQ.		Ongoing. Kijereshi is sharing reports.	Continued sharing.
Activity 4.2 - SMART reports shared between site 2 (Mkungunero) and TAWA HQ.		Not started.	Training completed March 2024. SMART reports expected from April.
Activity 4.3 - SMART reports shared between site 3 (Maswa) and TAWA HQ.		Not started.	Will start after training in Year 2.
Activity 4.4 - SMART reports shared between site 4 (Swaga Swaga) and TAWA HQ.		Not started.	Will start after training in Year 2.

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: Conservation of focal species is improved through reduced poaching and illegal wildlife trade resulting from implementation of the SMART approach by TAWA.			
Outcome: SMART system is implemented in four game reserves resulting in reduced poaching through strengthened monitoring, management, and law enforcement.	0.1 Monthly assessments of SMART findings made in each site after SMART introduction to guide improved IWT-related decision making. 0.2 Number of IWT-related poaching incidents reduced by 50% in each site within the period of implementation because of SMART deployment.	0.1 Action Points from monthly SMART meetings (ANNEX 10). 0.2 SMART site reports. 0.3 SMART site reports 0.4 Site SMART reports and Commanding Officer feedback. 0.5 Training reports.	Patrols can detect a sufficient % of poaching incidents to track change over time. *Mitigated by: Regular SMART data reviews will support improved patrol coverage to ensure all areas are patrolled regularly.* TAWA willingly shares SMART data with WCS.

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
	0.3 Number of arrests (linked to wildlife crime) facilitate by the project (disaggregated by level of the offence charged e.g., poaching, trafficking etc.) **[IWTCF – B10]**. 0.4 Number of wildlife crime cases submitted for prosecution. **[IWTCF – B12]**. 0.5 Number of local/national organizations with improved capability and capacity as a result of the project. **[IWTCF – D03]**. (Disaggregated by organizational type). 0.6 Number of new and enhanced tools/approaches developed for tackling IWT. **[IWTCT – D26]**. 0.7 Number of databases established that are used for law enforcement. [IWTCF – B23]. 0.8 Estimated value (£) of physical assets to be handed over to host country. [IWTCF – D15].	0.6 Extract of SMART model developed and tailored to the needs of each rollout site (ANNEX 11). 0.7 Extract of SMART patrols being databased for each rollout site. (ANNEX 12). 0.8 Hand-over and procurement documentation (ANNEX 13).	*Mitigated by: The sharing of SMART data (at least sufficient to track project progress) will be an accepted condition of support. This data will be treated as confidential by all parties.* TAWA remains supportive of the deployment of SMART across its game reserves. *Mitigated by: In supporting this application, TAWA has again expressed their ongoing support to the national SMART rollout.* SMART data is effectively used to drive management and IWT-combatting decisions by TAWA at all levels. *Mitigated by: WCS mentorship will focus on seeing that SMART data is produced, compiled, and analysed regularly to guide improved efforts to combat IWT.* That those trained remain within their organizations. *Mitigated by: Commitment of TAWA and CAWM to retain their trainers and/or provide ongoing institutionally based training to others.* Data should remain available within the SMART system, backed up

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
			beyond the SMART desktop computers. *Mitigated by: SMART Connect to be installed to ensure SMART data is synchronised with national SMART server.* Needed SMART equipment can be sourced locally. *Mitigated by: Pre-procurement assessments to be conducted to ensure SMART equipment can be sourced locally.*
Output 1 CAWM established as a national/regional training institute offering SMART Train the Trainer course.	1.1 One complete SMART curriculum package for Basic and Advanced levels adapted for delivery to TAWA by Y1Q2. 1.2 CAWM advertise the new SMART trainer development course on their social media platforms.	1.1 Copy of SMART trainer course curriculum. 1.2 Links / copy of advertisement(s) posted by CAWM for the new SMART trainer development course.	No external factors influence CAWMs ability to offer this and other training for the near future. *Mitigated by: CAWM remains committed to delivering SMART courses, as they have done for several years now.* COVID does not continue to impact ability for in person training and events or travel. *Mitigated by: This seems unlikely, but online tuition could also be arranged as a last resort.* That those trained remain within their organizations. *Mitigated by: Commitment of TAWA and CAWM to retain their trainers and/or provide ongoing*

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
			institutionally based training to others.
Output 2 Cohort of at least six TAWA Staff are qualified as SMART Trainers.	2.1 Number of TAWA trainers trained reporting to have delivered further training by the end of the project **[IWTCF – D01]** Disaggregated by Gender; Age Group; Stakeholder Group: Indigenous peoples, Local communities, Nationals, Public sector, Civil society, Private sector). 2.2 At least six TAWA staff participate and pass two SMART trainer refresher courses by Y2Q4 (Disaggregated by gender).	2.1 Training reports. 2.2 Training reports.	Selected TAWA trainers can grasp both Basic and Advanced aspects of SMART for their training purposes as a basis for conducting successful training. *Mitigated by: Trainer selection will include an assessment of trainer capacity to deliver the training effectively.* *Sites selected by TAWA include both male and female rangers at the level appropriate for the proposed training.* No external factors influence the availability of the trainers to attend refresher training. *Mitigated by: TAWA has confirmed their intention to ensure the trainers are made available to conduct SMART training.*
Output 3 Capacity built to implement SMART in four game reserves.	3.1 At least 86 TAWA staff from four sites and 2 zones receive SMART training (46 by Y1Q4 and 40 more by Y2Q4). [IWTCF- B01]. (data disaggregated by age, gender, and stakeholder group). NB Gender Targets: 1/3 of trainers/SMART Site Focal Points are female; Ratio of female rangers	3.1 Training reports and feedback from Site Commanders.	No external factors influence training plan for TAWA SMART trainers (6), Rangers (80). *Mitigated by: Close planning and coordination amongst partners assures that all planned training events take place.* That those trained remain within their organizations.

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
	trained at least proportional to male:female ranger ratio on site.		*Mitigated by: Commitment of TAWA and CAWM to retain their trainers and/or provide ongoing institutionally based training to others.* Rangers / Focal Points / Zonal staff able to apply the SMART training received successfully. *Mitigated by: The provision of SMART training, equipment and mentorship will ensure rangers can apply SMART after training.* Adequate funding maintained in each rollout site to maintain effective law-enforcement activities. *Mitigated by: TAWA will select sites that have the support to conduct LE activities.*
Output 4 SMART implemented and data from four game reserves used to inform management decisions and improve responses to IWT and protection of IWT-threatened species.	4.1 At least 33 SMART reports generated and shared with TAWA HQ by new SMART sites by Y2Q4 (three in Y1 and 30 in Y2).	4.1 SMART data analysis and reports.	TAWA server and capacity to manage SMART data are maintained. *Mitigated by: TAWAs IT Department has sufficient capacity to continue managing SMART data.*

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)

Output 1 – CAWM established as a national/regional training institute offering SMART Train the Trainer course.
Activity 1.1 Develop outline for CAWM SMART trainer course, building on previous CAWM SMART experience.
Activity 1.2 CAWM mentorship of TAWA trainees.
Output 2 – Cohort of up to six TAWA staff are qualified as SMART trainers.
Activity 2.1 Meeting to guide the selection process for TAWA SMART trainers.
Activity 2.2 Basic SMART training for TAWA trainers.
Activity 2.3 Advanced SMART training for TAWA trainers.
Output 3 – Capacity built to implement SMART in four game reserves.

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
Activity 3.1 Selection meeting for identifying four priority IWT sites for SMART training. Activity 3.2 Procurement meeting convened as basis for procuring needed SMART equipment for training/sites. Activity 3.3 SMART data management planning meeting with TAWA. Activity 3.4 Mock SMART training sessions convened to practice training techniques and materials. Activity 3.5 SMART refresher training provided for TAWA. Activity 3.6 TAWA SMART training – site 1. Activity 3.7 TAWA SMART training – site 2. Activity 3.8 TAWA SMART training – site 3. Activity 3.9 TAWA SMART training – site 4. Activity 3.10 WCS TAWA HQ SMART mentorship, M&E support. **Output 4 – SMART implemented and data from four game reserves used to inform management decisions.** Activity 4.1 SMART reports shared between site 1 and TAWA HQ. Activity 4.2 SMART reports shared between site 2 and TAWA HQ. Activity 4.3 SMART reports shared between site 3 and TAWA HQ. Activity 4.4 SMART reports shared between site 4 and TAWA HQ.			

Annex 3 Standard Indicators

Table 1   Project Standard Indicators

IWTCF Indicator number	Name of indicator using original wording	Name of Indicator after adjusting wording to align with IWTCF Standard Indicators	Units	Disaggregation	Year 1 Total	Year 2 Total	Total to date	Total planned during the project
IWTCF-B10		Number of arrests (linked to wildlife crime) facilitate by the project.	No. arrests	Level of offence charged (poaching, trafficking).	8 (100% poaching related)		8	32
IWTCF-B12		Number of wildlife crime cases submitted for prosecution.	No.	None.	2		2	13
IWTCF-D03		Number of local/national organizations with improved capability and capacity as a result of the project.	No.	Organizational type.	2		2	2
IWTCF-D26		Number of new and enhanced tools/approaches developed for tackling IWT.	No.	Typology of tools/approaches. Stakeholder group.	2 (new site SMART models)		2	4
IWTCF-D01		Number of TAWA trainers trained reporting to have delivered further training by the end of the project.	People / No. trained	Gender, Age, Stakeholder group, type of training	6 (4x men, 2 x women; 1 x under 30yrs & 5 x over 30yrs. Government		6	6

IWTCF Indicator number	Name of indicator using original wording	Name of Indicator after adjusting wording to align with IWTCF Standard Indicators	Units	Disaggregation	Year 1 Total	Year 2 Total	Total to date	Total planned during the project
					authority. Trainer development training.			

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)

Checklist for submission

	Check
Different reporting templates have different questions, and it is important you use the correct one. Have you checked you have used the **correct template** (checking fund, type of report (i.e. Annual or Final), and year) and **deleted the blue guidance text** before submission?	Y
Is the report less than 10MB? If so, please email to BCF-Reports@niras.com putting the project number in the subject line.	Y
Is your report more than 10MB? If so, please discuss with BCF-Reports@niras.com about the best way to deliver the report, putting the project number in the subject line.	N/A
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.	Y
If you are submitting photos for publicity purposes, do these meet the outlined requirements (see section 17)?	Y
Have you involved your partners in preparation of the report and named the main contributors	Y
Have you completed the Project Expenditure table fully?	Y
Do not include claim forms or other communications with this report.	