

Illegal Wildlife Trade Challenge Fund Case Study Webinar



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs



Webinar Panelists



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- ZSL Regional Lead for West and Central Africa
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- Country Director for Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), Viet Nam Program
- Project Leader on Project IWT040



Pham Thanh Trung

- Programme Manager for Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), Viet Nam Program
- Project team member for IWT040

Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- **Case Study 1** – IWT062
- Questions
- **Case Study 2** – IWT040
- Questions
- Final Questions

Objectives

- To provide a lesson learning opportunity for key personnel from new and previously funded IWT Challenge Fund projects
- An opportunity for past project leaders to share their experiences and tips

Welcome & Congratulations!

IWT Challenge Fund Round 7:

- 180 IWT applications received at Stage 1
- 40 IWT applications invited to Stage 2
- 22 new IWT projects funded

Poll

What is your role on your project?

- Project Leader/Co-Leader
- Technical
- Admin/Finance
- Other

Poll

Is your project new or from a previous funding Round?

- New Project (Round 7)
- Existing Project
- I currently don't work on any IWT projects

Case Study 1

Project Reference:	IWT062
Project Title:	Disrupting the illegal wildlife trade in grey parrots in Cameroon
Lead Organisation:	Zoological Society of London (ZSL)
Project Duration:	June 2019 – May 2022
Country(ies):	Cameroon

Disrupting the Illegal Wildlife Trade in grey parrots in Cameroon


Dr Andrew Fowler, Fanny
Djomkam & Anne-Stephanie
Kobla



This project will secure populations of African grey parrots in Cameroon's TRIDOM landscape

by protecting key parrot strongholds and

strengthening law enforcement efforts to disrupt IWT through Cameroon at border areas and major transport hubs.



This will be
achieved
by:

Output 1. Law enforcement personnel operating in the TRIDOM and Douala and Yaoundé air/sea ports have enhanced capacity to effectively investigate, target and intercept trafficking of African grey parrots and other IWT-threatened species; and effectively gather, manage and process evidence, ensuring cases are ready for prosecution.

Output 2. Key aggregation sites for populations of grey parrots in five target TRIDOM protected areas (Dja Faunal Reserve, Mengame Gorilla Sanctuary and Kom National Park, Boumba Bek National Park) are identified and integrated into MINFOF site-based protection and monitoring programmes (SMART), with anti-poaching detection systems and rapid response protocol piloted.

Output 3. Key local communities, adjacent to identified aggregation sites and trafficking hubs within the TRIDOM are actively engaged in monitoring and reporting of IWT through Community Surveillance Networks (CSNs), incentivised through establishment of VSLAs and enhanced local livelihoods.

Building the capacity of law enforcement agents to detect, investigate and prosecute IWT cases

ZSL with Dja Conservation Service ecoguards at the River Post in Dja Biosphere Reserve.



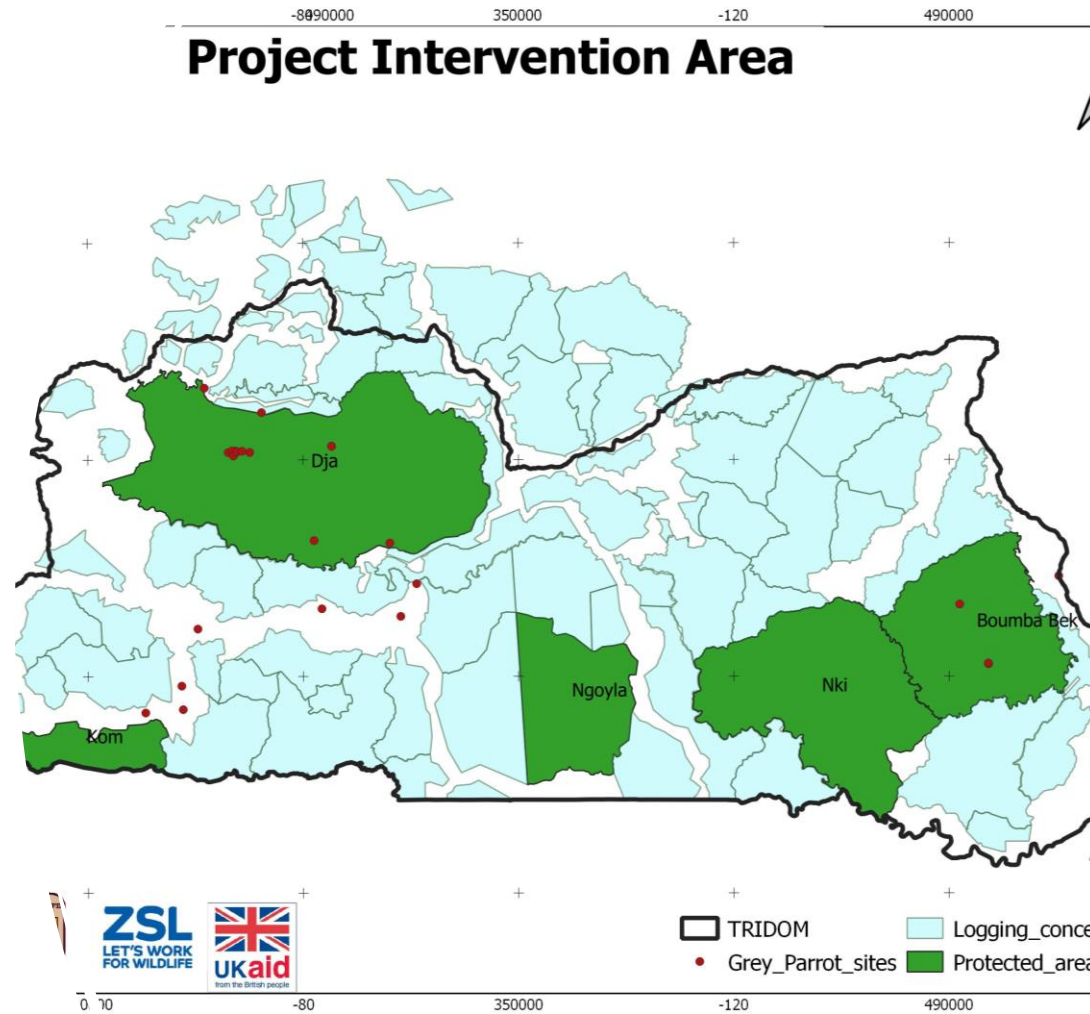
Building the capacity of law enforcement agents to detect, investigate and prosecute IWT cases

- World Parrot Trust and ZSL with Dja Conservation Service ecoguards at Djoum.



Identifying key parrot aggregation sites and adapting protected area management systems to enhance protection

- Key AGP aggregation sites were identified through discussions with ecoguards, ex-trappers and local communities.
- Missions were sent to verify sites.
- Management plans to protect key sites were developed.





Prevention of poaching of African grey parrots

- Information provided by the community surveillance network allowed the Dja Conservation Service to track a group of African grey parrot captors.
- After verification, a patrol spotted the group of poachers who had already captured the "decoy" bird.
- The Conservation Service therefore seized the parrot already captured and thus put an end to this parrot poaching expedition.

African grey
parrot trap
in a Bai.



Transport and care

- Previously, parrot seizures resulted in very high mortality of seized birds.
- Transport cages were produced to assist in delivering the birds to rehabilitation centres such as the Limbe Wildlife Centre.
- Basic animal husbandry lessons.



Increasing survival of seized parrots

- Training of ecoguards in basic animal husbandry.
- Production of cages for transport.
- Develop protocol with authorities on appropriate 'chain of custody' and eventual delivery to suitable rehabilitation centre e.g. Limbe Wildlife Centre.



Community engagement

Working with communities to tackle IWT and enhance resilience to wildlife crime.



Community engagement

- The villages enrolled in this project in accordance with the AGP aggregation sites are Akom, Biba 2, Nomedjoh, Alat Makay, Ayene and Lomie.
- Over the last 2years, they have evolved with their involvement in alternative livelihoods for AGP conservation.



Community engagement

- Summary of Village Savings and Loans Associations:



	Total savings (FCFA)	Total secure funds (FCFA)	Total loans given (FCFA)
Biba 2	1,072,000	133,200	500,000
Ayene	181,000	73,000	/
Akom	810,900	656,000	704,500
Nomedjoh	125,500		

Communities provide information to combat poaching of African grey parrots

- 8 parrots were seized and transported safely to the Limbe Wildlife Centre.
- 1 decoy parrot was seized and transported to the rehabilitation centre.



COVID

- Implement social distancing, face mask wearing and hand washing.
- Reduce number of visits to the field.
- Develop effective remote ways to manage projects and communicate such as social media and telephone.





Lessons learned:

- Prepare detailed workplans.
- Make sure your staff needs are adequate to match required activities.
- Recruit staff promptly.
- Purchase equipment early and ensure shipping and transport costs are adequately covered.



Be flexible and adaptable

- Conditions change.
- Things are not always as you thought when designing the project.
- Communicate early with your donor contact if things need to be amended.
- Be familiar with the terms and conditions of your grant, especially around financial reporting.



Reporting

- Build reporting into your workplan
- Start early
- Refer to your proposal and be specific
- Communicate with your donor contact if you have difficulties with report content or timing.

Thank you for your attention.

Good luck and enjoy your projects.



Case Study 2

Project Reference:	IWT040
Project Title:	Strengthening trans-continental cooperation to combat IWT between Vietnam and Mozambique
Lead Organisation:	Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS)
Project Duration:	July 2017 – December 2020
Country(ies):	Vietnam, Mozambique



Illegal Wildlife Trade Challenge Fund Case Studies Webinar

**Thuy Hoang, Country Director
Trung Pham, Program Manager**

Friday, November 12, 2021

IWT040 “Strengthening trans-continental cooperation to combat IWT between Vietnam and Mozambique”



- **Project Lead:** Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS)
- **Countries:** Viet Nam, Mozambique
- **Partner Institutions:**
 - Viet Nam Supreme People's Procuracy,
 - Viet Nam Ministry of Public Security,
 - National Administration of Conservation Areas (ANAC), Ministry of Land, Environment and Rural Development (MITADER), Mozambique.
- **Project Duration:** July 1, 2017 – December 30, 2020



What We Aimed For and Why

- Building political commitment: *legal frameworks are insufficient to enable proactive intelligence sharing between Viet Nam and Mozambique*
- Enhancing law enforcement capacity for cooperative action: *coordination hampered by geopolitics, lack of trust, MoUs and bilateral agreements are mainly on papers*
- Gathering and sharing intelligence: *effective, strategic, intelligence-led enforcement approaches are urgently required to combat wildlife trafficking networks operating between Africa and Asia*
- Increasing risk perception in partaking in wildlife crimes: *no baseline data on awareness and involvement of Vietnamese people in IWT activities*

HÃY CẨN THẬN, ĐỪNG ĐỂ ĐI TÙ OAN CHỈ VÌ MỘT MÓN QUÀ

Các hành vi mua, bán, vận chuyển và tàng trữ động vật hoang dã hoặc sản phẩm làm từ động vật hoang dã như xương tủy, nhũn, mật đay chuyển bằng ngà voi, da voi, vuốt sư tử, vảy tê tê... đều có thể bị xử lý vì phạm hành chính hoặc hình sự.

VIỆT NAM 1.5 NĂM TÙ 2 TỶ ĐỒNG PHẠT TÙ 1-1.5 NĂM TÙ, HÌNH PHẠT TIỀN ĐƠN 2 TỶ ĐỒNG*	THÁNG 2/2016 , 1 người Việt bị bắt giữ tại Kenya và chịu án 2 năm tù vì mang theo ngà voi 2 chiếc trong tay bằng ngà voi với mục đích làm quà cho người thân
CAMPUCHIA 10 NĂM TÙ 25.000 USD PHẠT TÙ 10 NĂM TÙ VÀ HÌNH PHẠT TIỀN ĐƠN 25.000 USD**	THÁNG 2-3/2014 , 2 người Việt Nam cũng bị bắt giữ tại Kenya và phải thụ án 6 năm tù vì mang theo người nhàngh đã lùa nhàn
LÀO 05 NĂM TÙ 1.150 USD PHẠT TÙ 5 NĂM TÙ VÀ HÌNH PHẠT TIỀN ĐƠN 1.150 USD VÀ 1 TỶ ĐỒNG***	MYANMAR 05 NĂM TÙ 700 USD PHẠT TÙ 5 NĂM TÙ VÀ HÌNH PHẠT TIỀN ĐƠN 700 USD
HAITI 06-10 NĂM TÙ 2.000 USD PHẠT TÙ 6-10 NĂM TÙ, HÌNH PHẠT TIỀN ĐƠN 2.000 USD	
PERU 03-07 NĂM TÙ PHẠT TÙ 3-7 NĂM TÙ VÀ HÌNH PHẠT TIỀN ĐƠN 3 TỶ ĐỒNG VÀ 2 TỶ ĐỒNG	MOZAMBIQUE 02-12 NĂM TÙ 1.000 USD PHẠT TÙ 2-12 NĂM TÙ VÀ HÌNH PHẠT TIỀN ĐƠN 1.000 USD VÀ 2 TỶ ĐỒNG
	TANZANIA 02-CHUNG THÂN 3.000 USD PHẠT TÙ 2-12 NĂM TÙ VÀ HÌNH PHẠT TIỀN ĐƠN 3.000 USD VÀ 2 TỶ ĐỒNG

* Điều 124 và 125 của Bộ luật Hình sự năm 2012 của Việt Nam (phạm tội bắt, giết, buôn bán động vật hoang dã).
** Điều 124 của Bộ luật Hình sự năm 2012 của Việt Nam (phạm tội bắt, giết, buôn bán động vật hoang dã).
*** Điều 124 của Bộ luật Hình sự năm 2012 của Việt Nam (phạm tội bắt, giết, buôn bán động vật hoang dã).
* Điều 124 của Bộ luật Hình sự năm 2012 của Việt Nam (phạm tội bắt, giết, buôn bán động vật hoang dã).
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* Điều 124 của Bộ luật Hình sự năm 2012 của Việt Nam (phạm tội bắt, giết, buôn bán động vật hoang dã).

CAO HỒ CỐT KHÔNG TỐT NHƯ BẠN NGHĨ

"Thuật của những người nấu cao hổ, là THƯỜNG CHO MỘT LƯỢNG NHẤT ĐỊNH THUỐC PHIÊN VÀO TRONG CAO HỒ."

Thuật phiên cao hổ có tác dụng giảm đau và hưng phấn thần kinh, nên khi dùng cao hổ có trộn thuốc phiên, người dùng có cảm giác hiệu quả, chứ thực ra, chẳng phải do tác dụng của cao hổ. (*)

1. Cao hổ cốt trên thị trường thường là kem giả từ xương trâu, bò, gấu, heo, gừ... mỗi thương hiệu có thể phân biệt được
2. Có rất nhiều các loại thuốc tây y và đông y bằng cỏ cây khác có tác dụng chữa bệnh xương khớp rất tốt
3. Việt Nam chỉ còn khoảng 50 cá thể hổ trong tự nhiên (thông kê của IUCN, 2015)

(*) Lương y Hoàng Ngọc Minh, Nhà thuốc gia truyền Minh Châu

Mua bán, vận chuyển, tàng trữ và lưu giữ/sản phẩm từ hổ có thể bị xử lý hình sự với **ÁN PHẠT LÊN TỚI 15 NĂM TÙ, VÀ HÌNH PHẠT TIỀN ĐƠN 2 TỶ ĐỒNG**



What We Achieved

- The Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty (MLAT) between Viet Nam and Mozambique signed and enacted;
- Piloted position of Vietnamese liaison officer (VLO) in 2018-2019 to support ANAC in accessing and gathering information of Vietnamese communities in Mozambique;
- Supported 3 enforcement actions between Viet Nam and Mozambique, resulting in six traders arrested and one convicted in Mozambique;
- Recorded 11 people arrested for trafficking wildlife between Mozambique and Viet Nam
- Initiated discussion on a Standard Operating Protocol (SOP) among the two countries' enforcement forces;
- Trained 80 Vietnamese prosecutors on the legal framework and mutual legal assistance procedure to handle transnational wildlife crimes
- Conducted 2 Knowledge Attitude Practice (KAP) surveys on IWT among Vietnamese people in 2018 and 2019



Challenges and Learning

- *Reshuffling and reform within the MPS:*
 - No deployment of a police attaché but Vietnamese liaison officer
 - Slow progress to build new relationship and trust for working on IWT and data sharing and case follow up
 - Vietnamese mobile population: telecom, import-export companies – partaking in illegal trade activities
- *Moving from a signed treaty to action:*
 - Take time to bring the two countries to an agreed action plan
 - Lack of trust among agencies within the country and between the countries
- *Transcontinental project and adapting to COVID-19*



Challenges and Learning – Transnational cases

- *Diversified working approaches with Vietnamese community and companies in Mozambique*
 - Engagement of the Vietnamese Embassy in Maputo
 - Business sector: weighing between for-profit priority and social responsibility: less interested in CWT policy development
 - Building in the system of the network of the Viet Nam Business Council for Sustainable Development (VBCSD) under Viet Nam Chamber of Commerce and Industry (VCCI)
- *Frequent follow up in intelligence sharing for true actions between Mozambique and Viet Nam*
 - Trust, focal person and timely feedback
 - Dynamic of IWT and the Vietnamese syndicates operating in Mozambique and their networks in other African countries
 - MLAT ratification and case follow up between LEAs



The Way Forward

- Continue to build on the established foundation:
 - Implement MLAT in the two countries
 - Facilitate the communication among two countries' prosecutors
- Transnational IWT cases: data sharing, decision making
- IWT in connection with other crimes including cyber and financial crimes
- Preventive approach with parallel stronger enforcement actions onto the supplier (supply side) and behaviour change from the consumers (demand side)
- The role of international organizations and foreign NGOs in CWT





**ILLEGAL
WILDLIFE
TRADE
CHALLENGE FUND**

A large tortoise, likely a Galapagos tortoise, is walking on a dirt path through tall, dry grass. The tortoise is facing left and is partially obscured by the grass in the foreground. The background shows more grass and some trees in the distance.

Thanks for listening!