

Annex C – Final Report

1. Identification:

Partners Name: **Department of National Parks and Wildlife**

Budget line: BAC [*please complete*]

POW 2014-2015 Sub-programme: [*please complete*]

Expected Accomplishment(s): well-equipped law enforcement staff, well informed public, better stakeholder collaboration

Output(s):

- Strengthened Capacity of Law Enforcement authorities to combat poaching and illegal trade in ivory and other elephant products
- Well-equipped authority staff on the frontline of enforcement with appropriate tools
- Strengthened law enforcement laws relevant to the conservation and management of elephants through collaboration (not clear with statement particularly the section (“strengthened law enforcement laws”))
- Enhanced capacity of the judiciary, police and other enforcement agencies to effectively enforce laws
- A well informed public, participating in the fights against wildlife crime

Title of the approved PRC project: Combating the Illegal killing of elephants and trafficking of ivory

SSFA starting date: 29th January, 2020

Completion date: 15th December, 2020

2. Summary of Status:

The Department of National Parks and Wildlife received the funds from the African Elephant Fund, through the Reserve Bank of Malawi, on the 29th of January, 2020.

The funds were a Grant to assist in the management of elephants and combating illegal trade in elephant products such as ivory through improved law enforcement by way of capacity building, provision of equipment, improved awareness and enhanced stakeholder collaboration.

The main achievements are:

- Joint training workshop for investigators, prosecutors and border post officers. A Workshop was organized and conducted at Linde Hotel which included Prosecutors from the Department of National Parks and Wildlife (DNPW) and the Malawi Police Service (MPS), Investigation Officers from the DNPW and the MPS and mainstream law enforcement officers from Kasungu and Nyika National Parks and Vwaza Marsh Wildlife Reserve and other Protected Areas, as well as staff from key Border Posts.

The Workshop facilitators were from the Wildlife Crimes Investigations Unit of the DNPW, Director of Prosecution from the Malawi Police Service, the Head of Investigation Unit at the Malawi Police Service, the Director of Investigations at the Financial Intelligence Authority (FIA) and the Chief Resident Magistrate for Central Malawi.

The workshop was very interactive and engaging and fruitful for all.

As one of the key outcomes, the participants formulated a networking platform through which they are sharing information and experiences in combating wildlife crime.

- Equip Law Enforcers at key points of entry and exit, Kasungu National Park, Vwaza Marsh Wildlife Reserve to assist in combating wildlife crime.

The Department, with financial support from the Project, has managed to procure assorted essential equipment and materials for law enforcement staff in the mentioned locations. These include tents, boots, socks, water bottles, field mats and sleeping bags.

These materials have greatly changed the working environment for these officers and they have been highly motivated.

- Develop and implement a well-targeted and evidence based awareness campaign.
Through the Project funding, the DNPW developed audio and video jingles that are running on Malawi's most popular TV and radio stations, including Zodiak Broadcasting Station (ZBS) and Timveni Radio. ZBS is an award-winning station that own a radio station as well as a TV station. Timveni on the other hand, is a popular Radio Station that broadcast live sports, mainly English Premier League Football matches which are a big crowd puller in the country.

To pass on messages of conservation, DNPW has used these to ensure a large percentage of the Malawian population is reached. These will be running for a period of six months, from the month of October (ZBS) and from November (Timveni Radio).

With the next portion of the funds, we intend to run this for another six months, as well as to produce posters and fliers on wildlife crime and illegal wildlife trade to be posted in strategic locations across the country.

Main Challenges

- The Covid 19 pandemic became very prevalent just after the funds had been received. Since most of the activities involved meetings and Workshops, implementation could not begin immediately, due to the various restrictions that were issued by the Government that included limiting public gatherings.

- One of the Workshops involves the Judiciary, who are crucial in the administration of justice in wildlife cases. This group of officials are regarded as crucial in the fight against wildlife crime.

Due to the backlog of cases within the Judiciary, resulting from the effects of the Presidential Election Case and the Covid 19 situation, the Judiciary were not available as planned, for the joint Workshop that we had requested them to take part in, both as participants as well as facilitators. Of crucial importance was the presence and authorization of Magistrates' participation by the Judiciary Chairperson of the Judicial Training Committee, Professor Kapindu. At the time of compiling this report, DNPW is still awaiting a feedback from the Judiciary on the request for Magistrates to participate and the Chairperson to preside of the Official Opening and closure of the Workshop.

This workshop finally took place from 11th to 13th May, 2021.

Brief description of the main achievements, main implementation challenges and lessons learned towards achieving SSFA's objective

3. Activity delivery status

Activity	Description of work undertaken during reporting period	Deliverables	Delivery date	Status of Activity (completed or not completed)	If activity not completed, please describe the reason why and indicate mitigation actions that were taken.
Activity 1 – name of activity	Sensitization of officers from Police, Judiciary and Director of Public Prosecutions on wildlife crime	Meeting Reports Improved sentences on wildlife cases	13 th May, 2021	Undertaken and completed	The Judges earmarked for the sensitization have had tight schedules in their work due to backlog of cases resulting from the Elections Case. They have confirmed availability for the Workshop from 25 th However, it is pleasing to report that the activity was undertaken in the month of May, 2021 and proved to be a very successful session. It was moderated by High Court Judge responsible for wildlife issues, Justice Violet Chipao. A full report has been produced and enclosed.
Activity 2	Undertake at least one joint training workshop	Workshop and	October,	Workshop	The resources were enough for just one

	for Investigators, Prosecutors and Border staff to promote cooperative investigation, joint anti-trafficking operations and anti-poaching	Workshop report	2020	was conducted and was successful	training workshop. We wish to continue with this activity.
Activity 3	Equip Law Enforcers at points of exit and entry, Kasungu National Park and Vwaza Marsh Wildlife Reserve to assist in combating elephant poaching	Assorted law enforcement field equipment: Tents, Boots, socks, mats	June, 2020	All equipment procured and distributed	The Department was in dire need of this equipment and it was crucial that it was procured. The author sincerely regrets for having used an unauthorized method of procurement
Activity 4	Develop and implement a well-targeted and evidence based national awareness campaign	Radio and TV jingles airing on National TV and Radio Stations	October and November, 2020	TV and Radio jingles airing	The radio and TV jingles were developed and aired on two popular radio and TV stations: Zodiak Broadcasting Station and Timveni Radio.

4. List of attached documents

- *Workshop participants list*
- *Copies of TV and Radio Clips*
- *Receipts and delivery notes of goods purchased*



Signature:

Date: 29th June, 2022

Name and title of signing officer: Alex CHUNGA, PRINCIPAL PARKS AND WILDLIFE OFFICER



Participants to a joint training workshop for Investigators, Prosecutors and Border staff, Linde Hotel, Mponela