



Proposal to the African Elephant Fund

1.1 Country: MALAWI

1.2 Project Title: Combating illegal killing of elephants and trafficking of ivory

1.3 Project Location: NATIONAL LEVEL

1.4 Overall Project Cost: US\$100,000.00
AMOUNT Requested from African Elephant Fund:

1.5 Project Duration: 12 MONTHS

1.6 Project Proponent: DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL PARKS AND WILDLIFE

1.7 Name of Project Supervisor: CHIZAMSOKA MANDA

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1.12 Date proposal submitted: 17th NOVEMBER 2017

2.0 Project Summary: (not more than 250 words)

In Malawi, out of the 9, but possibly 11 protected areas that contain elephants, it is only in Liwonde National Park, Majete Wildlife Reserve, and possibly Thuma Forest Reserve where elephant populations have been increasing in recent times. Each of the remaining elephant populations has gradually reduced in size and range, with the result that the

national population currently numbers less than 1,800 elephants. Conservation efforts in Malawi are met by a number of challenges that include the resurgence of poaching of elephants largely for ivory and land pressure, compounded by high human population densities and an agro-based economy, resulting in an ever increasing demand for land coupled with human-elephant conflict.

Malawi is also facing major challenges in combating the trade in illegal ivory, transiting by land as well as by air, whereby it is both a source and a transit country for ivory originating from various countries in the region. It is also being used as a major transit hub for illegal wildlife products, where traffickers and traders in ivory as well as illegal hunters are taking advantage of porous borders, corrupt practices, weak legislation, lack of specialized prosecutors, low penalties for offenders, and above all an acute lack of resources to remedy these shortcomings.

Aligned to the African Elephant Action Plan, the National Elephant Action Plan has been formulated and launched in February 2017 . It has a number of actions to be implemented where elephants occur, which are basically protected areas in the case of Malawi, and also some actions on combating ivory trafficking. Meanwhile, the NIAP just resubmitted to the CITES Secretariat which has also got a number of activities which are largely financially unsupported but all aimed at combating poaching of elephants and trafficking of ivory within Malawi. The launch came after the successful amendment of the National Parks and Wildlife Act which has provided stiffer penalties for wildlife criminals. The amended Act now requires enforcement to the optimum but the traffickers are usually well networked and are good risk takers.

Therefore, the overall aim for this proposal is to source additional funding that would help to upscale the fight against trafficking of ivory and other elephant parts and derivatives. In the process, poaching and the trafficking of other wildlife and wildlife specimens will be reduced due to tightened security and enhanced punitive actions. In order to make sufficient gains, there is need to implement multiple strategies targeting front line staff, all relevant stakeholders including members of the general public.

3.0 Which Priority Objectives and Activities (there may be more than one) in the African Elephant Action Plan does this project fall under? (For ease of reference, Priority Objectives are attached under Appendix 1)

This is in line with Objective 1: Reduce illegal killing of elephants and illegal trade in elephant products;

Strategy 1.1: Strengthen the capacity of law enforcement authorities to combat poaching and illegal trade in ivory and other elephant products;

Activity 1.1.3: Equip wildlife authority staff on the frontline of enforcement with appropriate tools.

Strategy 1.4: strengthen the enforcement of laws relevant to conservation and management of elephants;

Activity 1.4.1: Build capacity of judiciary, police and other enforcement agencies to effectively enforce laws.

4.0 Project Rationale – why is this project necessary and urgent? What threats face this elephant population (give, for example, what information you have regarding population details, trends in population (downward or upward), ivory seizure information, details about levels of poaching, human/elephant conflict, etc.).

In 2015, the Department of National Parks and Wildlife (DNPW) with support from GIZ and Lilongwe Wildlife Trust, carried out a study to a picture of the scope and extent of Illegal Wildlife Trade (IWT) in Malawi. In summary, the study revealed that IWT is a thriving industry in Malawi as the country is being used as a major transit hub for illegal wildlife products, which are being easily imported, processed, packaged, sold and exported through its porous borders. An example of the ease with which criminals have been circumventing the weak systems is that of a Chinese national who was arrested and prosecuted for an ivory trafficking offence under one name, deported under a second name, and reported by the INTERPOL National Central Bureau (NCB) to INTERPOL Headquarters under a third name.

It was not very surprising, therefore, that the Elephant Trade Information System (ETIS) Report submitted to the 17th meeting (CoP17, Johannesburg, 2016) of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), identified Malawi as a Party that serve as entrepôt and exporter for illegal ivory in southern Africa. From January 2016 to date, more than 330 kg out country ivory seizures have been recorded while 874 kg are in country seizures with 163 arrests made within the country.

In addition to being a transit hub, the study results point to the fact that Malawi's own wildlife is also under threat. It points out that *‘although data and population surveys may be lacking, the stark reality is clear – unless immediate action is taken to combat poaching and the illegal wildlife trade, Malawi will have very little wildlife left in just a few short years’*. Poachers and traffickers have apparently been taking advantage of corrupt practices, weak legislation and an acute lack of resources.

There has been significant effort in dealing with illegal ivory trade with support from a few partner organisations based in Malawi such as GIZ, Lilongwe Wildlife Trust, International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) and the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals among others. A lot has been achieved especially with the setting up and operationalization of the Wildlife Crimes Investigations and Intelligence Unit (WCIUU) jointly manned by DNPW and Malawi Police Service Officers. The establishment of a national inter agency committee on combating wildlife crime has made collaboration among state law enforcement agencies much easier.

Despite these achievements, the problems of trafficking are still huge and capacity challenges still abound among Law Enforcement operatives with regard to skills and equipment. There is very good collaboration in the Central part of Malawi because most of the players in combating wildlife are based there but not that good in the Eastern and Southern Regions of Malawi where there are no collaboration forums on combating wildlife crime to the extent that most law enforcers do not have sufficient knowledge about this forum.

5.0 Detailed Proposal – including activities to be carried out, milestones (at least quarterly milestones), timelines, equipment to be purchased, reporting procedures, etc. (not more than 1000 words). It will be helpful in evaluating this Project Proposal if you divide it into Phases such as Planning; Procurement; Implementation; Evaluation and Reporting

Should include anticipated benefits (including benefits to the conservation and management of elephant populations and communities) and outputs from the project, and how the project will be monitored and evaluated.

Under this Project, there will be a few undertakings aligned to the AEAP above which are also in sync with the NEAP and NIAP aimed at combating illegal wildlife trade as presented below;

1. Sensitisation of officers from Police, Judiciary and Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) officials in the Eastern and Southern Regions of Malawi: There will be two workshops, one each in each region to sensitise the officials on the seriousness of ivory trafficking and together map a way forward to enhancing enforcement of the Wildlife law and other pertinent legislation in the fight against trafficking of elephant specimens and other wildlife contraband.

BENEFICIARY: The Beneficiary will be various agencies in that the knowledge on the value of wildlife, extent and seriousness of wildlife crime particularly ivory trafficking.

MILESTONE: The number of properly prosecuted wildlife cases involving elephants and their specimens increases to over 90% of cases presented at the courts. The other aspect is that the number of cases improperly charged using the wildlife Act and other relevant Legislation decreases to less than 5% of cases presented to courts and that court sentences meted out are 100% in line with the provisions of the Wildlife and other Laws.

TOTAL COST: US\$ 20,000

2. Undertake at least one joint training workshop for investigators, Prosecutors and Border post officers to promote cooperative investigations, joint anti-trafficking operations and anti-poaching. Under this activity, officers will also be availed with techniques in identifying contraband and also improve networking

in intelligence sharing on traffickers of ivory. The immediate result of this will be expanded network of officers who will be involved in anti-trafficking of ivory and other wildlife products.

BENEFICIARIES: The operatives in various agencies and elephant conservation in general.

MILESTONE 1: Initiate at least four joint national intelligence driven wildlife crime operations within a twelve month period targeting places most affected by or used for wildlife crime, e.g. protected areas, border points or markets for wildlife specimens.

MILESTONE 2: Wildlife Investigations & Intelligence Unit network of undercover agents covers all the 12 Protected Areas, three additional main regional cities and other adjoining areas that are hotspots for trafficking of ivory and other elephant specimens.

TOTAL COST: US\$30,000

3. Equip law enforcers at points of exit and entry, in Kasungu National Park and Vwaza Marsh Wildlife Reserve with equipment to assist in combating elephant poaching. These two protected areas managed by DNPW have elephant populations threatened by poaching. The staff are not very well equipped with respect to basic field equipment for efficient conducting of patrols.

MILESTONE: Rangers at ports of entry and exit, in Kasungu National Park and Vwaza Marsh Wildlife Reserve equipped with basic patrol equipment.

OVERALL COST: US\$30,000

4. Develop and implement a well-targeted and evidence-based national awareness raising campaign by engaging key stakeholders, would be consumer groups and targeting the motivations for the demand for illegally traded ivory, using specific messaging approaches and methods for target audiences:- Efforts are already underway but are largely inadequate at the moment. This is because of low levels of awareness of the seriousness of wildlife crime and its impact. Despite the high number of custodial sentences by the courts, the levels of trafficking are not really abating. Those convicted, however, really express shock at the severity of the penalties. It is, therefore, to provide information to the general public so that they appreciate the need for protecting elephants and other wildlife species. At the same time, they will be warned in advance about the serious consequences of engaging in wildlife crime. This will be taking place over and above on-going public awareness programs which have got limited reach.

BENEFICIARY: The general public will be sensitized, support for elephant protection further enhanced and consequently reduce probability of members of the public getting involved in poaching of elephants and trafficking of ivory.

MILESTONE 1: At least one Foreign Mission (e.g. Chinese Embassy) reached and a messaging system operationalised.

MILESTONE 2: Launch reduction campaign that included participation of the public

MILESTONE 3: Distribute information materials in all strategic areas / hot spots and conduct public road shows to disseminate elephant conservation messages in partnership with popular media outlets, the Wildlife Law.

TOTAL COST: US\$20,000

6.0 Project Timeline – outline the timeline for proposed activities within this project. You may find it helpful to relate the timeline to the Phases identified in Section 5.0 above.

BUDGET

7.0 Has this project received or been pledged any other sources of funding (external)? Give all relevant details (for example, amount, source of funds, timetable, any restrictions):

In general, there is support towards some of the activities mainly those dealing with trafficking but the figures are not available. Additionally, two more protected areas with elephant populations are managed on a Public Private partnership arrangement with African Parks Network bring the number to three. The requested funds will, however, be used where there is no support.

7.1 Please provide a detailed proposed budget for this project (in US\$). You may find it helpful to relate expenditure to the Phases you have set out in Section 5.0

Details included in Table annexed to the document:

1. Sensitisation of officers from Police, Judiciary and Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) officials in the Eastern and Southern Regions of Malawi:

						EXPECTED SOURCE OF FUNDS & AMOUNTS		
	Quantity	Unit Cost (MK)	Days	Amount (MK)	US\$	AEF	PROPONENT	OTHER
Facilitation Fees (SDI)	3	25,000	4	300,000	416.67	0	416.67	
Transport Cost (No. of	15	100,000		1,500,000	2,083.33	2100	0	

Vehicles)								
Lodging and meals	33	75,000	5	12,375,000	17,187.50	17,188	0	
Incidentals (\$10/day)	33	7,300	5	1,204,500	1,672.92	0	1,673	
Hire of hall and teas (5xdays)	1	80,000	3	240,000	333.33	333	0	
Stationery	30	2,000		60,000	83.33	83	0	
				15,679,500	21,777	19704.17	2,089.58	

2. Undertake at least one joint training workshop for investigators, Prosecutors and Border post officers to promote cooperative investigations, joint anti-trafficking operations and anti-poaching.

						EXPECTED SOURCE OF FUNDS & AMOUNTS		
	Qty	Unit Cost (MK)	Days	Amount (MK)	US\$	AEF	PROPONENT	OTHER
Facilitation Fees (SDI)	3	25,000	7	525,000	729.17	0	729.17	
Transport Cost (No. of Vehicles)	10	150,000		1,500,000	2,083.33	2,083.33	0	
Lodging and meals	33	75,000	7	17,325,000	24,062.50	24,063	0	
Incidentals (\$10/day)	33	7,300	7	1,686,300	2,342.08	0	2,342	
Hire of hall and teas (5xdays)	1	80,000	7	560,000	777.78	778	0	
Stationery	33	2,000		66,000	91.67	92	0	
TOTAL				21,662,300	30,087	27,015	3,071	-

3. Equip law enforcers at points of exit and entry, in Kasungu National Park and Vwaza Marsh Wildlife Reserve with equipment to assist in combating elephant poaching.

					EXPECTED SOURCE OF FUNDS & AMOUNTS		
	Quantity	Unit Cost (MK)	Amount (MK)	US\$	AEF	PROPONENT	OTHER
Leather boots	100	42,000	4,200,000	5,833.33	5,833.33	-	0
Sleeping bags	100	70,000	7,000,000	9,722.22	9,722.22	-	0
2 man tents	100	70,000	7,000,000	9,722.22	9,722.22	-	0
Socks	100	8,000	800,000	1,111.11	1,111.11	-	0
Sleeping mats	100	10,000	1,000,000	1,388.89	1,388.89	-	0
Water bottles	100	15,000	1,500,000	2,083.33	2,083.33	-	0
TOTAL			21,500,000	29,861.11	29,861.11		

4. Develop and implement a well-targeted and evidence-based national awareness raising campaign by engaging key stakeholders, would be consumer groups and targeting the motivations for the demand for illegally traded ivory, using specific messaging approaches and methods for target audiences

					EXPECTED SOURCE OF FUNDS & AMOUNTS		
	Quantity	Unit Cost (MK)	Amount (MK)	US\$	AEF	PROPONENT	OTHER
Posters	1000	5,000	5,000,000	6,944.44	6,944.44	1,416.67	
Fliers/ brochures	10000	1,000	10,000,000	13,888.89	12,472.22	-	
Radio jingle	12	35,000	420,000	583.33	583.33	-	
TOTAL			15,420,000	21,416.67	20,000	1416.67	

Please take note that other sources were not consulted as the proposal was being formulated.

Any other budget lines:

**7.2 Please specify the proponents contribution towards the project
Since the Project does not cover allowances**

The contribution from proponent will be in cash and kind. Since allowances cannot be paid from these funds, DNPW will have to source funds to pay out of pocket allowances during trainings and workshops otherwise it becomes problematic to implement the activity.

DNPW staff will have to set aside time to implement the project if successful and this will be a contribution in kind.

Please submit the completed proposal, either by:

Email:

Fax:

You should receive acknowledgement of receipt of your proposal within 14 days. If you do not receive such an acknowledgement, please telephone:

Further details on any of the above details may be requested by the Steering Committee of the African Elephant Fund.