

This report will be made public. If it contains confidential or sensitive information, please also provide a revised report for sharing with the public.

Section I. Project Information								
Project Title: Intelligence Response for Combatting Tiger and Wildlife Crime (IRCT)								
Grantee Organisation: Zoological Society of Londo	on							
Location of project: Thailand digital media								
Size of project area (if appropriate):	No of tigers and / or Amur leopards in project area, giving evidence & source: at least 6 tigers from Southeast Asia region that can be identified as an individual							
Partners: (Please give details of partners, including project.	g communities, academic institutions etc. for this							
long-standing partnership with DNP, which enforcement of wildlife laws in Thailand. It coordinating with national and regional as Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool (SN collaboration builds on the existing Memorand DNP. 2. Wildlife Crime Intelligence Centre (WCC) continuing its efforts to combat illegal will Thailand, following the conclusion of the Onevelopment Program (UNDP). The Wildlife under DNP, serves as a central information coordination, planning, and resource allowers and controls operations, positioning trafficking.	and Plant Conservation (DNP), Thailand: ZSL has a chi plays a critical role in the management and DNP will co-lead the project implementation, gencies, providing ranger training, and utilizing the MART) for enhanced anti-poaching efforts. This brandum of Understanding (MoU) between ZSL: The Department of National Parks (DNP) is dlife trade, with a specific focus on tiger trade in GEF6 project supported by the United Nations ife Crime Intelligence Centre (WCC), a centre in and command centre, facilitating strategic cation while monitoring situations to effectively its technological infrastructure, WCC manages ang itself as a key player in the fight against wildlife							
Project Contact Name: (main contact via email)	Vlay Moe Wah							
Email: may.moewah@zsl.org								
Actual start date of project: (if different from 1st R	February) 1st February 2025							
Reporting period: 6 Months								



Section II. Project Progress

Summary of progress for the first 6 months: (Please provide a summary that describes how your activities are addressing the problems you identified in your application and what successes you have achieved so far this year which we can use in our communication materials.)

The project was designed to tackle three key problems: (1) the lack of a reliable intelligence database on tiger-related crimes, (2) insufficient strategic law enforcement investigations to disrupt illegal tiger trade, and (3) limited awareness and interinstitutional coordination to combat wildlife trafficking. Over the first six months of 2025, the project has made significant progress; in addressing these challenges through targeted activities, laying a strong foundation for combating illegal tiger trade in Thailand and Southeast Asia countries

1. Building an Intelligence Database (Output 1):

- Problem Addressed: The absence of a centralized, reliable database on tiger-related crimes hindered effective law enforcement action. Perpetrators' use of ephemeral platforms like Facebook Stories further complicated evidence collection.
- o **Progress**: Using standardized open-source intelligence (OSINT) methods, the project documented at least six individual tigers 4 of them its alive and 2 dead Tiger, involved in illegal trade across Southeast Asia, with five presumed captive-bred and one likely wild-caught. Trafficking sources were identified, primarily originating from Indonesia, Laos and Myanmar, with potential transit through Thailand. Perpetrators no longer post images of high-value species like tigers publicly; instead, they use Facebook Stories. Consequently, rather than relying solely on keyword searches, monitoring now involves reviewing friends' lists, adding or following individuals, and observing their activity over time. This shift in advertising methods has been addressed by adapting our searching strategies, ensuring continued data collection despite the 24-hour content lifespan of Stories.
- Successes: A comprehensive intelligence database has been established with information currently shared via email, while DNP inputs the data into the iBase system. Tiered user access allows authorized personnel to analyze trafficking networks and perpetrator behavior. Intelligence from partner organizations is also consolidated in the system, creating a central resource that supports law enforcement investigations and addresses the previous gap in actionable intelligence.

2. Enhancing Strategic Law Enforcement Investigations (Output 2):

- Problem Addressed: Limited in-depth investigations into tiger trafficking have taken place due to insufficient actionable intelligence.
- Progress: Five intelligence packages were compiled and submitted to law enforcement for action. These tiger trafficking cases all involved transboundary trade (e.g., involving Indonesia, Laos, and Vietnam). According to a local expert, tiger trade



is likely to be linked to larger syndicates, as in one particular historical case on illegal tiger parts crime in Thailand involving agarwood smuggling syndicates. Qualitative feedback from authorities highlighted the need for combined OSINT and human intelligence (HUMINT).

Successes: The intelligence packages have enhanced law enforcement agencies' awareness of trafficking networks and their connections to other crimes such as financial crimes, as they use exotic pets as a method for money laundering, and cybercrimes, as Cyber tools allow traffickers to hide their identities, locations, and networks. This has laid the groundwork for targeted investigations. Despite no reported tiger seizures in Thailand this year, the packages have been discussed by DNP and Royal Thai Police to pursue future interventions.

3. Improving Awareness and Interinstitutional Coordination (Output 3):

- Problem Addressed: Limited awareness of digital investigation techniques and weak inter-agency collaboration hindered effective responses to tiger trafficking.
- O Progress: The workshop "Analytical Investigations on Digital Forensics and Open-Source Intelligence Gathering to Combat Wildlife Crime" (May 6-9, 2025) trained 39 DNP law enforcement personnel and involved 15 organizers/instructors from ZSL Thailand, WCC, and the Royal Thai Police. Training covered the use of digital forensics tools for the examination of digital devices such as phones and laptops, and how to use these tools to extract data (e.g., Dr. Phone, Cellebrite). Other training topics included the application of OSINT strategies for investigation (e.g., IP tracking, sock puppet accounts), and mechanisms for securing and preserving digital evidence, maintaining chain-of-custody, handling sensitive investigative situations safely and ethically, and financial tracking, with a focus on tiger trafficking case analysis. Participant scores ranged from 3.55 to 3.95 out of 5, reflecting strong gains in practical skills.
- Successes: The workshop enhanced participants' ability to apply digital techniques (3.95/5) and fostered collaboration among DNP, ZSL, WCC, and the Royal Thai Police. Evidence of willingness to collaborate was observed during these sessions and further reinforced in the follow-up Thailand Wildlife Enforcement Network (Thailand WEN) meeting, where LEA discussed establishing a joint task force. Although still in the early stages

Key Successes for Communication Materials:

Actionable Intelligence Database: Documented the illegal trade in six tiger individuals, originating from Indonesia, Laos and Myanmar. Adapted OSINT methods for platforms like Facebook Stories. Developed a database of tiger trade intelligence, equipping law enforcement agencies to target trafficking networks more effectively. Discussions on how or whether to securely publish this database are currently underway.



- Capacity Building: Trained 39 DNP personnel in digital forensics and OSINT during a May 2025 workshop, achieving high proficiency (up to 3.95/5). Media content will be produced and shared with law enforcement agencies following a second, advanced-level workshop, to be held in September 2025.
- Inter-Agency Collaboration: Built partnerships among DNP, ZSL, WCC, and the Royal Thai Police, fostering a foundation for sustained coordination to address tiger trafficking, despite ongoing challenges in trust and legal knowledge. As a follow-up, the Thailand Wildlife Enforcement Network (Thailand WEN) convened a meeting to set up a joint task force, which is currently in the early stages of development.

Details of activities and results to date: (Please give details of progress made towards the objectives & outputs of your Logframe by carrying out the activities included in your Workplan. Please include the appropriate quantitative and qualitive data from the measurable indicators that you identified in your Logframe. Please add any relevant charts, maps and images.)

Output 1 Intelligence data base on tiger -related crimes, collected from digital media using standardized methods for accuracy and reliability, are used to inform law enforcement strategies.

Over the past six months, our team has systematically monitored and recorded tiger-related crimes across social media platforms in Southeast Asia. Utilizing standardized open-source intelligence (OSINT) methods, we have identified and documented at least six individual tigers involved in illegal activities. The data indicates that these tigers are unlikely to originate from Thailand but may transit through the country. The countries of origin identified are Indonesia, Laos and Myanmar.

Key Findings:

- Nature of Trade: The data reveals ongoing live tiger trade and trafficking of tiger carcasses in recent years. Analysis suggests that many of these tigers likely originate from captive breeding facilities, with one identified tiger showing a high probability of being caught from the wild based on the environment around evidence. Considering the environment shown in the video, the tiger was killed in a green, forested area, and the footage appears to be from Indonesia, where illegal wildlife trade on social media is currently widespread.
- Shift in Advertising Methods: Perpetrators have adapted their methods, moving from static Facebook posts to Facebook Stories. This shift complicates detection and evidence collection, as Stories disappear after 24 hours, limiting the window for OSINT researchers to gather actionable intelligence.
- **Criminal Adaptability**: The use of platforms like Facebook Stories highlights the organized and adaptive nature of perpetrators, necessitating enhanced monitoring strategies.

Quantitative Indicators:

• Identified Tigers: There were total 13 tiger-related cases, including 6 involving live tigers and 7 involving dead tigers. At least 6 identifiable individual tigers were documented in illegal trade, of which 4 were presumed captive-bred, 1 likely wild-caught, and 1 of uncertain origin



- Geographic Scope: Activities recorded across Southeast Asia, with Indonesia, Laos and Myanmar identified as source countries.
- Data Collection Period: 6 months of continuous monitoring.

Qualitative Indicators:

- Reliability of Data: Standardized OSINT methods ensured consistent and verifiable data collection, with additional verification for the wild-caught tiger based on analysis of the environment around evidence.
- Law Enforcement Impact: All collected intelligence, including details, has been submitted
 to law enforcement agencies to support ongoing investigations and inform future strategies
 to combat tiger-related crimes.

Outputs:

- A comprehensive intelligence database documenting tiger-related crimes, including details
 on individual tigers, source countries, captive breeding versus wild-caught origins, and
 trafficking methods.
- Reports submitted to law enforcement, highlighting the shift to ephemeral platforms, the
 prevalence of captive breeding, and the critical case of a likely wild-caught tiger.



Output 2 Increased strategic law enforcement investigations of illegal tiger trade cases, resulting from the provision of at least 5 Intelligence packages submitted to law enforcement officials.

Over the reporting period, our team has successfully compiled and submitted five intelligence packages to law enforcement authorities. These packages were developed using standardized open-



source intelligence (OSINT) methods and contain detailed information on tiger-related crimes, including country of origin, account of perpetrators, and associated illegal activities. Qualitative feedback from law enforcement has been collected to assess the impact and utility of these packages.

Key Findings:

- Intelligence Packages: Five comprehensive intelligence packages were submitted, detailing tiger trafficking cases and their connections to broader illegal activities. The packages identified transboundary trade patterns, with evidence suggesting that tiger trafficking is often linked to the pet trade involving other species from Indonesia.
- **Associated Criminal Activities**: Expert interview indicates that tiger trafficking from Laos and Vietnam is interconnected with agarwood smuggling syndicates.
- **Operational Needs**: Feedback from law enforcement highlights the need for future collaboration, combining OSINT with human intelligence (HUMINT) and expert consultation to support covert operations and effective action against trafficking networks.
- **Seizure Data**: No tiger seizures have been reported in Thailand this year, suggesting either a decline in local trafficking or increased sophistication in evading detection.

Quantitative Indicators:

- Intelligence Packages Submitted: 5 packages delivered to law enforcement agencies.
- **Geographic Scope**: Cases involve transboundary trade across Southeast Asia, particularly involving Indonesia, Laos, and Myanmar
- Reporting Period: Data collected, and packages submitted within the current year.

Qualitative Indicators:

- Feedback from Law Enforcement: Qualitative feedback indicates that the intelligence
 packages are actionable but require integration with HUMINT and expert advice for
 effective investigations. Authorities emphasized the need for covert operations to dismantle
 organized trafficking networks.
- Criminal Network Insights: The connection to international smuggling syndicates and pet trade underscores the complexity of tiger trafficking, requiring multi-agency and crossborder collaboration.

Outputs:

- Five intelligence packages containing detailed OSINT-derived data on tiger trafficking, including links to other species in the pet trade and agarwood smuggling.
- Strengthened law enforcement awareness of transboundary trafficking patterns and the need for integrated OSINT-HUMINT approaches.

Output 3 Improved awareness and interinstitutional coordination to address illegal tiger trade, through the tiger trafficking, and wildlife crime information-sharing workshop



The ZSL Thailand, funded by the Wildcats Conservation Alliance and co-financed with WCC, organized a workshop titled "Analytical Investigations on Digital Forensics and Open-Source Intelligence Gathering to Combat Wildlife Crime." The workshop engaged 39 law enforcement participants from DNP, including staff from Protected Areas, CITES Wildlife Inspection Checkpoints, and the DNP Special Operation Unit, alongside 15 organizers and instructors from ZSL, WCC, and the Cyber Crime Investigation Bureau of the Royal Thai Police. Participants included 41 men and 13 women.

Summary Analysis for workshop

Key Activities

The workshop enhanced skills in digital forensics and OSINT to combat tiger trafficking and wildlife crime. Training included:

- Network investigations (IP address/domain lookup).
- Digital financial tracking using open-source tools for cryptocurrency and blockchain.
- Simulated scenarios on search operation planning, court warrant requests, and workplace challenges.
- Use of digital forensics tools (e.g., Dr. Phone, Cellebrite) for data extraction.
- Analysis of shell companies in money laundering.
- Practical OSINT exercises, including ethical sock puppet account use and analysis of a reallife tiger trafficking case.
- Exploration of the \$23 billion wildlife crime industry and its links to other crimes.

Quantitative analysis:

- Participant Breakdown: 54 total attendees (39 DNP law enforcement participants, 15 organizers/instructors; 41 men, 13 women).
- Score Range and Distribution: Participant evaluations rated workshop topics on a 5-point scale, with scores ranging from 3.55 to 3.95, reflecting moderate to fairly high improvement in capabilities. The narrow 0.4-point gap indicates consistent effectiveness across topics, though no area achieved an "excellent" rating (4.5–5.0).

• Top-Performing Topics:

- o Application of digital investigation techniques: 3.95
- o Use of digital tools (e.g., IP address tracking): 3.89
- Digital evidence preservation: 3.87

• Lower-Performing Topics:

- o Legal knowledge (Computer Crime Act): 3.55
- Coordination with digital forensics agencies: 3.61
- Digital evidence analysis (mobile phones/computers): 3.71



• **Comparative Analysis**: Practical, hands-on topics scored higher than theoretical ones, indicating stronger participant engagement with applied skills.

Qualitative analysis:

- Strengths: The workshop significantly enhanced participants' confidence in applying digital investigation techniques to wildlife crime, particularly tiger trafficking (3.95). Practical training in digital tools and evidence preservation was highly effective, and participants recognized the linkage between cybercrime and wildlife crime (3.79), reinforcing the workshop's relevance.
- Weaknesses: Lower scores in legal knowledge suggest that complex legal content may require more relatable case studies or simplified explanations. Coordination with digital forensics agencies and evidence analysis from devices need additional focus, potentially through extended practice or clearer procedural guidance.
- **Overall Impact**: The high average score (3.95) for practical application reflects improved readiness to tackle wildlife crime using digital techniques. However, theoretical and coordination-related topics indicate areas for refinement to achieve higher proficiency.

Outputs:

- A successful workshop that trained 39 DNP law enforcement personnel in digital forensics and OSINT, fostering improved awareness of tiger trafficking and wildlife crime.
- Strengthened interinstitutional coordination through collaboration among ZSL, WCC, and the Royal Thai Police, laying the groundwork for future joint efforts.
- Identification of key areas for improvement in training content, particularly in legal knowledge and inter-agency coordination.

Give details of any obstacles to success that the project has encountered over the last 6 months. (Please provide detailed examples, explain what impact these will have on the project results and the changes to the budget and timetable of project activities.)

The project has faced several challenges over the past six months that have impacted progress toward objectives.

- 1. Timeline Overlap Between Quarterly Reporting and Workshop Preparation Description: The project encountered scheduling conflicts due to the simultaneous timing of quarterly reporting and preparation for the workshop "Analytical Investigations on Digital Forensics and Open-Source Intelligence Gathering to Combat Wildlife Crime," co-financed by WCC. Although we had already allocated a budget for organizing a separate workshop, we sought to co-host a joint workshop with government agencies in order to maximize the outcomes and avoid overburdening participants with excessive training sessions. Resulting DNP is the leading in timeline of workshop. The simultaneous timing required the same staff to manage both reporting and workshop coordination, and necessitated integrating feedback from both the first and second quarters into a single period.
 - Impact on Project Results: The overlap delayed the analysis and incorporation of quarterly feedback into ongoing activities, particularly affecting the refinement of



- quarterly feedback (Output 1, 2) and the relevance of the workshop's content (Output 3). This reduced the ability to iteratively improve based on early feedback, potentially limiting the effectiveness and usefulness of information.
- Changes to Budget and Timetable: The workshop budget was reduced by approximately 50% of the estimated budget due to the co-financed workshop structure and DNP taking the lead in workshop organization. The simultaneous timeline of quarterly reporting and workshop preparation, driven by the co-financed approach, led to an earlier-than-planned schedule for the workshop. The leftover budget was discussed with DNP and will be reallocated to address knowledge gaps by organizing an advanced cyber investigation techniques workshop, planned for the end of September. This additional workshop is estimated to involve 15 specific personnel.
- 2. Limitations of OSINT Without Parallel HUMINT and Ground Investigations Description: While open-source intelligence (OSINT) has been critical for building the intelligence database (Output 1), online searches alone have proven insufficient for comprehensive results. The shift to ephemeral platforms like Facebook Stories complicates evidence collection, and the identification of one wild-caught tiger highlights the need for on-the-ground human intelligence (HUMINT) and field investigations to verify origins and trafficking routes. However, as an NGO, we operate within strict ethical boundaries that prevent direct engagement with suspects or the use of HUMINT, limiting our ability to complement OSINT with ground-based intelligence.
 - Impact on Project Results: The reliance on OSINT, without parallel HUMINT efforts, has limited the project's ability to fully trace trafficking networks, particularly for transboundary cases involving Laos, Myanmar, and Vietnam. This gap may reduce the effectiveness of intelligence packages (Output 2) and delay law enforcement interventions, as critical details about perpetrators and supply chains remain incomplete.
 - Changes to Budget and Timeline: There are no changes to the budget or timeline for this challenge, as the project does not conduct ground investigations due to ethical and safety of ZSL staff. Instead, we will continue to focus on enhancing OSINT capabilities and sharing intelligence with law enforcement partners who can pursue field investigations, ensuring alignment with our ethical boundaries.
- 3. Complex Government Structures and Lack of Buy-In: The complexity of government structures in Thailand and other country across Southeast Asia, combined with a lack of buy-in and trust among LE agencies, has hindered interinstitutional coordination (Output 3). Despite efforts to foster collaboration through the workshop and intelligence-sharing, some agencies remain hesitant to fully engage due to jurisdictional overlaps, differing priorities, and on concerns about information security, as the WCC database system is not yet at the same standard as other law enforcement agencies.
 - **Impact on Project Results**: This lack of trust has slowed the adoption of intelligence packages by law enforcement (Output 2) and limited the impact of the workshop in



fostering sustained coordination (Output 3). Without stronger inter-agency commitment, the cohesive regional action against tiger trafficking may be delayed.

- Changes to Budget and Timeline: There are no changes to the budget or timeline for addressing the challenge of building trust, as trust-building is integrated into ongoing facilitation activities. The project continues to foster connections among stakeholders through existing coordination efforts. In the future, if budget allows, we plan to bring stakeholders together to reduce challenges and foster collaboration, including discussions on the feasibility of joint planning and operations to enhance interinstitutional coordination.
- 4. Shifting of Wildlife Trafficking method: As reported in Output 1, the shift by perpetrators to ephemeral platforms like Facebook Stories has made evidence collection challenging, as content disappears after 24 hours. Additionally, distinguishing between captive-bred and wild-caught tigers (with five presumed captive-bred and one likely wild-caught) requires specialized expertise, This analysis typically depends on consultation with DNP experts, but their availability has been limited due to existing official responsibilities, making it difficult to obtain timely guidance. We currently lack stripe pattern data for both captive and wild tigers, and comparable domestic data would help support the investigation.
 - **Impact on Project Results**: The transient nature of digital evidence has reduced the volume of actionable intelligence in the database (Output 1), potentially limiting the scope of law enforcement investigations (Output 2). The challenge of identifying tiger origins has delayed the development of targeted strategies to address wild-caught trafficking, a critical conservation concern.
 - Changes to Budget and Timetable: There are no changes to the budget or timetable
 for addressing the challenge of content and tiger origin identification. The project has
 adjusted its search methods to adapt to the shifting nature of advertising, particularly
 the use of platforms like Facebook Stories, to improve evidence collection without
 requiring additional funding or timeline extensions

Objective	Activities	Team members	Month											
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Develop a monitoring manual to monitor and detect trade in Tigers on digital platform.	ВО	Х	х	х	Х	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х
	Conduct continuous digital media surveillance to detect illegal tiger trade, following a monitoring manual.	ВО		х	х	Х	х	х	Х	х	х	Х	Х	Х
	Develop secure information-sharing gateways encrypted communication channels will be established between ZSL and DNP to facilitate the safe transfer of intelligence.	ВО		х	х	Х	х	х	Х	Х	Х	х	x	х
	Prepare at least five intelligence packages using data analytics and network mapping tools providing law enforcement with essential information to develop targeted enforcement strategies	во	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	Х	Х	х



	Monitor cases through the investigation system, tracking case	ВО									
	progress and obtaining regular updates. Liaison with investigators and			Χ		Х			Х		Х
	conduct quality construct feedback										
	Conduct workshop focused on tiger trafficking, as well as wildlife	BO, JT			Х	Х	Х	Х			
	crime information-sharing, will be conducted with stakeholders				^	^	^	^			
M & E	Quarterly analyse trends in trade, location, methods, and volumes in	ВО		Х		Х			Х		Х
	detection rates to determine the effectiveness of monitoring			٨		^			^		^
	Quarterly Report on feedback sessions conducted with the DNP to	BO, JT									
	evaluate the impact of the database. It will be assessed through qualitative methods			Х		Х			Х		Х
	Questionnaire feedback from stakeholders who attend on tiger trafficking, as well as wildlife crime information-sharing workshop	ВО			Х	Х	Х	х			
	Plan Adjustments Based on Monitoring & Evaluation Result	BO, JT		Х		Х			Х		Х
	Report on Final Assessment	BO, JT									Х
Reporting	Report to WildCats Conservation Alliance	BO, JT				Х					Х



Budget: Is the spend on target? If not, please give details and provide an updated budget sheet.

The project's budget is on target. As noted in the challenges, approximately 50% of the activity budget is allocated for the workshop

Details of Budget Utilization:

- Workshop Budget: The original budget for the workshop was reduced by 50% due to cofinancing with WCC, and DNP's leadership in organizing the event. The remaining 50% of the
 workshop budget will be reallocated to fund an advanced cyber investigation techniques
 workshop planned for the end of September 2025, targeting 15 specific personnel. No budget
 changes were required for additional workshops as these are being managed within existing
 resources.
- **Overall Budget Impact**: The total budget remains on target, with the 50% underspend on the workshop activity offset by reallocation to the advanced workshop. No additional external funding was required, and all adjustments were made within budget reserves.

Media: Please provide a list of recent publications and media both local and national which mentions the work funded by this project and/or mentions WildCats Conservation Alliance.



Current Status of Media and Publications: As the project is still in progress, there have been no recent publications or media coverage (local or national) in relation to our activities. The project's focus on building an intelligence database, providing intelligence packages to law enforcement, and conducting workshops has been primarily operational and collaborative,

Planned Media and Publications: To enhance visibility and share project outcomes, the following media and publication activities are planned:

- Short-Form Media Production: A 1–3-minute video or digital media piece will be produced upon completion of the advanced cyber investigation techniques workshop, scheduled for the end of September 2025. This content will highlight workshop impacts, and law enforcement collaborations, and will be shared through local and national platforms, including social media channels of partner organizations like ZSL Thailand and the Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation (DNP).
- Finalized Guidelines Publication: By the end of the project (anticipated December 2025),
 a comprehensive guideline document on standardized OSINT searching methods for tigerrelated crimes will be finalized and published. This will be disseminated among law
 enforcement agencies.

WildCats Conservation Alliance asks for at least 7 relevant high-resolution jpeg files of images of the project activities during this time period.

These images are available for download from the project shared drive here Please refer to the folder select photos