



UNEP GEF PIR Fiscal Year 2023

1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023

1- Identification

1.1 Project details

GEF ID	9525	SMA IPMR ID	M99-32GFL-11207-14AC0003-SB-011413
Project Short Title	South Africa Strengthening institutional	Grant ID	M99-32GFL-11207-14AC0003-SB-011413
		Umoja WBS	M99-32GFL-11207-14AC0003-SB-011413
Project Title	Strengthening Institutions, Information Management and Monitoring to reduce the rate of Illegal Wildlife Trade in South Africa		
Project Type	Full Sized Project (FSP)	Duration months	Planned 60
Parent Programme if child project	Wildlife Conservation for Development Integrated Program		Age 72.0 months
GEF Focal Area(s)	Biodiversity	Completion Date	Planned -original PCA 20-Nov-24
Project Scope	National		Revised - Current PCA 31-Dec-25
Region	Africa	Date of CEO Endorsement/Approval	8-May-18
Countries	South Africa	UNEP Project Approval Date (on Decision Sheet)	7-Feb-19
GEF financing amount	USD 4,886,009	Start of Implementation (PCA entering into force)	26-Feb-29
Co-financing amount	USD 7,420,000	Date of First Disbursement	20th Nov 2019
Total disbursement as of 30 June	USD 1,308,483	Date of Inception Workshop, if available	25-Oct-19
Total expenditure as of 30 June	USD 1,633,385	Midterm undertaken?	No
		Actual Mid-term Date, if taken	
		Expected Mid-Term Date, if not taken	15-Jan-24
		Expected Terminal Evaluation Date	1-Feb-26
		Expected Financial Closure Date	1-Jun-26

1.2 EA: Project description

This Project aims to strengthen institutions and targeted communities to improve decision-making and reduce the rate of illegal wildlife trade in South Africa. It will specifically carry out activities to improve monitoring and management of iconic CITES-listed species threatened by illegal and unsustainable levels of international trade and develop appropriate community governance mechanisms and management tools that will ultimately lead to improved wildlife monitoring and a reduction in illegal wildlife trade from South Africa.

Component 1: Strengthening capacity and information systems for effective management of wildlife trade monitoring by the South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI), aiming at developing a centralized system for improved wildlife trade monitoring through development of training modules and providing skills training to Scientific Authority of South Africa on effective wildlife trade monitoring and assessment, as well as through the creation of a national wildlife monitoring system.

Component 2: Development of a ready-to-use electronic permitting system for CITES-listed species by DFFE to provide an electronic system for CITES permitting that will ultimately communicate with other CITES permitting systems, including that already created by UNEP-WCMC. In this regard, ensuring that international wildlife trade is legal, sustainable and verifiable is a fundamental consideration for DFFE.

Component 3 by SANPARKS and PPF on Strengthening community capacity to reduce the rate of illegal wildlife trade. It focuses on community-level socio-economic development support through implementation of novel community governance guidelines specifically targeting community-based natural resource management, as well support for livelihood options seeking to reduce illegal wildlife trade.

1.3 Project Contact

Division(s) Implementing the project

Ecosystem

Executing Agency(ies)

Department of Forestry Fisheries and Environmental (DFFE)

Name of co-implementing Agency

N/A

Names of Other Project Partners

South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI)
Peace Parks Foundation (PPF)
South African National Parks (SANParks)

TM: UNEP Portfolio Manager(s)

Ersin Esen

EA: Manager/Representative

TM: UNEP Task Manager(s)

Jane Nimpamya

EA: Project Manager

TM: UNEP Budget/Finance Officer

George Saddimbah

EA: Finance Manager

TM: UNEP Support/Assistant

Ruth Igamba

EA: Communications lead, if relevant

Mercedes Merarle

Sipho Mabunda

Charles Bopape

2- OVERVIEW OF PROJECT STATUS

TM: UNEP Current Subprogramme(s)

Ecosystems Sub programme

TM: UNEP previous Subprogramme(s)

Ecosystems Sub programme

Expected Accomplishment 1: Use of the ecosystem services and sustainable productivity of terrestrial and aquatic systems is increased

TM: PoW Indicator(s)

2.1 UNEP PoW & UN

EA: UNSDCF/UNDAF linkages

UNSDCF Strategic objectives:

- 3.1: By 2025, state institutions deliver effective public services to all and oversight bodies are strengthened.
- 3.2: By 2025, women and marginalized groups are able to participate meaningfully in decision making processes and access justice.
- 4.2: By 2025, natural resources are managed and utilized sustainably for improved livelihoods and well-being of vulnerable communities;

EA: Link to relevant SDG Goals

Goal 1 No Poverty, Goal 5 Gender Equality, Goal 15: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.

EA: Link to relevant SDG Targets

Target 1.1. By 2030, eradicate extreme poverty for all people everywhere, currently measured as people living on less than \$1.25 a day. Target 5.5: Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life. 15.7 Take urgent action to end poaching and trafficking of protected species of flora and fauna and address both demand and supply of illegal wildlife products.
15.c Enhance global support for efforts to combat poaching and trafficking of protected species, including by increasing the capacity of local communities to pursue sustainable livelihood.

2.2. GEF Core or Sub Indicators

TM: GEF core or sub indicators targeted by the project as defined at CEO Endorsement/Approval, as well as results

Indicators	Targets - Expected value			Materialised to date
	Mid-term	End-of-project	Total Target	
11.1: Male	50	1750	1800	
11.2: Female	50	1750	1800	

Implementation Status 2023 4th PIR

FY 2023
FY 2022

PIR #	Rating towards outcomes (DO) (section 3.1)
4th PIR	S
3rd PIR	S

Rating towards outputs (IP) (section 3.2)
S
S

Risk rating (section 4.2)
L
L

FY 2021
 FY 2020
 FY 2019
 FY 2018
 FY 2017
 FY 2016
 FY 2015

2nd PIR	S
1st PIR	S

S
S

L
L

EA: Summary of status
 (will be uploaded to GEF Portal)

Component 1: Expenditure on track and will be depleted soon (80% of tranche 1 funds - 21% overall funds – spent and tranche 1 will be depleted by of August or September, depending on when the service providers invoice us for milestone 2); Continuation of project activities relating to the development of the South African Wildlife Population System (Output 1.2) is subject to receiving second tranche of project funds; not receiving funds timeously will result in loss of momentum and potential legal risks due to sub-contractual agreements with service providers;

The following progress has been made on the technical aspects of the SANBI component:

For Output 1.1:

- The project coordinator has been working with Scientific Authority institutions to ensure the correct interns are matched to the specific positions and to develop work plans and training programmes, including an induction workshop for all interns and SAoSA members. Currently, 20 young professionals have been identified for the Scientific Authority track and a specific skills survey has been distributed to the provinces to form part of the capacity development strategy. The coordinator is continuing to work with the Groen Sebenza programme to ensure each province has sufficient capacity for their needs.
- The project coordinator has received two interns for work under the Biodiversity Economy programme. Work plans have been developed for both interns to support biodiversity economy work, including assisting with the development of the capacity strategy and formatting of data to feed into SAWPS. Additionally, one Research Assistant has been recruited to assist in cleaning the Sustainable Wildlife Economies Project (SWEPE) database, which will feed into SAWPS and hopefully galvanise greater private landowner participation in the system.
- The African Wildlife Economy Institute (AWEI) was appointed as the service provider to produce a capacity development strategy for the SAoSA on 6 March 2023. While the contract is logjammed at the University of Stellenbosch legal department, AWEI have produced a course outline for the induction course on wildlife trade and policy for the Scientific Authority. This course will ultimately be embedded on the e-learning platform at AWEI (<https://www0.sun.ac.za/awei/study/learn>). Additionally, a draft NDF process flow has been produced by my intern after interviewing the Scientific Authority, so that this can be included in the course and used to identify where SAWPS can improve decision-making.

For Output 1.2:

- The consortium of Information Decision Systems (IDS) and Kartoza were sent the award letter on 14 February 2023 for the successful bid under BRAM436-2022 to build the South African Wildlife Population System (SAWPS). The team has set up regular fortnightly progress meetings with the project coordinator. The final review of the wireframe by the system developer took place on Friday 31 March 2023 for the SBC and SAoSA members to sign-off on the wireframe so the developers can begin building the system features from April 2023. The first set of features have been developed (including the registration and interactive map functions) and are currently being tested by the SBC. Additionally, the data model for the system has been through rigorous internal development and will be piloted in the system before being sent to the SBC and provincial management authorities for approval. The link to the live system is here: <https://sawps.sta.do.kartoza.com>
- The coordinator has also attended weekly sprint meetings with the developers to resolve key issues, advise on feature design, provide data layers and queries from the developers. In particular, the design of the data model and mock-up of the data upload template has been complicated due to the different data management processes and templates used by the provinces. However, pilot datasets have been reformatted and used to inform the data model in the backend of the system, which will be tested in the sprints.
- To assist the finalising the data model and statistical models within SAWPS, a post-doc agreement was signed with Dr. Tim Kuiper at the University of Cape Town, who will begin work on 1 July 2023. Dr. Kuiper has already participated in several meetings with the system developers and will be responsible for helping to finalise the data template and to produce models for the backend that will enable robust population abundance and trend estimates from the count data and method of data collection. This will help the Scientific Authority to produce more accurate and scientifically defensible estimates for use in non-detriment findings and decision-making processes at a national level.
- Data requests to key stakeholders have been sent out, so that the process of migrating institutional datasets into SAWPS and creating relevant data upload templates that can accommodate multiple species and institutions can be developed. Many provincial datasets have been received (including Free State, CapeNature, North West), as well as SANParks data. Additionally, the complete national elephant database has been received from DFFE. Additional species datasets are still incoming and, once the system is

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- A systems integration workshop was co-hosted with DFFE on 30 March 2023 in Johannesburg, where members of the provincial scientific services and permit offices were invited to discuss how the e-permitting system can be integrated with SAWPS and create value-added insights when combining trade data embedded in TOPS and CITES permits with site-level population trends and abundance. A flow diagram was developed to link the two systems through permit numbers and a mechanism for ensuring the system is populated by making it part of the permit condition was proposed, which will be taken up at Wildlife Forum.

The delays on receiving the first funding tranche for this project and the delays in appointing the Deputy Director have resulted in overall delays on the SANBI component of the project. Other project partners have also had implementation delays due to COVID19. While there have been delays in procurement on this project, relating to lengthy processes and lack of responses to tenders, these are largely on track now, with a revised project plan to catch up on activities in 2023. All major service providers have now been procured. However, the major risk to the project is the lack of delivery of the next tranche of funding by the PMU (High risk level). **Component 2** Ad Hoc online trainings for CITES Provincial Management Authorities were conducted on the CITES E-permitting system between January and March 2023 in preparation for the launch of the system on the 01 April 2023.

The CITES e-permitting system was launched on the 01 April 2023 in commemoration of the World Wildlife Day. In this regard, all applications and supporting documents related to the import and export of CITES listed species is thus assessed and processed online with no interference/ manipulation of the permits by officials nor applicants. Custom officials at National Ports of Entries are responsible for endorsing the permits online and are confident that the wildlife export is done based on authentic documentation.

The Service Provider to undertake the Provincial infrastructure analysis (computers, servers) to assess the Province's ability to deploy and implement the electronic permitting system was appointed in June 2023, the date of commencement on this work is from August to October 2023. **Component 3: (PPF):** NB: Expenditure on track (100% of tranche 1 funds - 50% total funds - received will be depleted by end Q3); Continuation of ALL project activities is subject to receiving second tranche of project funds; not receiving funds timeously will result in loss of momentum, trust of project beneficiaries, and reputational (and potentially legal) risk, due to sub-contractual agreements with service providers; Progress: Stakeholder engagement:

- Continued implementation of the co-developed Stakeholder Engagement Strategy (SES) and engagement plan, guided by the Greater Kruger Strategic Development Programme (GKSDP 2020) through a series of Cluster workshops which informed the 2022 / Third iteration Situation Analysis (SA) submitted in May (to be revised by project team) ; Q1+Q2 2023 engagement and capacitation focussed on Livelihoods Projects support and Community Leadership.

-Projects Oversight and Support Officer (POSO) operationalised and providing dedicated support to the engagement of stakeholders and development of concept notes of the

- Projects Oversight and Support Officer (POSO) operationalised and providing dedicated support to the engagement of stakeholders and development of concept notes of the selected conservation compatible livelihoods projects in the three clusters. Five Concept Notes developed. *Projects support subject to receipt of second tranche project funds.

Training

- 2022 Training Report submitted, capturing 2022 training and related engagements' information, metrics and Lessons Learnt.
- Continued implementation of the 2022/23 Training Plan through the SAWC: focus group "Community Structures, Frontline- and Livelihoods projects support staff and Environmental Monitors". Metrics on training numbers, participants and events captured to databases.
- 79 people in total trained during reporting period, including Environmental Monitors (34) and project team / liaison officers (Champions).
- Accredited training delivered to 29 persons from two groups; Traditional Authority (TA) members from key communities in Greater Kruger's northern cluster and, Tradesman's Aides responsible for Kruger National Park's fence maintenance.
- 15 Tradesman's Aides completed training in "Dangerous Game Awareness and Man Tracking" that teaches avoidance, awareness, and defensive action suitable to their work environment. Fourteen Community TA members received training on good governance principles and community leadership's role in natural resources management to reduce illegal wildlife trade (IWT) and its impacts.
- Training material developed and implemented: Community Governance & Leadership (modules: "Leading Heart" and "Governing Heart", informed by WWF's "Braveheart" short course.

Communication

- Two GEF6 quarterly bulletins published.
- GEF6 inputs to World Environment Day (May 2023)

Events and awareness opportunities

- GEF6 South Africa (Component 3) inputs to United Nations Development Programme publication called: "Lesson-Learning at the Global Wildlife Program (GWP) National Project-level: Reflections and Recommendations from an Action-Learning Pilot Exercise on Lessons-Learning: South Africa, p.22 - 26". Along with contributions from six other countries, the resource publication captures and shares project implementation insights and lessons learnt to a global audience.
- Global Wildlife Program (GWP) learning events and exchanges attended by GEF 6 project partners

<https://www.dffe.gov.za/multimedia/gallery/2023worldwildlifeday>

<https://www0.sun.ac.za/awei/study/learn>

<https://sawps.sta.do.kartoza.com>

EA: Planned Co-finance

\$7 420 000

EA: Actual to date:

As of end June 2023 Total Value is \$4 922 284 (66%)

EA: Justify progress in terms of materialization of expected co-finance. State any relevant challenges.

DFFE: Expected total amount: \$5 000 000 (Cash \$2 500 000,) (In-kind 2 500 000) Total realized: 2 273 434 In-kind/ 90 % (Cash: \$0), PPF: Expected total amount: \$600, 000, (Cash \$ 300, 000) (In-kind \$300, 00) Total realized: \$ 175,398 in kind / 58%; (\$0 cash / 0%) SANParks: Expected total amount: \$ 500, 000. (Cash \$ 480, 00) (In-kind \$20, 000) Total realized: In-kind: \$744 461 / 148% (Cash \$0)
 SANBI: Expected total amount \$620, 000, (in-kind \$420 000) (Cash \$200 000) Total realized: In-kind \$635 347 / 151%; (Cash \$126 605 /63 %).
 UNEP-WCMC: Expected total \$200, 000 (\$200, 000 in-kind,) (Cash \$0),
 WWF: \$500, 000 (In-kind \$0) (Cash \$500, 000) : Total realized: \$ 360 948 / 72%.
 Component 3 (PPF): Due to circumstances beyond the control of the executing partner who relies on donor funding, the envisioned cash co-financing contribution could not be realized; the in-kind co-financing contribution continues as committed and on track with 58% midway through project implementation.

EA: Date of project steering committee meeting

27-Jan-23

Component 1: A System Build Committee (SBC) has been established and the terms of reference finalised to oversee the system development phase of the work. This SBC comprises both an Advisory sub-committee to problem-solve and unblock high-level issues as well as provide strategic guidance; and a Technical Task Team to test system functionality and provide feedback. This SBC is multi-institutional and at a high-level, helping to provide sound governance, reporting structures and investment into the system in the future. SBC members are actively participating in the system build sprints and have been providing feedback on features and other aspects of SAWPS. It is challenging to get all members of the SBC engaged in the development sprints, but hopefully this can be resolved once full piloting of the system proceeds on an institutional level.

Component 2: Components Linkages Workshop: The workshop was held on the 30 May 2023 with the key stakeholders (Provincial and National Conservation Agencies and Provincial CITES Management Authorities of Component 1 and Component 2 systems). The aim of the workshop was to: 1. To showcase linkage between: South African Wildlife Population system, E-permitting system and community capacity development and find ways of making the systems as developed work for all users to assist in enhancing their work; 2. To solicit feedback from provincial and national management agencies on how the two systems can be linked to ensure optimal decision-making. A report was drafted touching on workflows and linkages between the systems as well as potential way forward. UNEP WCMC and DFFE Meeting (26 May 2023 and 22 June 2023) on collaboration/ partnership for Activity 2.3.1: Formalise collaboration with national, regional and international partners and secure agreement to share data. A detailed proposal was drafted for the proposed partnership between DFFE and UNEP-WCMC with proposed timeframes and budget. This target will be actioned upon receipt of the proposed budget. CITES E-permitting stakeholder training: One on one training have been conducted since the launch of the system to assist the system users. These trainings will be requested on Ad Hoc basis.

Component 3: PPF: Continued implementation of the co-developed Stakeholder Engagement Strategy (SES) and engagement plan, guided by the Greater Kruger Strategic Development Programme (GKSDP 2020) through a series of Cluster workshops which informed the 2022 / Third iteration Situation Analysis (SA) submitted in May (to be revised by project team) ; Q1+Q2 2023 engagement and capacitation focussed on Livelihoods Projects support and Community Leadership.

•Projects Oversight and Support Officer (POSO) operationalised and providing dedicated support to the engagement of stakeholders and development of Component 2: Component: 3 PPF: concept notes of the selected conservation compatible livelihoods projects in the three clusters. Five Concept Notes developed. *Projects support subject to receipt of second tranche project funds. **SANParks:** The Greater Kruger Steering Committee held a meeting on 30 January 2023 to discuss project progress against the Environmental Monitors programme, stakeholder engagement, communications programme and the perceptions survey. The next meeting will take place by the end of August 2023. Livelihoods Projects site visits were conducted in the three GEF 6 clusters between May and June with the Projects Oversight and Support Officer, the GEF 6 Project Coordinating Officer for SAWC, the GEF 6 Coordinator for SANParks, the cluster Stewardship Supervisors and the Groen Sebenza Intern assigned to the GEF 6 programme on Project Management functions. The Livelihoods Projects were selected on the criteria of supporting the reduction of illegal wildlife trade, women and youth championing and support to nature positive outcomes. The site visits were conducted to five of the ten initially identified Livelihoods Projects for GEF 6 support to verify each projects' alignment with GEF 6 goals and to determine each project's state of readiness to qualify for assistance with resource and capacity development. Concept documents for the five projects have since been drafted by the POSO and submitted to PPF for funding support.

•Environmental Monitor meetings now take place on a quarterly basis with the cluster Stewardship Supervisors, Ranger Services and project partners. The intention of conducting these meetings on a quarterly basis is to allow for the EM teams to focus more on their work and training opportunities without having to be interrupted by meetings, and to allow the GEF 6 team on the ground to plan and execute an awareness event to form part of the quarterly meetings. EMs participated in Veld Condition Assessment workshop during a quarterly meeting in April, the session was facilitated by SANParks' internal Scientific Services. The VCA workshop taught EMs how to use a tool called a disc pasture meter which is to determine fuel load based on vegetation found in a particular area. They were also taught on determining ground cover and composition of grasses, forbs, and trees.

•Five Environmental Monitors were identified to attend a six weeks Field Ranger course at the Southern African Wildlife College where they qualified in Fire Arm training. Three of the five EMs have since been promoted and absorbed by SANParks as Armed Field Guards, in supporting the work that is being done by the Ranger Services. The three vacant EM positions have since been filled.

•Groen Sebenza Interns were inducted on 22 March 2023. Three Groen Sebenza Interns have been assigned to the GEF 6 programme specifically.

•Participated in the GEF 6 PMT meeting, 31 May 2023.

TM: Does the project have a gender action plan?

No

EA: Gender mainstreaming
(will be uploaded to GEF Portal)

PMU: As a recommendation from the 2021 PIR, it was recommended that SA developed a gender mainstreaming strategy which will guide gender reporting for future references. We are in the process of appointing a service provider through the DFFE Supply Chain Management processes. A suggestion was that the consultant be appointed towards the end of the project to understand the impact of the gender mainstreaming in the project. At present a headcount of male versus female participants in the project is captured and recorded as indicated below.

Component 1: A System Build Committee (SBC) has been established and the terms of reference finalised to oversee the system development phase of the work. This SBC comprises both an Advisory sub-committee to problem-solve and unblock high-level issues as well as provide strategic guidance; and a Technical Task Team to test system functionality and provide feedback. This SBC is multi-institutional and at a high-level, helping to provide sound governance, reporting structures and investment into the system in the future. SBC members are actively participating in the system build sprints and have been providing feedback on features and other aspects of SAWPS. It is challenging to get all members of the SBC engaged in the development sprints, but hopefully this can be resolved once full piloting of the system proceeds on an institutional level.

Component 2: •The contract to develop the e- permitting system was awarded to SITA, a state-owned institution. The number of women who took part in the system development were 4 out of a team of 9 people

•139 women were trained during the CITES E-permitting system training out of a total 391 people trained

Component 3: •The SAWC's (Southern African Wildlife College) GEF 6 Project Coordinator is a female. She has since been promoted to the GEF 7 project but her skills and experience gained through GEF 6 remains in the overall project landscape. The GEF 6 project has directly contributed to her career path and personal development.

•The GEF 6 Livelihoods Projects Oversight and Support Officer appointed through PPF SLA is a female.

•The 10 Livelihoods Projects that are benefitting from GEF 6 project support include a number of women, for example the Bende-Mutale Women's Agricultural Group that consists of 16 members, all female. A database is being developed capturing gender information of all Livelihoods Projects' beneficiaries.

•Through the SAWC's GEF 6 capacitation modules, 80 women have been trained during the period June 2022 to June 2023.

•28 women are appointed as Environmental Monitors through SANParks, of which three have been promoted to permanent positions with Kruger National Park, and efforts made to re-appoint females to the EM's cohort to replace them.

•WWF Khetha supports the GEF 6 Communications and knowledge sharing output, and published the profiles of nine women in celebration of profiles for the International Day of Rural Women on Saturday, 15 October 2022, to showcase women from the Greater Kruger who are inspirational actors in their communities and families.

Link to post: [Khetha Programme International Day of Rural Women.](#)

[Khetha Programme International Day of Rural Women.](#)

TM: Was the project classified as moderate/high risk at CEO Endorsement/Approval Stage?

No

TM: Have any new social and/or environmental risks been identified during the reporting period?

No

TM: If yes, what specific safeguard risks were identified in the SRIF/ESERN?

TM: If yes, please describe the new risks, or changes

TM & EA: Has the project received complaints related to social and/or environmental impacts (actual or potential) during the reporting period?

No

TM & EA: If yes, please describe the complaint(s) or grievance(s) in detail including the status, significance, who was involved and what actions were taken.

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EA: Environmental and social safeguards management
(will be uploaded to GEF Portal)

Component 3:

The impact of Human Wildlife conflict on livelihoods, dangers by wildlife posed to Environmental monitors (EMs); supporting conservation compatible livelihoods; and addressing community perceptions with regard to illegal wildlife trade, are key. Interventions include the recruitment of, and training of community based Environmental monitors; training in bush interpretation and dangerous animals tracking; project support to conservation compatible livelihoods/Community based Natural resource Management (CBNRM); supporting initiatives to improve community perceptions and relationships with Protected areas, through conducting perception surveys, and through supporting meaningful community engagement and conservation programmes between community structures and protected area authorities (seeking to address HWC; livelihood opportunities, improved communication; CBNRM practices strengthened).

EA: Knowledge activities and products
(will be uploaded to GEF Portal)

Component 1: The African Wildlife Economy Institute (AWEI) at the University of Stellenbosch has been awarded the tender to produce the capacity development strategy for the Scientific Authority members and their young professionals. The course outline for the induction course for Scientific Authority of South Africa (SAoSA) members has been produced and consists of 8 modules relating to wildlife trade, CITES and NDFs. This course will draw on existing materials for the South African context. This course will be embedded on AWEI's existing e-learning environment and form part of a broader learning environment on wildlife trade and wildlife economies, which will help to provide holistic learning opportunities for the SAoSA members and their young professionals. Additionally, this work provides the exciting long-term potential for an applied research partnership with AWEI fellows to develop the science and knowledge products needed by SAoSA and add to e-learning content over time. A draft skills audit has been conducted and put into a document with potential service providers to develop this skills as part of the capacity development plan implementation.

Additionally, a user guide and training materials for the South African Wildlife Population System will be developed in consultation with the service providers. Learning materials related to the wildlife economy will also be embedded on the 'About' page of the system: <https://sawps.sta.do.kartoza.com/>

Component 3: (PPF) Training material and modules developed for / through the project by SAWC: 1) Leading Heart Modules 1&2 (community / practitioners' leadership principles); 2) Governing Heart modules 1&2 (good governance for communities, practitioners); GEF6 Approach to Stakeholder Engagement inputs - (Principles, Benefits, Approach, Exchange) to the Global Wildlife Programme Lessons Learnt series (presentation and inputs to formal report/publication); <https://www.wwf.org.za/?40525/Meet-the-environmental-monitors-looking-after-wildlife-and-people>, <https://www.greaterkrugerlandscape.co.za/pages/stories>, <https://www.zinio.com/za/kruger-magazine/autumn-2023-i611673>. Participated in the recent People and Parks Orientation where the GEF 6 project was presented to the new Limpopo and Mpumalanga provinces/regional structures to determine areas of collaboration.

<https://sawps.sta.do.kartoza.com/>

<https://www.gre> <https://www.zinio.c>

Please attach a copy of any products: <https://sawps.sta.do.kartoza.com/>, <https://www.wwf.org.za/?40525/Meet-the-environmental-monitors-looking-after-wildlife-and-people>, <https://www.greaterkrugerlandscape.co.za/pages/stories>, <https://www.zinio.com/za/kruger-magazine/autumn-2023-i611673> Stories | Greater Kruger Strategic Development Program (GKSDP) ([greaterkrugerlandscape.co.za](https://www.greaterkrugerlandscape.co.za))

2.8.

EA: Main learning during the period

Component 1: We have learned several lessons through project implementation activities. The project heavily dependent on procurement and there can be significant delays here. Both tenders and the post-doc position had to be readvertised twice and blockages with SCM have had incurred delayed implementation. The AWEI SLA has been with their legal services for 4 months. Learning how to carry on project momentum during these delays has become somewhat of an art form, but by readjusting the timing of project activities and reconfiguring various outputs of processes that are under our control as inputs into subsequent project activities, delays can be mitigated. Getting the attention of the Scientific Authority members has also been a challenge. The SAoSA members are very busy and so can be non-responsive to communications sometimes, which presents challenges when trying to design the capacity development programme and information system on their needs. However, once we get traction with the system and capacity development, this problem should be resolved as these members will see the results and be inspired to participate. The learning from this is to try get to a minimum viable product as quickly as possible without overdesigning it upfront.

Component 3: Lessons Learnt captured and contributed to Global Wildlife Programme Publication (to be shared when published); Main learning: Ongoing operational presence of project implementing partners is vital in each cluster. Stakeholder Engagement is an ongoing process, constant learning, engagement & reflection is key. Importance of Integrated work planning, regular meetings and communication: maintain consistency, regular feedback and being mindful of results framework is essential, whilst being innovative and adaptive -each cluster is different. Consistent principles and criteria, to inform the Integrated work planning, core team meetings and collaborative operational activities. Sharing and exchanging knowledge on Stakeholder engagement methods, processes, challenges, complexities. (from various and comparable landscapes) How to ensure there is real common understanding of messaging processes, roles, actions, communication between partners and stakeholders (other than through 'conventional' ways –e.g., reports box ticking...) The Environmental Monitors programme of the GEF 6 project has received good attention in the past year with requests from some landscape partners and stakeholders to have the number of EMs expanded from 75 to a much greater number across the western boundary of the Kruger National Park and adjacent communities. Kruger National Park is limited in affording this request, as the GEF 6 project is already assigned 47% of the total 156 of EMs allotted to the KNP by DFFE/Treasury .<https://www.wwf.org.za/?40525/Meet-the-environmental-monitors-looking-after-wildlife-and-people>, <https://www.greaterkrugerlandscape.co.za/pages/stories>

<https://www.wwf.org.za/?40>

<https://www.greaterkrugerlandscape.co.za/pages/stories>

2.9. Stories

EA: Stories to be shared
(section to be shared with communication division/
GEF communication)

Component 3: GEF6 produces regular stories and communication products although project not yet mature enough to have thorough outputs; continued implementation of Communication Strategy with Action Plan drafted and updated, facilitated by WWF Khetha, co-developed by the GEF 6 partners, and cluster representatives. The project team convened in November to review and update the Communications Strategy facilitated and Communications plans and Outputs are shared to stakeholders and stored on the project shared drive. <https://www.wwf.org.za/?40525/Meet-the-environmental-monitors-looking-after-wildlife-and-people>, <https://www.greaterkrugerlandscape.co.za/pages/stories>, <https://www.zinio.com/za/kruger-magazine/autumn-2023-i611673>
GEF 6 partners contributed to the "*Meet the Environmental Monitors looking after people and Wildlife*" (click link) publication posted on 12 August on the WWF website (link in HYPR). GEF 6 *Quarterly Newsletters / Bulletins* : 2022 Q3, Q4; 2023 Q1, Q2 (links in HYPR/Teams platform) Please see links above.

3. RATING PROJECT PERFORMANCE

3.1 Rating of progress towards achieving the project outcomes (Development Objectives)

Project objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones	End of Project Target	Progress as of current period (numeric, percentage, or binary entry only)	EA: Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June	TM: Progress rating
<p>Objective</p> <p>To contribute to the reduction of illegal wildlife trade through institutional strengthening, improved information management and monitoring (and collaboration at an international level), thereby influencing the supply system at local (protected area), national (South Africa) and regional levels</p>	Indicator 1: Number of fraudulent documents on wildlife exports out of SA identified at international ports	<p>In 2017 (number to be determined) wildlife exports were identified having fraudulent documents – baseline data will be collected in 2017</p> <p>Number of rhino poached in 2016 in KNP: 662</p>	<p>E-permitting system for CITES-listed species has been designed</p> <p>Number of rhino poached in 2019 in KNP: less than 500</p>	Zero as all export documentation is electronic	100%	<p>SITA was appointed as the service provider to develop the CITES E-permitting system. The development of the system was initiated in 2018 accompanied by testing phase. The system was thus concluded in 2021.</p>	HS
	Indicator 2: Rhino poaching rates in KNP attenuate as a result of more positive community attitudes to wildlife	<p>Number of rhino poached in 2024 in KNP: less than 500</p>	<p>2% (as per previous PIR - August 2021)</p>	<p>The following is what was reported against this indicator in the PIR dated August 2021: The team is in the process of reviewing these high level indicators.</p> <p>Assumption (S Ferreira, 2021): subsequent to SANParks Strat plan (2020) the prediction is : if the poaching continues as the last 5 years, we will have a continued decline in rhino populations (white and black) over the next 10 years. If we realise the reduction in poaching similar to the hard lock down, we will have a 2% increase over the next 10 years. If we have zero poaching, we will have a 5% over the next 10 years).</p> <p>A range of concurrent interventions as part of a holistic integrated KNP, Greater Kruger and National Strategy is implemented. It was indicated in a recent Joint Management Committee meeting that rhino populations in both Black and White Rhinos have remained relatively the same (no increases or losses), although difficult to confirm this information as the content of the detail is sensitive to share with officials with less seniority in the organisation.</p>			

	improved community attitudes to wildlife, which contributes to the reduction in Rhino poaching rates within KNP		Environmental Monitors trained and communicate issues of environmental importance to community members and represent the community's views on environmental issues.	Environmental Monitors trained and communicate issues of environmental importance to community members and represent the community's views on environmental issues.	80%	Environmental Monitors have been taken through training and awareness in various courses and topics namely: Poisoning Awareness, Braveheart Ranger Leadership, Restorative Justice awareness, Danger Causing animals and Man Tracking; Leading Heart, Veld Condition Assessment and Fire Awareness	S
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Outcome 1

Outcome 1: Increased capacity within SAoSA for legal and sustainable wildlife trade	% Increase Score in Capacity Scorecard)	Capacity Scorecard score: 26.3%93	Capacity Scorecard scores increased by 5% over baseline	Capacity Scorecard scores increased by 15% over baseline	10%	Service provider has been procured and has started designing induction course for SAoSA members as well as a skills development plan for young professionals. Procurement has been challenging and there have been multiple delays. Have assigned an intern to assist with preparing materials for the service provider to bring work back on track	U	
	Number of young professionals being trained for potential deployment to the SAoSA and provincial authorities	No young professionals are currently being trained	At least 4 young wildlife professionals in place and being trained for potential deployment to the SAoSA and provincial authorities.	At least 5 Young wildlife professionals deployed into the SAoSA provincial authorities if resources are available for continued employment.	50%	147 young professionals were allocated to the provincial management authorities and SANParks, of which at least 20 have been identified to work on the SAoSA track (more will be confirmed soon). As such, this target is on track. One province did not register as a host institution for the Groen Sebenza programme and another had two interns for the SAoSA track but they declined the offer. Further engagements with both institutes are underway to try to recruit additional interns.	S	
	# of monitoring systems in place and in use at national and provincial levels	No standard monitoring system on wildlife in place at provincial and national level	National monitoring systems on wildlife in place and used by SANBI and 2 provincial authorities	National monitoring systems on wildlife in place and providing accurate information			Indicator has been split into two indicators: "Non-Detriment Finding (NDFs) and CITES negotiations are informed by reliable and readily available information on the priority species (rhino (two species), lion, leopard, cheetah and elephant) = 6 species" And "Number of young professionals being trained for potential deployment to the SAoSA and provincial authorities"	
	Non-Detriment Finding (NDFs) and CITES negotiations are informed by reliable and readily available information on the priority species (rhino (two species), lion, leopard, cheetah and elephant) = 6 species	No standard monitoring system on wildlife in place at provincial and national level	National monitoring system on wildlife in place and being tested by SANBI and provincial authorities (e.g. pilot for black rhino	NDFs and CITES negotiations are informed by the information available from the national standard wildlife monitoring system		30%	Wireframe for South African Wildlife Population System (SAWPS) signed off by System Build Committee and first data has been sent to developers. Sprints are being set up to test system features. The basic system architecture has been built, including the registration, property digitization and data upload functions.	S

Outcome 2

<p>Outcome 2: National Web-based CITES electronic permitting application used by CITES Authorities as a national permitting system</p>	<p>Customs/ Compliance officials at national export points have confidence that wildlife exports are based on error free evidence</p>	<p>Low confidence that paper-based, export documentation is error free</p> <p>E-permitting system has been designed and is in testing phase</p>	<p>High confidence as documentation all electronic leaving little chance for errors</p>	<p>100%</p>	<p>The system went live on the 01 April 2023. The system is completely online where all applications for Appendix II and III and supporting documents are submitted and assessed online. Currently, Appendix I applications are processed manually due to the complexity of the process for App I species. However, these will be captured online by December 2023.</p> <p>The Border Management Authority responsible for endorsing permits at the Ports of Entries for the shipments to exit the country are confident that the documents that are submitted with the application are authentic as everything (assessing and processing) is done online.</p> <p>The Service Provider to undertake the Provincial infrastructure analysis (computers, servers) to assess the Province's ability to deploy and implement the electronic permitting system was appointed in June 2023, the date of commencement on this work is from August to October 2023.</p>	<p>HS</p>
	<p>No e-permitting system in place</p>	<p>E-permitting system handover and capacity within DEA to host and maintain the system</p>	<p>Skilled IT personnel at DEA are able to troubleshoot any issues that arise during the start-up of the e-permitting system</p>	<p>60%</p>	<p>The DFFE is currently in communication with SITA (system developer) on the IT support personnel to provide technical management and troubleshooting of the electronic permitting system.</p> <p>The E-permitting system comprises of an in-app training manual that is essential for taking the applicants through the online application process when they encounter challenges. The in-app manual will be printed out for applicants that require physical copies and will be handed out during Ad hoc training sessions.</p>	<p>S</p>

Outcome 3	Capacity of DFFE's software developers and IT support personnel to provide technical management and troubleshooting of the electronic permitting system	Capacity Scorecard scores increased by 25% over baseline			Capacity Scorecard score: 80%	100%	<p>the DFFE together with SITA undertook trainings and configuration roadshows which were aimed at the provincial issuing authorities and the stakeholders (namely: scientific institutions, universities, organs of states, game farmers/ ranchers, breeders, taxidermists, freight companies and compliance and enforcement officials) in all the nine provinces on the following dates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •KZN (30 January 2022 – 02 February 2022) •WC (05 December 2021 to 08 December 2021) •MP (23 January 2022 to 26 January 2022) •FS (27 February 2022 to 03 March 2022) •NW (14 to 19 February 2022 and 21 to 23 September 2022) •LP (14 to 17 March 2022) •NC (04 – 08 April 2022) •GP (19 January 2022 and 08-09 February 2022) •EC (23 November 2021 to 26 November 2021, and 21 to 24 March 2022) <p>The team has also conducted Ad hoc online training on the use and application of the system was undertaken with the following stakeholders between January and March 2023: Provincial issuing Authorities, EMs, Scientific institutions, Universities, Organs of states, Game farmers/ ranchers, Breeders, Taxidermists, Boarder Management Authority, Flight/ Shipping companies.</p> <p>The E-permitting system comprises of an in-app training manual that is essential for taking the applicants through the online application process when they encounter challenges. The in-app manual will be printed out for applicants that require physical copies and will be handed out during Ad hoc training sessions.</p>	HS
	South Africa's e-permitting system interfaces with international biodiversity databases	No e-permitting system in place	Data sharing agreement with one international	SA e-permitting system shares and collects data	25%	This target has not been achieved as yet due to that the system went live recently (April 2023). However, the DFFE has identified the UNEP WCMC as the potential partner to achieve target on data sharing and	S	
	Number of permits issued through the new e-permitting system				100%	2078 Permits have been issued since the launch of the system (01 April 2023)	HS	

	<p>Number of governance guidelines and % of projects developed in consultation with stakeholders and community</p>	<p>Development projects use a top-down approach with little consultation between stakeholders and input from community</p>	<p>Co-developed Governance guidelines are designed and tested in two target sites</p>	<p>Co-developed Governance guidelines are designed and tested in all target sites</p>	<p>45%</p>	<p>PPF: appointment, administration of appropriate external expert for facilitation + product development: 1st service provider contract terminated; Governance Situational Analysis developed; engagement and governance strengthening activities continued in the interim through funds partly reallocated to livelihoods projects support (good governance practices embedded); development and delivery of governance and leadership capacitation to projects and community leadership (ongoing); Project team (SAWC, PPF, SANParks, WWF): technical guidance, facilitation support, inputs (informed by project implementation experience to date). Governance Guidelines draft Situational Analysis (Sustento) completed draft Guidelines framework developed; governance training and capacitation modules developed, training delivered; project information document to inform third party expert who will workshop, facilitate, co-develop and validate Guidelines. (Y4-5)</p>	<p>S</p>
		<p>50% of projects developed in consultation with stakeholders and community</p>	<p>100% of projects developed in consultation with stakeholders and community</p>	<p>70%</p>		<p>12x projects (4/cluster) identified and profiled; Livelihoods Projects Oversight and Support Officer (female) operationalised; nature-compatible projects in various support phases; Frameworks for Concept Notes, draft Commitment Agreements development; quarterly site visits conducted to projects identified in each cluster; mini-business plan development, resourcing (equipment, training, sustainability/scaling plans selection) Waste management, livestock, greening, environmental education, traditional healers, tourism. 70% (ongoing); Five (out of ten) draft Concept Notes completed which informs resource needs and embeds good governance to contribute to sustainability: mini-business plan development, resourcing (equipment, training, sustainability/scaling projects)</p>	<p>S</p>

Outcome 3: Functional community governance for sustainable livelihoods and reduced rate of illegal wildlife trade	Nr of communities reached with project sensitization process in 3 spatial areas	Zero	90%	3 cluster Community structures	3 cluster Community structures	<p>Profiling done in all three target Clusters. Third iteration of the Situational Analysis (SA) report completed; updated annually, capturing in depth information (cluster "deep dives") at project level (SAWC). Central- and Southern cluster profiling conducted; Stakeholder synthesis report iteration 3 concluded (Situation Analysis). Iterative processes of re-engaging relevant community structures; align with and leverage through Livelihoods Projects support to focus training, capacitation and community structures formalisation.</p> <p>90% of the projects (ongoing / continuous); Target area communities sensitized, engaged, capacitated (ongoing)</p> <p>Sensitization is an on-going, iterative activity (verification: Project Situational Analysis Report Iteration 3 complete)</p>	S
	Nr of functional community structures within 3 spatial areas	Zero	45%	3 cluster Community structures	3 cluster Community structures	<p>Community structures dynamic; representation, membership, leadership</p> <p>Mitigation: GEFG documenting process, ongoing engagement; support through Livelihoods projects & capacitation (training);</p> <p>Project Activities continuity subject to disbursement of next tranche of funds;</p> <p>Conclusion of community leaders' training (Leadership, Governance, will inform G.guidelines co-development + contribute to structures' "formalisation" (the project itself cannot 'create' own structures, must enhance/strengthen & dovetail into existing structures for sustainability (capacitate & strengthen)</p> <p>Target structures and representatives identified; Representatives from Structures (existing) capacitated (community leaders, champions) – ongoing; need to dovetail with existing structures; create momentum through livelihoods projects</p>	S
	Existence of co-developed governance guidelines for stakeholder engagement and project implementation	Not yet in existence	45%	Governance guidelines co-developed, outlining standards and processes, and tested in at least two focal areas by Year 3 (4 th quarter - Oct to Dec 2021/2022) of project implementation.	Governance guidelines co-developed, outlining standard; and processes in all 3 communities by Year 5 (4 th quarter Oct to Dec 2023/2024)	<p>Project Activities – appointment of external subject expert and facilitator for guidelines co-development subject to disbursement of next tranche of funds; appoint external expert (facilitate, develop guidelines by end 2024; validate, publish).</p> <p>Governance Guidelines draft Situational Analysis (Sustento) completed draft Guidelines framework developed; governance training and capacitation modules developed, training delivered; project information document to inform third party expert who will workshop, facilitate, co-develop and validate Guidelines. (Y4-5)</p>	S
	Nr of existing projects supported to the benefit of community members and wildlife in the three focal areas	zero	85%	One project per site	Two projects per site	<p>12x projects (4/cluster) identified and profiled; Five (out of ten) draft Concept Notes completed which informs resource needs and embeds good governance to contribute to sustainability: mini-business plan development, resourcing (equipment, training, sustainability/scaling projects)</p>	S

Strengthened Environmental Monitors Programme to improve communication between communities and protected areas	Nr of community champions (including community liaison Officers) trained to support the development and implementation of governance guidelines	zero	From Year 2, six (two in each of the 3 pilot community clusters) champions trained by Year 5 (4th quarter Oct to Dec 2023/2024)	Six (two in each of the 3 pilot community clusters) champions trained by Year 5 (4th quarter Oct to Dec 2023/2024)	65%	Community structures dynamic; representation, membership, leadership Mitigation: GEF6 documenting process, ongoing engagement; support through Livelihoods projects & capacitation (training); Project Activities continuity subject to disbursement of next tranche of funds; Conclusion of community leaders' training (Leadership, Governance, will inform G.guidelines co-development + contribute to structures' "formalisation" (the project itself cannot 'create' own structures, must enhance/strengthen & dovetail into existing structures for sustainability (capacitate & strengthen). 2022 Training Report submitted; Total No. persons trained for the period = 192 (target is 180 units p/year); training themes and modules include: Leadership, Governance, Dangerous Game Awareness;	S
	Existence of a formal review of existing community conservation programmes and scoping of Environmental Monitors Programme in 3 focal areas	None	Formal review of existing community conservation programmes and scoping of Environmental Monitors Programme in 3 focal areas by 4 th quarter of 2020	Review of community conservation programmes and scoping of extent of Environmental Monitors completed in 3 focal areas	100%	Draft report in place	HS
	Nr of Environmental Monitors recruited and trained	None	30 (10 per each of the 3 pilot	30 (10 per each of the 3 pilot	100%	*PPF/SAWC contributes to training & capacitation	HS

Improved co-ordination, communication and learning in landscape and beyond	State of perceptions/mutual sentiments held between community stakeholders and protected area managers.	To be determined	Improved mutual perceptions (and perceptions about IWT) as measured by a perception survey tool (i.e. KAP survey, Sensemaker survey) by Year 1			<p>PPF inputs: Survey questions co-developed with project team / Community Practitioners; WWF Khetha support: technical inputs (survey expert) b) SurveyMonkey platform license (data capturing paper > electronic (preliminary analyses); Roll-out initiated end 2022 – 2023 > GEF6 core team</p> <p>Target groups interviewed: 4/8 (131 collected, est.250/300); Reflections & Lessons Learnt: Survey length, questions understanding, language (translation), data capture requires dedicated time, resources</p> <p>Process has been 'on hold' in the interim (some surveys conducted when possible / feasible, e.g., during training events</p> <p>Key remaining target groups will provide necessary data from Community groups and structures identified by GEF6 as critical, e.g., P&P, Projects, Traditional Healers</p> <p>Recommendations: Appoint dedicated capacity to oversee / support Surveys process to ensure quality output > Survey tool + results to inform key focus areas for partners, projects; Re-engage partners, plan way forward (learning from Khetha / Braveheart, EM's, other programs using surveys)</p> <p>PPF happy to contribute funds towards outsourced capacity support, subject to receiving next tranche of project funds</p>	S
	Existence of a communications strategy to raise awareness, share lessons and strengthen knowledge transfer between the target sites	None	Existence of a communications strategy to raise awareness, share lessons and strengthen, by Year 3	Improved mutual perceptions as measured by a perception survey tool (i.e. KAP survey, Sensemaker survey) by Year 5	Full utilization of a communications strategy to raise awareness, share lessons and strengthen, by Year 5	<p>Existence of a communications strategy to raise awareness, share lessons and strengthen knowledge transfer between the target sites.</p> <p>Overarching Communication strategy and plan co-developed between GEF 6 partners and WWF Khetha, with cluster specific themes. A key focus on policies, human wildlife conflict, fence maintenance and livelihood projects.</p> <p>Knowledge transfer opportunities have taken place, through cluster specific events, waste & environmental campaigns, rhino awareness day, environmental monitor monthly meetings, poisoning awareness training events, community practitioner workshops. Implementation is pending the transfer of funding from DFFE to SANParks.</p> <p>Khetha Nodal Communications Strategy Workshop at Nourish Community Centre. Attended by GEF 6 with various conservation project implementers and community representatives in the review of the effectiveness of Khetha's communications.</p>	S
	Nr of learning events held between 3 focal areas	None	Six (2 per site) learning events by Year 3 (4th quarter Oct to Dec 2021/2022)	Twelve (4 per site) learning events by Year 5 (4th quarter Oct to Dec 2023/2024)		40%;	<p>Planned learning events (2024/25) subject to receipt of next tranche project funds; to date progress - WWF Khetha GEF6 Communications and Community Practitioners' workshops; SAWC Youth Learning Exchange (2021)</p>

	Nr of publications and disseminate examples of community programmes presented to relevant engagement platforms, including CITES Community Working Group.	zero	1 publication/report per focal area, by Year 3	1 summative learning report integrating findings for three sites by Year 5	40%	PPF contribution to Global Wildlife Program (GWP) learning events and exchanges attended by GEF 6 project partners with specific contribution to Lessons Learning series to be published through GWP international platform; GEF 6 Quarterly Bulletins (newsletters): two published during the period under review with contributions on project news, events and experiences from GEF 6 Component 3 task team.	S
Outcome 4							

For joint projects and where applicable ratings should also be discussed with the Task Manager of co-implementing agency.

3.2 Rating of progress implementation towards delivery of outputs (Implementation Progress)

Output	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of 30 June 2022 (%) <i>(Towards overall project targets)</i>	Implementation status as of 30 June 2023 (%) <i>(Towards overall project targets)</i>	EA: description of achievements, Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	TM: Progress rating
Under Comp 1: Strengthening capacity and informa					
Output 1.1: SAoSA members are trained in effective wildlife trade monitoring and assessment					
Activity 1.1.1: Develop and implement a capacity and skills development strategy for the SAoSA secretariat and provincial scientific services to monitor and report wildlife trade		5%	20%	Service provider has started developing capacity development strategy and has developed a course outline for the SAoSA induction course	S
Activity 1.1.2: Build the capacity of the SAoSA Secretariat to monitor and report wildlife trade	End Term	0%	10%	Engagements with provinces to design the data model for SAWPS has begun, including data-decision maps and key reporting structures for each management authority	S
Activity 1.1.3: Provincial scientific services are able to monitor and report wildlife trade	End Term	5%	15%	Provincial management authorities have contributed to the development of the data model and data products in SAWPS and have begun sharing data to be integrated into system. Decision-making processes are starting to be identified at a management authority level.	S
Activity 1.1.4: Establish a functional cohort of 6-9 young wildlife professionals or interns	End Term	5%	50%	Recruitment of young professionals through Groen Sebenza programme to conclude mid Feb 2023. Of those 147 allocated to Scientific Services, of which at least 20 have been identified for SAoSA work with mentors.	S
Activity 1.1.5: Regional collaboration and outreach developed to address illegal wildlife trade in the region	End Term	2%	15%	Survey of African institutions working in wildlife economy space for project entitled "enabling agro-ecological systems that sustain people and planet" conducted to understand decision-making context and knowledge product needs. Inception meeting held in August 2022, marking the beginning of a community of practice to use knowledge to address illegal wildlife trade (project funded by French Development Agency and therefore represents co-funding by SANBI)	S

Output 1.2: A centralised system for monitoring wildlife in trade is established						
Activity 1.2.1: Review and analysis of current wildlife monitoring systems in place (for biodiversity and for wildlife trade) and the databases that are available in country for the key species in trade		100%	100%	Complete		HS
Activity 1.2.2: Design and implement a national monitoring system for use across the SAoSA membership	End Term		30%	Milestone 1 approved and currently building additional features with SBC. Prototype fully operational by end of July 2023.		S
Activity 1.2.3: Hold training workshops on how to input data to the system and their subsequent analyses	End Term				0%	
Activity 1.2.4: Produce and disseminate communication materials on new working model	End Term				0%	
Activity 1.2.5: Develop and roll-out a national monitoring and reporting system	End Term		10%	Provinces have helped design the system administration and log-in functions for SAWPS and have contributed to developing the data products and reporting functions. They have also helped to design a system integration and user administration plan at the systems integration workshop in March 2023		S
Activity 1.2.6: Case studies are carried out for key species subject to illegal wildlife trade	End Term	5%	15%	A post-doc has been recruited by SANBI to manage case study development and ensure the system is effective for applied research and decision-making. Meetings held to discuss rhino case study template. Rhino captive breeding operations (CBO) surveys conducted by SANBI.		S
Under Comp 2: Development of a ready-to-use e-permitting system for CITES-listed species						
Output 2.1. Electronic permitting system for CITES-listed						
Activity 2.1.1: Provincial infrastructure analysis (Computers, servers) to assess Provinces ability to deploy and implement the electronic permitting system.						
Activity: 2.1.2. Develop the e-permitting system for CITES-listed species	Dec-23	80%	50%	The Service Provider has been appointed. The Executive unit is finalising the MOA with Legal for signing by		S
Activity 2.1.3: Migrate compatible and relevant historic data into the new e-permitting system	Mar-23	100%	100%	Achieved. The system is in place		HS

Activity 2.1.4: Develop internal capacity to implement the new e-permitting system	None	0%	0%	The system was launched in April 2023, therefore the data has not been migrated. It should be noted that the system doesn't provide for the migration of historical data. Hence, this target will not be a challenge to achieve.	
Activity 2.1.5: Roll-out new national e-permitting system	2025	100%	10%	The DFFE is currently in communication with SITA (system developer) on the IT support personnel to provide technical management and troubleshooting of the electronic permitting system. SITA is currently assisting the DFFE with any systems challenges and there is no one dedicated to the CITES e-permitting system at the moment.	S
Output 2.2. Internal software developers provide skilled technical support to national CITES e-permitting system	Apr-23	0%	100%	The system was launched in 03 March 2023, and it became live on 1st April 2023. Permit applications are now submitted on line.	HS
Activity 2.2.1: Develop training module and carry out capacity building on e-permitting system					
Output 2.3. The national CITES e-permitting system is linked with relevant national and international permitting systems	Mar-24	0%	70%	The E-permitting system comprises of an in-app training manual that is essential for taking the applicants through the online application process when they encounter challenges.	S
Activity 2.3.1: Formalise collaboration with national, regional and international partners and secure agreement to share data					
Under Comp 3: Strengthening Community Capacity	Mar-25	0%	25%	The DFFE received a detailed proposal on the proposed partnership between DFFE and UNEP-WCMC with proposed timeframes and budget. This target will be actioned upon receipt of the proposed budget.	S
Output 3.1. Governance guidelines and project activities co-developed with target communities					
Activity 3.1.1 Appoint a Task Team to coordinate efforts (SANParks)					
Activity 3.1.2 Engage in a project sensitization process with community leaders and relevant stakeholders at 3 pilot sites (SANParks)					
Activity 3.1.3 Stakeholder engagement for identification of community projects and livelihood options, undertaken at 3 target sites (SANParks)					

<p>Activity 3.1.4 Co-develop, with communities and key partners, governance guidelines for stakeholder engagement and project implementation (PPF)</p>	<p>2024</p>	<p>67%</p>	<p>50%</p>	<p>Recently participated in the regional (Limpopo and Mpumalanga provinces) orientation of the newly elect People and Parks structure to present on the GEF 6 project and to determine areas of community interests for collaboration under themes of illegal wildlife trade and associated crimes. Following the identification of livelihood projects in the first synthesis report for each cluster, 10 livelihood projects were profiled for compatibility/alignment of activities with GEF goals. Subsequent to the profiling, site visits in all 3 of the clusters were conducted in June 2023 to determine the state of readiness for each project. 5 out of the 10 projects indicated a state of readiness, and were engaged on the type of resource/capacity support that they would require from GEF 6.</p>	<p>5</p>
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Activity 3.1.5 Identify and provide capacity building to community champions (including Community Liaison officers) to support the development and implementation of governance guidelines					
Output 3.2. Environmental Monitors Programme strengthened					
Activity 3.2.1 Carry out a review of existing community conservation programmes and identify scope of Environmental Monitor Programme per target site					
Activity 3.2.2 Select, recruit and train additional Environmental Monitors with existing ones	End of Term	80%	100%	In the previous PIR (dated 2021) it was indicated that a draft report would be in place by July 2021. Not able to locate this draft of the review in the Google Link.	HS
Activity 3.2.3 Identify and recruit additional capacity to strengthen Environmental Monitors programme (Environmental Monitor Stewards and a Project Coordinator)		100%	100%	The number of Environmental Monitors have since increased from 45 to 75 Environmental Monitors (additional 30 EMs assigned to the GEF 6 project. All EMs continue to receive training. EMs have already undergone Danger Causing Animal and Man Tracking Awareness, Leading Heart and Braveheart Training as well as a few ecological awarenesses (Veld Condition Assessment and Fire Awareness).	HS
Activity 3.2.4 Procure uniforms and equipment for community rangers/environmental monitors		100%	100%	1 Coordinator and 3 Stewardship Supervisors (Northern, Central and Southern clusters) were appointed to support additional capacity to strengthen the Environmental Monitors programme.	HS
Activity 3.2.5 Community engagement for conception, planning and development of community incentive awareness programmes		100%	100%	Uniform procured through the Biodiversity Special Projects unit.	HS
Output 3.3. Co-ordination and communications strategy developed to share lessons in landscape and beyond					
Activity 3.3.1 Create and implement a communications strategy to raise awareness, share lessons and strengthen knowledge transfer between the target sites					
Activity 3.3.2 Produce, publish and disseminate examples of community 'programmes' to all relevant engagement platforms, including for CITES Community Working Group purposes		60%	70%	Through the support lead of WWF-SA Khetha programme. Communications Framework drafted, appointed a Service Provider to action the communications strategy in line with the framework on GEF 6 and similar anchor programmes within the Kruger landscape.	S
Under Comp 4	End of term	15%	60%	GEF 6 Quarterly Bulletins published in the Greater Kruger Landscape website, Environmental Monitors	S
Under Comp 5					

The Task Manager will decide on the relevant level of disaggregation (i.e. either at the output or activity level).

4 Risk Rating

4.1 Table A. Project management Risk

Please refer to the Risk Help Sheet for more details on rating

Risk Factor	EA's Rating	TM's Rating
1 Management structure - Roles and responsibilities	<p>Low : Well developed, stable Management Structure and Roles/responsibilities are clearly defined/understood. Low likelihood of potential negative impact on the project delivery.</p> <p>Low : Steering Committee and/or other project bodies meet at least once a year and Active membership and participation in decision-making processes. SC provides direction/inputs. Low likelihood of potential negative impact on the project delivery.</p>	<p>Low : Well developed, stable Management Structure and Roles/responsibilities are clearly defined/understood. Low likelihood of potential negative impact on the project delivery.</p> <p>Low : Steering Committee and/or other project bodies meet at least once a year and Active membership and participation in decision-making processes. SC provides direction/inputs. Low likelihood of potential negative impact on the project delivery.</p>
2 Governance structure - Oversight	<p>Low : Project progressing according to original work plan and Adaptive management is practiced and regular monitoring. Low likelihood of potential negative impact on the project delivery.</p>	<p>Low : Project progressing according to original work plan and Adaptive management is practiced and regular monitoring. Low likelihood of potential negative impact on the project delivery.</p>
3 Implementation schedule	<p>Low : Activities are progressing within planned budget and Balanced budget utilisation including PMC. Low likelihood of potential negative impact on the project delivery.</p>	<p>Low : Activities are progressing within planned budget and Balanced budget utilisation including PMC. Low likelihood of potential negative impact on the project delivery.</p>
4 Budget	<p>Low : Funds are correctly managed and transparently accounted for and Audit reports provided regularly and confirm correct use of funds. Low likelihood of potential negative impact on the project delivery.</p>	<p>Low : Funds are correctly managed and transparently accounted for and Audit reports provided regularly and confirm correct use of funds. Low likelihood of potential negative impact on the project delivery.</p>
5 Financial Management	<p>Low : Substantive reports are presented in a timely manner and Reports are complete and accurate with a good analysis of project progress and implementation issues. Low likelihood of potential negative impact on the project delivery.</p>	<p>Low : Substantive reports are presented in a timely manner and Reports are complete and accurate with a good analysis of project progress and implementation issues. Low likelihood of potential negative impact on the project delivery.</p>
6 Reporting	<p>Low : Sound technical and managerial capacity of institutions and other project partners and Capacity gaps were addressed before implementation or during early stages. Low likelihood of potential negative impact on the project delivery.</p>	<p>Low : Sound technical and managerial capacity of institutions and other project partners and Capacity gaps were addressed before implementation or during early stages. Low likelihood of potential negative impact on the project delivery.</p>
7 Capacity to deliver		

If any of the risk factors is rated a Moderate or higher, please include it in Table B below

4.2 Table B. Risk-log

Implementation Status (Current PIR)

4th PIR

Insert All the risks identified either at CEO endorsement (inc. safeguards screening), previous/current PIRs, and MTRs. Use the last line to propose a suggested consolidated rating.

Risk	Risk affecting:								Variation respect to last rating	
	Outcome / outputs	CEO ED	PIR 1	PIR 2	PIR 3	PIR 4	PIR 5	PIR 6	Δ	Justification
Inability of government to meet its financial and co-financial commitments	Outcome 1-3	L	L	L	L	L			=	Activities are progressing within planned budget and Balanced budget utilisation including PMC. Low likelihood of potential negative impact on the project delivery.
Weak institutional capacity	Outcome 1-3	L	L	L	L	L			=	Well developed, stable Management Structure and Roles/responsibilities are clearly defined/understood. Low likelihood of potential negative impact on the project delivery. Deputy Director hired to manage Component 1
Lack of capacity to mentor young professionals and interns		L	L	L	L	L			=	Provincial management authorities are assigning more mentors to the young professionals through help from SANBI
Lack of participation by scientific services		L	L	L	L	L			=	Scientific Services actively engaged in both outputs 1.1 and 1.2 and are part of the System Build Committee
Inability to absorb young professionals and interns into participating organisations		L	L	L	H	M			↓	Budget savings on young professional salaries from Groen Sebenza programme will be reallocated to contract extensions for promising young professionals in provincial structures

Limited internet infrastructure in the provinces	Outcome 2	L	L	L	L	L				=	Additional Internet infrastructure support will be provided by the project. The current internet infrastructure is sufficient and the additional capacity will ensure optimised service delivery of the system. Low likelihood of potential negative impact on the project delivery.
Lack of participation of the private sector in the monitoring system	Outcome 2	L	L	L	L	L				=	For Component 1: Data security is a huge issue for the private sector and will require convincing to share data. However, the Sustainable Wildlife Economies Project has secured social capital for data sharing in the private sector and Wildlife Ranching South Africa is currently building an information system that can link to the SANBI system through an API. For Component 2: There is a strong support by the private sector. There is a constant feedback provided by the private sector on how the GITES e-permitting system can be optimised. Low likelihood of potential negative impact on the project delivery.
Reduced commitment to CBNRM aspect of project objective and outcomes due to change in Government		L	L	L	L	L				=	

Security concerns related to data and information sharing for key species of concern Incorrect profiling and selection of Community Environmental Monitors	L	L	L	L	L			=	For Component 1: Service provider for SAWPS has built in multiple security features including two factor authentication, hardware keys and a hierarchical management structure that limits 'floating users'. For Component 2: CITES e-permitting system is housed by a government institution that is responsible for all IT related systems for government. They are also responsible for constant improvement of security issues related to data and information. In this regard, they are well equipped at ensuring data and information security is intact for the system. Low likelihood of potential negative impact on the project delivery.
	L	L	L	L	L			=	
Consolidated project risk		L	L	L	L	L		=	This section focuses on the variation. The overall rating is discussed in section 2.3.

4.3 Table C. Outstanding Moderate, Significant, and High risks

List here only risks from Table A and B above that have a risk rating of M or higher in the current PIR

Risk	Actions decided during the previous reporting instance (PIR-1, MTR, etc.)	Actions effectively undertaken during this reporting period	Additional mitigation measures for the next periods		
			What	When	By whom
The budget to undertake the activities for the project was not received by the project manager for component 2	The budget used thus far for the activities undertaken was from the DFFE as part of the co-finance for the project.	The budget used thus far for the activities undertaken was from the DFFE as part of the co-finance for the project.	Compile a comprehensive budget that will be required to undertake the activities and submit the request to UNEP	Aug-23	PMU and Component 2 EA
Appointment of dedicated officials (capacity) to assist with the maintenance of the system.	none	DFFE has an agreement with SITA to assist with the system in the early stages of its operation. The talks on getting a dedicated individuals are in progress.	Finalise the talks with SITA on adding capacity going forward	Dec-23	PMU and Component 2 EA
Inability to absorb young professionals and interns into participating organisations	Budget reallocation for contract extension	Not applicable as this will only come into effect after GS internship contract conclusion			

High Risk (H): There is a probability of greater than 75% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face high risks.
 Significant Risk (S): There is a probability of between 51% and 75% that assumptions may fail to hold and/or the project may face substantial risks.
 Moderate Risk (M): There is a probability of between 28% and 50% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face only modest risks.
 Low Risk (L): There is a probability of up to 25% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face only modest risks.

Project Minor Amendments

Minor amendments are changes to the project design or implementation that do not have significant impact on the project objectives or scope, or an increase of the GEF project financing up to 5% as described in Annex 9 of the Project and Program Cycle Policy Guidelines. Please tick each category for which a change occurred in the fiscal year of reporting and provide a description of the change that occurred in the textbox. You may attach supporting document as appropriate.

5.1 Table A: Listing of all Minor Amendment (TM)

Minor amendments	Changes
Results framework	No
Components and cost	No
Institutional and implementation arrangements	No
Financial management	No
Implementation schedule	Explain in table B
Executing Entity	No
Executing Entity Category	No
Minor project objective change	No
Safeguards	No
Risk analysis	No
Increase of GEF project financing up to 5%	No
Co-financing	No
Location of project activity	No
Other	No

Minor amendments

5.2 Table B: History of project revisions and/or extensions (TM)

Version	Type	Signed/Approved by UNEP
Original Legal Instrument		7-Feb-19
Amendment 1	Extension	23-Jun-23
Extension 1	Extension	

Entry Into Force (last signature Date)	Agreement Expiry Date	Main changes introduced in this revision
26-Feb-19	31-Aug-24	
Still waiting for DG Signature	Dec-25	The purpose of this Agreement is to extend the duration of the agreement at no additional cost to UNEP for 12 months fro 1 December 2024 to 31 December 2025.

GEO Location Information:

The Location Name, Latitude and Longitude are required fields insofar as an Agency chooses to enter a project location under the set format. The Geo Name ID is required in instances where the location is not exact, such as in the case of a city, as opposed to the exact site of a physical infrastructure. The Location & Activity Description fields are optional. Project longitude and latitude must follow the Decimal Degrees WGS84 format and Agencies are encouraged to use at least four decimal points for greater accuracy. Users may add as many locations as appropriate. Web mapping applications such as [OpenStreetMap \(https://www.openstreetmap.org/#map=4/21.84/82.79\)](https://www.openstreetmap.org/#map=4/21.84/82.79) or [GeoNames\(http://www.geonames.org/\)](http://www.geonames.org/) use this format. Consider using a conversion tool as needed, such as: <https://coordinates-converter.com> Please see the Geocoding User Guide by clicking [here\(https://gefportal.worldbank.org/App/assets/general/Geocoding%20User%20Guide.docx\)](https://gefportal.worldbank.org/App/assets/general/Geocoding%20User%20Guide.docx)

Location Name Required field	Latitude Required field	Longitude Required field	Geo Name ID Required field if the location is not an exact site	Location Description Optional text field	Activity Description Optional text field
Northern Cluster	30.97798054	-22.50510437			
Central Cluster	31.44642591920	-24.98648036			
Southern Cluster	31.35582653	-25.52251509			
South Africa (CITES National System)	South Africa				

Please provide any further geo-referenced information and map where the project interventions is taking place as appropriate. *

GEF6 Component 3 implementation areas comprise Clusters of communities / community target areas adjacent to or in close proximity to the Kruger National Park western boundary.

[Annex any linked geospatial file]