

ADB GEF PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION REPORT (PIR)
(This Report covers implementation period from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021)

ADB Official Project Title: Protecting and Investing in Natural capital in Asia and the Pacific:
Component 3 (Combating Environmental Organized Crime in the Philippines)
ADB Project Number: TA 9461

GEF PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Ratings:

Development Objective Rating (DO): Moderately Satisfactory

Implementation Progress Rating (IP): Moderately Satisfactory

Risk Rating: Low Risk

Information on progress, challenges, and outcomes on project implementation activities

As of June 2021, the ADB-TA Protecting and Investing in Natural Capital in Asia and the Pacific: Component 3 (GEF Project No. 9658 Combating Environmental Organized Crime in the Philippines) (the Project) is already at 85.0% (33 of 39 months) of Project implementation. During this time, the Project has accomplished 82.32% against the target of 96.92% completion of Project activities, with a slippage of 14.59%. The accomplishments for the year are as follows:

Component 1_ This component focuses on strengthening legal frameworks to address key concerns in national efforts to combat wildlife crimes and increasing sharing of information and knowledge to facilitate multi-agency coordination and support adoption of enforcement tools and methods.

- A draft Senate Bill was endorsed by the Project Steering Committee (PSC) Chairperson and DENR Undersecretary (USEC) for Policy, Planning and International Affairs, Juan Miguel Cuna, to Senators Cynthia Villar (Chairperson of the Senate Committee on Environment and Natural and Climate Change) and Juan Miguel Zubiri (principal author of Republic Act 9147) on 07 July 2020 for sponsorship. Thereafter, Senate Bill 2078 and Senate Bill 2079 on the “Revised Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act of 2021” were filed in Senate by Senators Villar and Zubiri, respectively on 02 March 2021, as part of the celebration of World Wildlife Day 2021. Both Bills were later read on the Senate Floor for First Reading and were endorsed to the Senate Committee on ENR and CC, and the Senate Committee on Finance.

A joint Public Hearing of the Senate Bills was called by the Senate Committee on ENR and CC, Finance, and Sustainable Development Goals, Innovations and Futures Thinking on 30 June 2021. The Bills were met with overwhelming support from the legislators, representatives from national government agencies and local government units academic and research institutions, and civil society organizations (CSOs), and private sector. Senator Villar reiterated her support for the measure while Senator Zubiri (Majority Floor

Leader) expressed his commitment to take up the measure “as soon as possible” in the Senate plenary.

A Campaign and Advocacy Plan was also launched to highlight the need to amend the 20-year-old Wildlife Act and solicit support for enactment of a revised Act.

- Parallel action on amending the current Joint DA-DENR-PCSD Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of Republic Act (RA) 9147 was done in case the Project does not meet its objective of the Senate Bill reaching Second Reading since the legislative process is not within the control of the Project.
- The proposed amendments to the current IRR underwent extensive national multi-stakeholder consultations and revisions from 2020 to 2021. The proposed amendments are currently being enhanced based on the recommendation of the DENR- Policy Technical Working Group (PTWG) and will be sent out to the Department of Agriculture (DA) and the Palawan Council for Sustainable Development (PCSD) for vetting once finalized.
- Initial meetings were held separately with the Local Government Units (LGUs) in the National Capital Region (Cities of Makati and Manila) and Region 13 (Cabadbaran City) in December 2020, and formal communications with Surigao Del Norte and Dinagat Provinces were made to discuss possible support in the crafting of local Ordinances relevant to the implementation of RA 9147 and resolutions in support of its amendment. However, engaging LGUs has been challenging due to their currently focus on COVID-19 response. Hence, it was decided with DENR- BMB that a Draft Local Ordinance Template will be delivered instead.
- The Department Administrative Order (DAO) 2020-13 Adopting the Wildlife Law Enforcement Action Plan (WildLEAP) 2018-2028 as the National Roadmap in Addressing Wildlife Crimes was signed on 13 October 2020, published in the Daily Tribune on 08 January 2021, submitted to the Office of the ONAR, and took effect thereafter.
- The DA-DENR Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) Joint Administrative Order (JAO) 2020-01 on Defining the Roles and Responsibilities of Agencies concerned in the Local Trade and Transport of Wildlife under the Jurisdiction of the DENR was signed by the Department Secretaries on 17 November 2020, published in the Daily Tribune on 18 December 2020, submitted to the ONAR, and took effect thereafter.
- The eCITES PH electronic permit system continued to be enhanced, and preparations made for a trial period for selected users (permittees) and administrators (DENR- National Capital Region (NCR) and BMB as CITES Management Authority) in the National Capital Region. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Landbank LinkBiz Portal and DENR-BMB was signed on 19 February 2021 to fully automate CITES permit electronic payment.

- Consultation-workshops for the development of an eCITES Masterplan was conducted over three sessions last February 23-24, March 24-25, and April 13-15, 2021, participated in by all CITES Management Authorities (BMB, DA-BFAR, and PCSD). The Masterplan will serve as a roadmap to automate eCITES implementation from ePermit, eControl, eExchange, to eReport, and will include the objectives, time frame, and indicative budget per segment. The Masterplan is currently being finalized based on the results of the workshops.
- A total of seven seaports (4 domestic and 3 international) were assessed using the Port Monitoring and Anti-Trafficking Evaluation (PortMATE) Tool which was recalibrated to address local context and use in domestic seaports. Three ports were assessed in the NCR (Manila International Container Terminal (MICT), Manila North Harbor and Manila South Harbor), two ports in Region 7 (Cebu Domestic Port and Cebu International Port), and two ports in Region 13 (Lipata Port and Nasipit Port). The drafting and finalization of Port Assessment Reports are ongoing. The seaport assessments were supported by the Philippine Ports Authority and Cebu Ports Authority through a Memorandum of Understanding with the DENR.
- Five DENR- established Wildlife Rescue Centers (WRCs) in the Project sites: National Wildlife Research and Rescue Center (NWRRC) in the NCR; Regional WRCs in Cebu City, Ayungon in Negros Oriental, and Talibon in Bohol (Region 7), and the Regional WRC in Kitcharao, Agusan del Norte (Region 13) were assessed using the ASEAN Center for Biodiversity (ACB)-developed WRC Assessment Framework and Methodology. A final report has also been submitted.

Component 2- This component focuses on building institutional capacity in tactical operations across the law enforcement chain, such as the DENR, Philippine National Police (PNP), National Bureau of Investigation (NBI), Bureau of Customs (BOC), prosecutors, and port personnel.

- Five Basic Wildlife Law Enforcement (BWLE) Trainings, three Webinars on Wildlife Laws for Local Government Units (LGUs), a Webinar on Wildlife Law for Industry Players, and two Seminars on the Prosecution of Wildlife Cases were conducted online, via Zoom. Subject-matter experts from DENR-BMB, NBI, PNP, BOC, Department of Justice (DOJ), Tanggol Kalikasan and DENR Regions were invited to serve as trainers for the capacity building activities. Twenty (16.7% of all trainers) of these trainers were graduates of DENR-BMB's Training of Trainers Program.
- Modules on Introduction to Controlled Delivery, Introduction to Protocol on Safety Inspection of Wildlife, Introduction to Anti-Money Laundering (in relation to wildlife crimes), and the Prosecution of Wildlife Cases were developed, and pilot tested during the Basic Wildlife Law Enforcement (BWLE) Trainings and in the Seminar on the Prosecution of Wildlife Cases. The final modules for Controlled Delivery, Protocol on Safety Inspection of Wildlife and Anti-money Laundering (in relation of wildlife crimes) have been submitted to DENR-Human Resource Development Service (HRDS).

- The BWLE Training Course was converted into a self-paced eTraining Course to allow potential participants, including interested law enforcement officers, to take the Course entirely online, at their own pace, space, and time, while still achieving the learning outcome. The eTraining BWLE Course consisting of seven modules with a total of 18 topics has been uploaded in the ADB e-Learn platform. It has also been integrated into the DENR Environment and Natural Resources (ENR) Academy as a specialized course.

Component 3- This component focuses on demand reduction measures that can help create better understanding and awareness and address underlying causes and motivations for Illegal Wildlife Trade (IWT).

- The Report on the Economic Valuation of Marine Turtles and Blue-naped Parrots was presented and distributed to various experts and stakeholders for review, comments, and inputs on the content of the report and assumptions regarding the calculations of value. The Report shows that a single marine turtle has a use value of up to Php 4,797,419 over the course of its lifetime, while a single blue-naped parrot has a use value of Php 185,981 over the course of its lifetime.
- Due to COVID-19, the Project opted to continue the conduct of the pre-campaign consumer surveys in Region 7 and CARAGA through phone interviews instead of a face-to face-survey as initially started. A nationwide pre-campaign consumer survey was likewise conducted to supplement the localized surveys. The results of the pre-campaign consumer report were presented to DENR-BMB and the respective DENR Regional Offices and was thereafter finalized.
- Data gathering for the Sustainable Livelihood Study in Cabadbaran-Santiago Watershed Forest Reserve was conducted in January 2021. The Report has been drafted and is currently being enhanced. A journal article titled: “Investing on Sustainable Rural Livelihood: Will This Curb the Illegal Wildlife Trade in Caraga Region, Philippines” was likewise prepared and is for submission to credible journals.
- Three Communications, Education, and Public Awareness (CEPA) Strategies and Plan were developed for NCR, Region 7, and Region 13, respectively, based on the results of the pre-campaign consumer research. The CEPA Strategy and Plan included the goals and objectives of the campaign, an analysis of the consumer segments and profile of target audience, CEPA campaign framework, messages by segmented audience, and communications channels, among others.
- The #StopIllegalWildlifeTrade CEPA campaign ran from March 2020 until June 2021, with the campaign duration having been extended by several months to account for operational slowdowns caused by the nationwide COVID-19 lockdowns. For the reporting period, the Project produced and disseminated eight social media posts (which were also boosted in Facebook), two IWT Teleradyo Guestings, support to World Wildlife Day 2021,

a short video on the amendments to RA 9147, four press releases, and an IWT Calendar 2021 (in English and Visayan).

Project Management

- The Project held its 4th Technical Working Group (TWG) Meeting (8 and 14 October 2020) to update the members on the progress of the Project as well as to discuss policy, technical, and administrative issues, and concerns.
- The Project held its 3rd and 4th PSC Meeting (16 July 2020 and 25 June 2021). The meeting provided the opportunity for the PSC to be updated on Project implementation and to solicit guidance on important project decisions.
- The Project participated in the quarterly Global Wildlife Program (GWP) Asia Coordination call held on September 24, 2020, and March 24, 2021 where a short presentation on implementation progress was provided to GWP and Asia partners.
- The Project, together with representatives from DENR-BMB, participated in the GWP Annual Conference held on December 1-3, 2020, held online via Zoom. The conference provided an opportunity for the Project Team to share progress of its implementation, collaborate with and learn lessons from other GWP projects across 32 countries.
- The 2021 Project Assessment and Planning Workshop was held last January 7, 2021, via Zoom to review the Project's progress and accomplishments for 2020 and plan for activities for 2021.
- The Project conducted the first of the two proposed Sustainability Planning Workshops last March 29-30, 2021. The workshop provided a venue for the Project partners and stakeholders to discuss opportunities for sustaining Project gains, such as the mainstreaming of project outputs into the regular programs of the DENR, other government agencies and development partners.

The Project encountered implementation issues mainly due to delays brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic and the ensuing lockdown restrictions. This was a challenge as all capacity building activities, port assessments, stakeholder consultations, and data gathering were initially designed to be conducted face-to-face. The Project was able to redesign these activities and conducted them online, through Zoom, and was able to catch-up with most of the delays. The Project is on-schedule to complete all activities by end of year, despite the pandemic.

Regarding financial utilization, out of the total budget of \$ 1.83 million (₱91.74 million)¹, 74% or \$ 1.59 million (₱79.28 million) has been obligated. The obligated amount includes those committed to contracts (42% of total budget) and those already disbursed (45% of total budget).

¹ Using exchange rate of USD 1 = PhP 50.00

Disbursements includes payments to consultants and firms, events held by the Project, and administrative expenses. The remaining balance of 13% or \$ 249,336 (₱12.47 million) will be utilized for support activities and project management costs until Project closure on December 31, 2021.

Information on Progress, challenges, and outcomes on stakeholder engagement

The Project recognizes that the involvement of stakeholders in Project activities is critical to the accomplishment of its targets. Below is a summary of the involvement of the major stakeholders of the Project.

- DENR-BMB - As the Executing Agency of the Project, DENR-BMB is involved in the implementation of project activities. Project Focal Persons are regularly consulted and updated in the planning, implementation, and monitoring of Project activities. DENR-BMB is also represented in the Project Steering Committee, and heads the Project TWG and the Project Management Office (PMO) (DENR Special Order 2019-204);
- DENR Central Office - The Undersecretary for Policy, Planning, and International Affairs chairs the Project PSC. All policy documents drafted by the Project are also reviewed and endorsed by the DENR-Policy and Planning Service (PPS), through the DENR- Policy and Technical Working Group (PTWG). Progress of Project implementation is regularly monitored by the DENR- Foreign Assisted and Special Projects Service (FASPS);
- DENR Regional Offices - Regional Executive Directors of the Project sites serve as members of the PSC while the Division Chiefs of the Enforcement Division sit in the TWG. Representatives from Regional Offices also participate in all the major events conducted such as capacity building activities, PortMATE Assessments, and stakeholder consultations for policy review and formulation. Lastly, coordination with DENR Regional Offices has been critical in the implementation of pre-campaign consumer surveys;
- Other national and international partners - The Project engaged and continues to engage with relevant national law enforcement agencies under the National Law Enforcement Coordinating Committee- Sub-Committee on Environment and Natural Resources NALECC-SCENR) in the conduct of the capacity building activities, port assessments, and in the conduct of the national law enforcement summit. It also engaged and continues to engage with the World Bank (WB)/GEF Global Wildlife Program (GWP) by participating in GWP Webinars, trainings, and annual conferences, as well as with the other GWP child projects in Asia to learn and share good practices. The Project also collaborated with the United Nations Office of Drug and Crime (UNODC) in the conduct of the Virtual Training on Financial Investigation of Wildlife and Forestry Crimes.
- The reassignments of heads of offices in DENR (BMB, Regional Executive Director (RED)-Region 13, DENR-Central, DENR-FASPS, DENR-PPS, etc.) posed challenges to the Project. To address this, the Project regularly involved permanent personnel, middle

managers, and technical staff of DENR to ensure continuity. The Project Management Unit (PMU) and appropriate TWG members also oriented new officials about the Project.

Information on Progress on gender-responsive measures

The Project does not have a specific Gender Action Plan; however, part of the Design and Monitoring Framework (DMF) covers the Stakeholder Review of the Draft Bill, the National Assessment Report on Wildlife Law Enforcement Response Effectiveness using ICCWC Indicator Framework, capacity building activities, and consumer research surveys wherein women participation is required. Of those activities and events conducted during the reporting period, 1,626 stakeholders from national and local governments, law enforcement agencies, civil society organizations, research and academic institutions, and the private sector participated in capacity building activities and consumer research surveys. Of this figure, 958 or 59% are females—well above the target of 30% (for training participants) and 50% (for consumer research respondents), as indicated in the Project’s DMF.

In addition, the Project also tracked gender participation in the Stakeholders’ Consultations on the Proposed Amendments to the IRR of RA 9147 (778 participants from 9 consultations; 51% male, 49% female) and PortMATE Assessments cum Capacity Building (276 participants from 7 port assessments; 56% males, 44% females).

Knowledge Activities/ Products

Knowledge products are defined in the Project Document as brochures, posters, banners, pamphlets, manuals, policy briefs, short public service announcements, modules, social media posts, radio, TV, and print articles. From July 2020 to June 2021, the Project has produced news articles on the results of its outputs such as the Economic Valuation of Marine Turtles and Blue-naped Parrots, Basic Wildlife Law Enforcement Trainings, Sea Port Assessments, e-Learning, and global events like the celebration of the World Wildlife Day 2021 and the International Day for Biological Diversity (IDBD) 2021.

The Project also produced a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) sheet on the proposed amendments to the Wildlife Act of 2001 as well as a Policy Brief entitled “A Shifting Landscape: Rethinking Illegal Wildlife Trade and the Law” for use in the awareness raising campaigns with Senate members. A short video on the repatriation of seized Indonesian wildlife from the Philippines to Indonesia was also produced, in collaboration with the UNDP/GEF Project on Combating Illegal and Unsustainable Trade in Endangered Species in Indonesia, which will be used as a reference for future repatriations.

For the celebration of the World Wildlife Day (March 2021), the Project provided overall logistical and administrative support to the conduct of the event. The Project also produced knowledge products such as promotional videos on eCITES PH, and eTraining Course which were shared during the event. A press release on the amendments to RA 9147 was also released during the event to give traction to the Senate Bills which were filed on March 2, 2021, by Senators Villar and Zubiri.

ADB GEF PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION REPORT (PIR)

I. Project Profile: Technical Assistance

ADB Official Project Title: Protecting and Investing in Natural Capital in Asia and the Pacific

ADB Project Number: 50159-001

1. General Information	1	GEF ID (PMIS ID):	9658
	2	Focal Area(s):	Biodiversity
	3	Region:	East Asia and the Pacific
	4	Country:	Philippines
	5	GEF Project Title:	Combating Environmental Organized Crime in the Philippines
	6	Project Size (FSP; MSP):	Medium-Sized Project (MSP)
	7	Trust Fund (GEFTF; SCCF; LDCF):	GEF Trust Fund (GEFTF)
2. Milestone Dates	8	GEF CEO Endorsement Date:	09/11/17
	9	ADB Approval Date:	12/31/17
	10	GEF Grant Signing:	12/31/17
	11	Project Implementation Start Date:	10/02/2018
	12	Date of 1st GEF Grant Disbursement:	09/22/2018
	13	Final date of GEF Grant Disbursement:	Not Applicable yet
	14	Proposed/Revised Implementation End:	12/31/2021
	15	Actual Implementation End:	12/31/2021
	16	Expected Financial Closure Date:	12/31/2021
	17	Actual Financial Closure Date:	Not Applicable yet
3. Funding	18	PPG/PDF Funding (USD)	
	19	GEF Grant (USD)	\$1,834,862
	20	Total GEF Disbursement as of 30 June 2021 (USD)	\$821,682.80 USD (45% disbursed)
	21	Confirmed Co-Finance at CEO Endorsement (USD)	1,325,757
	22	Materialized Co-Finance at project mid-term (USD)	\$288,540 (DENR) as of 06/30/21 \$ (ADB)
	23	Materialized Co-Finance at project completion (USD)	Not Applicable yet
	24	Proposed Mid-term date	12/31/2019

4. Evaluations	25	Actual Mid-Term date	Not Applicable
	26	Proposed Terminal Evaluation date (mm/dd/yy)	4th Quarter 2021
	27	Actual Terminal Evaluation Date (mm/dd/yy)	Not Applicable yet
	28	Tracking Tools Required (Yes/No/ Focal Area TT)	Yes
	29	Tracking Tools Date - if applicable (mm/dd/yy) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Midterm Tracking Tool • Terminal Evaluation Tracking Tool 	Not Applicable yet Not Applicable (Optional for MSP)
5. Ratings	30	Overall Implementation Progress Rating (IP)	Moderately Satisfactory
	31	Overall Development Objectives Rating (DO)	Moderately Satisfactory
	32	Overall Risk Rating	Low Risk
	33	Overall Project Rating	Moderately Satisfactory
6. Status	34	Status (GEF grant for ADB board approval/ GEF grant on-going):	GEF grant on-going
	35	Implementation Status (1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd PIR..., Final PIR)	3 rd and Final PIR
7. Files	36	PIR File Name (GEFID#_2021_ADB_Country_ProjectName)	(9658_2021_ADB_PHI_Combating Wildlife Crime)

II. Project Contacts

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Co-Implementing Partner: Name and Agency: Email:	Department of Environment and Natural Resources – Biodiversity Management Bureau (DENR-BMB) Edilberto DC Leonardo, Undersecretary for Special Concerns and OIC-Director of BMB and National Project Director director@bmb.gov.ph
Project Coordinator/ Manager: Email:	Mary Jean A. Caleda, PhD, EnP mjac.iwt@gmail.com



III. Project Implementation

A. Project Description:

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) - Asian Development Bank (ADB)/ Global Environment Facility (GEF)- Project on Combating Environmental Organized Crime in the Philippines is a GEF 6-funded project executed by the DENR- Biodiversity Management Bureau (BMB), with ADB as the GEF Implementing Agency.

The Project is also a component of the ADB Knowledge Support Technical Assistance (KSTA) 9461 on Protecting and Investing in Natural Capital in Asia and the Pacific, whose overall outcome is to increase the commitment of ADB’s Developing Member Countries (DMCs) to invest in natural capital, thereby improving natural capital assets in these countries. It is a child Project under the World Bank/GEF Global Wildlife Program (GWP), a global partnership on wildlife conservation and crime prevention for sustainable development. The GWP is composed of 32² countries worldwide that work together to reduce wildlife poaching and trafficking and promote livelihood activities by local communities.

The Project aims to combat environmental organized crime in the Philippines through three Components, namely: 1) reforming and mainstreaming policy, legal, and regulatory instruments; 2) enabling institutional capacity development in tactical operations addressing wildlife crimes; and 3) public awareness and reducing demand for illegal wildlife, products, and derivatives. The main sites for this Project are the National Capital Region (Metro Manila), Region 7, and Region 13, which are considered as hotspots, and destination or transit points for illegal wildlife trade. The specific Outputs for each component are shown in Figures 1 to 4 below:

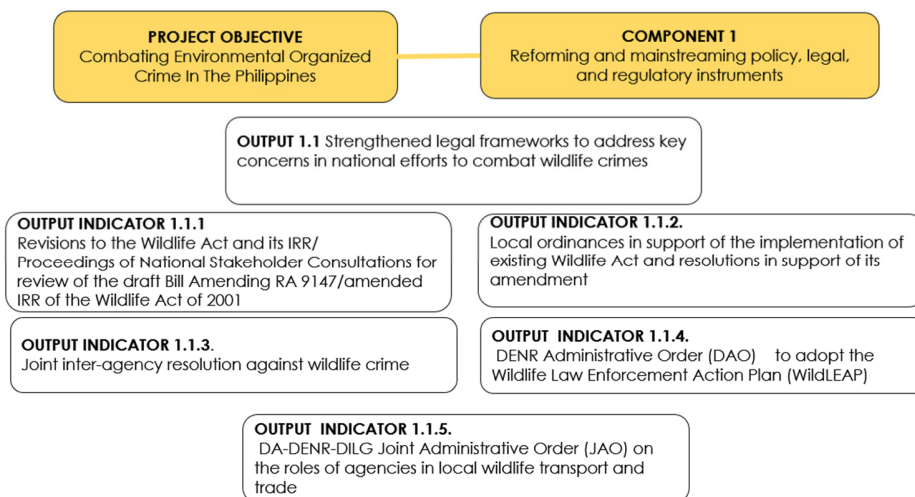


Fig. 1. Component 1: Output 1.1 and Output Indicators

² As of June 2021

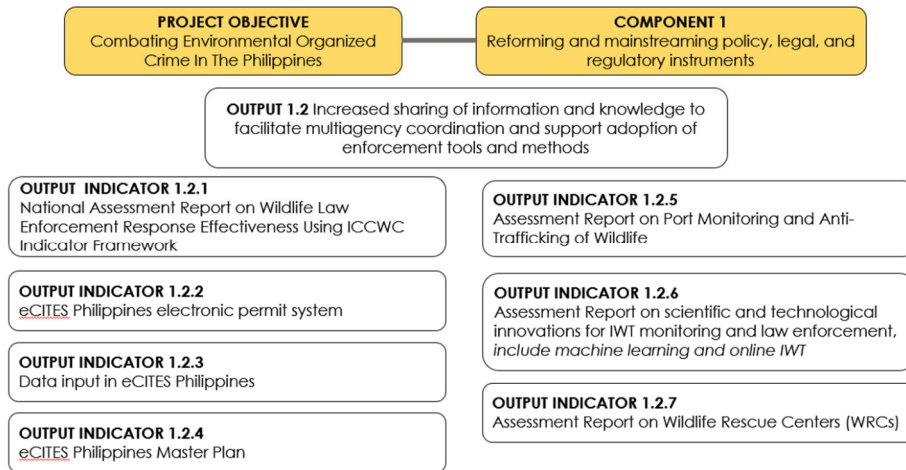


Fig. 2. Component 1: Output 1.2 and Output Indicators

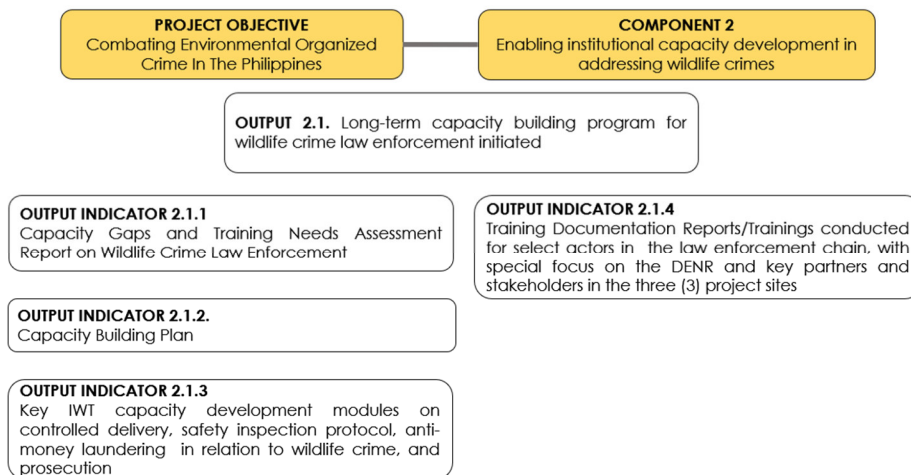


Fig. 3. Component 2: Output 2.1 and Output Indicators

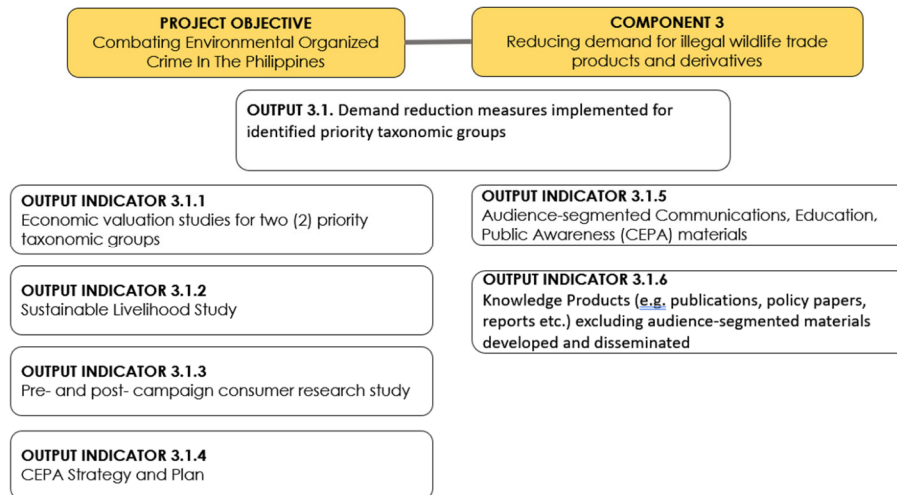


Fig. 4. Component 3: Output 3.1 and Output Indicators

The Project was approved on 19 May 2017 but officially started on 04 October 2018 after receipt by ADB of the No-Objection Letter from the Department of Finance (DOF). Due to the delay in project start and restrictions posed by the COVID 19 pandemic, the Project was extended up to December 31, 2021.

B. Implementation Progress (IP) Rating:

Rating: **Moderately Satisfactory**

In its third year of implementation, the Project has made significant implementation progress.

Component 1: Reforming and mainstreaming policy, legal, and regulatory instruments

Output 1.1.1 Revisions to the Republic Act (RA) 9147 or the Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act of 2001 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR)/ Proceedings of National Stakeholder Consultations for review of the draft Bill Amending RA 9147/amended IRR of RA 9147

Following the lengthy consultations and finalization of the draft Senate Bill, it was endorsed in July 2020 by Undersecretary Cuna (then PSC Chairperson) to Senator Juan Miguel Zubiri (Principal Author of the current Wildlife Act) and Senator Cynthia Villar (Senate Chairperson of the Senate Committee for Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change) for consideration for their co-sponsorship in filing in the Senate.

Senate Bill 2078 and Senate Bill 2079 on the “Revised Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act of 2021” were officially filed by Senators Villar and Zubiri, respectively, on March 2, 2021. The Bills feature amendments related to enforcement, penalties, and treatment of the crime of wildlife trafficking as a distinct and separate offense. The Villar Bill also noted the link

between illegal wildlife trade and pandemics and recognized the jurisdiction of the Bangsamoro Government over wildlife resources in the Bangsamoro Administrative Region of Muslim Mindanao.

Both Bills were read on the Senate floor for First Reading and endorsed to the Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources and Climate Change (ENR-CC), and the Senate Committee on Finance in March 2021. A Public Hearing was called jointly by the Senate Committees on ENR-CC, Finance, and Sustainable Development Goals, Innovations and Futures Thinking on July 30, 2021. Representatives from the national and local governments³, research and academic institutions⁴, civil society organizations⁵, and the private sector⁶ participated and submitted position papers in support of the passage of the Senate Bills.

A Campaign Plan was drafted to help guide and advance work on the Senate Bills until it reaches at least Second Reading⁷. Knowledge products on the Senate Bills were also prepared for the awareness raising campaign for members of the Senate. These include an FAQ Infographics, and a short video on the proposed amendments.

Per directive of the BMB Director and National Project Director during the BMB Strategic Planning Workshop last January 2020, the Project reviewed and updated the 16-year-old Joint DENR- Department of Agriculture (DA)- Palawan Council on Sustainable Development (PCSD) IRR of RA 9147 as a parallel move to include amendments to the Wildlife Act into the updated IRR if the draft Bill is not enacted into law.

The proposed amendments to the IRR of RA 9147 underwent several multi-stakeholder consultations and revisions from 2020 to 2021. The details of the consultations are as follows:

Consultations	Dates	Total attendees	Office/ Agency/Organization Present
BMB Internal reviews	August 7, 2020 - Part 1	29	BMB (Wildlife Resources Division (WRD), Biodiversity Policy and Knowledge Management Division (BPKMD), Coastal and Marine Division (CMD), National Parks Division (NPD))
	August 25, 2020 – Part 2	30	BMB (WRD, BPKMD, CMD, NPD)
	September 29, 2020	26	BMB (WRD and BMB Technical Review Committee)

³ Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Department of Agriculture (DA)-Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) and National Fisheries Resources Development Institute (NFRDI), Palawan Council for Sustainable Development (PCSD), National Museum of the Philippines (NMP), Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), Philippine National Police (PNP), Philippine Coast Guard (PCG), Department of Justice (DOJ)-National Bureau of Investigation (NBI), Philippine Ports Authority (PPA), Department of Transportation (DOTr)- Office of Transportation Security (OTS), Office of the Special Envoy on Transnational Crime (OSETC), Philippine Center on Transnational Crime (PCTC), League of Provinces of the Philippines, and ASEAN Center for Biodiversity.

⁴ University of the Philippines at Los Banos

⁵ Haribon Foundation for the Conservation of Natural Resources, Tanggol Kalikasan

⁶ Philippine Native Plants Society, Philippine Orchid Society

⁷ A Consolidated House Bill on the Revised Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act already passed the House Committee on Appropriations on May 26, 2021.

Consultations	Dates	Total attendees	Office/ Agency/Organization Present
	February 18, 2021	14	BMB-WRD
DENR-wide Review	November 17-20, 2020	175	BMB, All DENR Regional Offices
National Stakeholders' Review	January 26-29, 2021	168	Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) (all regions), PCSD, National Fisheries Research and Development Institute (NFRDI), National Museum, DENR- Ecosystems Research and Development Bureau (ERDB), University of the Philippines Los Banos (UPLB), CSOs (Conservation International (CI)- Philippines, CPPI, Marine Wildlife Watch Philippines (MWWP), Mindoro Biodiversity Conservation Foundation Inc (MBCFI), Philippine Biodiversity Conservation Foundation (PBCFI), OCEANA Philippines, World Wildlife Fund (WWF)-PH) Private Sectors (Ocean Adventure/ Philippine Marine Mammal Stranding Network (PMMSN)), IP Groups (Daluhay, Philippine ICCA Consortium) and other government agencies (National Commission on Indigenous People (NCIP) (Regions 2,3, 4A, 6, 11) PNP- Maritime Group (MG), NBI, PCG, BOC, Philippine Center on Transnational Crime (PCTC), Office of the Special Envoy on Transnational Crime (OSETC), LGUs, etc.)
Presentation to Flora and Fauna Experts	March 8-9, 2021	39	Philippine Red List Committee Members and Technical Working Groups for Mammals, Amphibians, Birds, and Invertebrates, and the Philippine Plants Conservation Committee
Presentation to DA and PCSD	April 28-30, 2021 – Part 1	29	DA-BFAR, DA- Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI), DA- Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI), DA Policy Research Service, PCSD, DENR-PPS, BMB-WRD, Caves, Wetlands, and other Ecosystems Division (CAWED), CMD, NPD
	May 6, 2021 – Part 2	28	DA-BFAR, DA-BPI, DA-BAI, DA Policy Research Service, PCSD, DENR-PPS, BMB-WRD, CAWED, CMD, NPD
DENR- Policy Technical Working Group (PTWG)	June 22, 2021	45	DENR-PTWG

The proposed amendments to the IRR are currently being enhanced based on the recommendation of the DENR-PTWG and will be sent out to DA and PCSD for vetting once finalized.

Output 1.1.2 Local ordinances in support of the implementation of RA 9147 and resolutions in support of its amendment

Initial meetings were held separately with the LGUs of Makati City, Manila City, and Cabadbaran City in December 2020 to discuss possible support in the crafting of local Ordinances relevant to the implementation of RA 9147 and resolutions in support of its amendment. Each LGU had their

own priority concerns based on their own circumstances and context. Pressing issues regarding illegal wildlife trade such as the sale of illegally acquired wildlife in restaurants, invasive alien species, lack of a formal City Environment and Natural Resources Office structure were raised, and all expressed interest in further discussions to craft a Local Ordinance specific to their respective LGUs. A formal letter was also sent to Tago Municipality in Region 13 for a possible coordination meeting based on its expressed interest for assistance. Unfortunately, no feedback was received from said Municipality.

The LGUs in the Project sites were also invited to attend the *Webinar on Wildlife Laws for LGUs* which also served as avenue for awareness raising. It was in the Webinar for Region 13 that the Cabadbaran City LGU and Tago Municipality LGU expressed their interest in assistance in local ordinance crafting.

Follow-up meetings were held with Manila and Makati City LGUs in April 2021 to discuss the adoption of a Local Resolution supporting the Senate Bills on the “Revised Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act of 2021”, and the drafting of a Local Ordinance related to the implementation of RA 9147. As agreed, the DENR-BMB formally endorsed the draft Local Resolution to the respective LGUs. It was also agreed that the LGUs will send copies of existing ordinances in relation to RA 9147 for review and possible enhancement to address the current wildlife issues faced by each LGU.

During subsequent meetings with BMB and the Project Steering Committee, it was raised that engaging LGUs in crafting the local ordinances specific to IWT or a local Resolution supporting the amendments to the Wildlife Act has been challenging since LGUs are currently more focused on their COVID-19 response. Hence, it was agreed that a template ordinance that LGUs can use will be delivered by the Project instead.

Output 1.1.3 Joint inter-agency declaration/ resolution against wildlife crimes

A Declaration Against Wildlife Crimes was symbolically adopted, through a palm print, by some members of the NALECC-SCENR who participated in the celebration of World Wildlife Day in March 2021. This symbolic Declaration triggered succeeding preparations for its proposed formal adoption as a Resolution Against Wildlife Crimes, by members of the NALECC-SCENR in the upcoming 4th National Environmental Law Enforcement (NELE) Summit.

A draft Resolution Against Wildlife Crimes was prepared for consideration by heads of the different government agencies and participants of the NELE Summit. The Resolution: 1) recognizes that syndicated large-scale illegal wildlife trade is a serious transnational crime that requires close collaboration among law enforcement agencies, including those mandated to stop and deter transnational crimes; 2) welcomes the inclusion of violations of Section 27(c), (e), (f), (g) and (i) of RA 9147 in the list of predicate crimes for the offense of money laundering and thanks Congress for these important amendments; 3) undertakes to coordinate efforts to ensure that those responsible for large scale, and syndicated transnational wildlife illegal wildlife trade shall be prosecuted to the full extent of the law and be investigated for possible violation of Anti-Money Laundering Act of 2001; 4) supports the effort of DENR, the environmental law

enforcement community, and the authors of the Bills on the Revised Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act in both houses of Congress, and requests Congress to pass the amendatory Bill in the most expeditious time possible; 5) congratulates and thanks the DENR, DA, PCSD and the various enforcement agencies for working together in the effort to amend RA 9147; 6) congratulates and thanks Senators Cynthia Villar and Juan Miguel Zubiri for introducing and sponsoring the amendatory Bill in the Senate; 7) congratulates and thanks the Representatives Josephine Ramirez-Sato and 15 others for introducing their respective proposed amendments and for consolidating the bill in the House of Representatives; 8) requests the members of the Senate and House of Representatives to cause the immediate passage of the Senate and House versions of the amendatory Bill and ensure the immediate passage of the amendments; and, 9) sends a copy of the Resolution to Representative Lord Allan Velasco, Speaker of the House; Senator Vicente Sotto III, Senate President; Senator Cynthia Villar, Senator Juan Miguel Zubiri of the Philippines Senate; Representative Josephine Ramirez-Sato and 15 other Representatives, for their information, consideration, and support for the requested actions.

The NELE Summit was originally scheduled on April 19-21, 2021, then rescheduled to May 26-28, then finally set for July 14-16, 2021.

Output 1.1.4 Department Administrative Order (DAO) to adopt the Wildlife Law Enforcement Action Plan (WildLEAP) 2018-2028

The DAO adopting the WildLEAP as the national roadmap in addressing wildlife crimes and the WildLEAP itself were endorsed to the DENR Secretary for signature, after vetting by the DENR Bureau Directors and Undersecretaries. The DAO 2020-13 Adopting the WildLEAP 2018-2028 as the National Roadmap in Addressing Wildlife Crimes was signed on October 13, 2020, published in the Daily Tribune on January 8, 2021, submitted to the Office of the National Administrative Register (ONAR), and became effective thereafter.

Output 1.1.5 Joint DA-DENR-DILG Joint Administrative Order (JAO) on the roles of agencies in local wildlife local transport and trade

Following the presentation of the draft JAO to the DENR-PTWG last February 2020, the JAO was subsequently circulated for vetting by the DENR Bureau Directors and Undersecretaries and endorsed to DENR Secretary for signature. Thereafter, it was endorsed by the DENR Secretary to the Secretaries of DA and DILG in October 2020.

The JAO 2020-01 on Defining the Roles and Responsibilities of Agencies concerned in the Local Trade and Transport of Wildlife under the Jurisdiction of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources was signed by the Department Secretaries as of November 17, 2020, published in the Daily Tribune on December 18, 2020, submitted to the ONAR, and became effective thereafter

Output 1.2.2 eCITES Philippines electronic permit system

The eCITES PH system is currently undergoing enhancements to address the requirements of the BMB-WRD. Multiple meetings with the eCITES TWG were held in 2020 and 2021 to ensure that the eCITES PH system accurately captures the actual permit system currently in implementation. A dry-run of the system was conducted with participants from DENR-NCR last September 8, 2020, to solicit comments and feedback from regional stakeholders. It is currently in the final round of revisions, based on comments and suggestions from the dry run.

To fully automate the eCITES PH system, a MOU between Landbank LinkBiz Portal and DENR-BMB was signed on February 19, 2021, to allow eCITES PH users to pay online through the Landbank LinkBiz Portal. Interfacing of the Landbank LinkBiz portal with the eCITES system is currently ongoing and is expected to be completed by July 2021.

The eCITES PH system is expected to be integrated into the National Single Window System via TRADENet, a trade facilitation portal.

Output 1.2.4 eCITES Philippines Master Plan

An initial meeting with the Philippines CITES Management Authorities (DENR-BMB, DA-BFAR, PCSD) was conducted on August 18, 2020, to determine and understand the CITES system of each authority. The results of the said meeting showed that: 1) DA-BFAR has an electronic system for the issuance of phytosanitary permits but none for CITES permits; 2) PCSD has a Biodiversity Resources Access Information Network (BRAIN) system but the application and issuance of CITES permits are yet to be developed and made functional in the BRAIN system; and 3) BMB is in the process of developing the CITES ePermit system.

An initial meeting was also held on October 14, 2020 among the Department of Finance (DOF), United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), CITES Secretariat, and the three CITES Management Authorities to discuss matters related to eCITES and to agree on the general plan of action on the development of the eCITES Masterplan. It was agreed to conduct a series of workshops to formulate the Masterplan guiding principles, objectives, major activities, timeline, and budget for each component of the eCITES system, namely: ePermit, eControl, eExchange, and eReport.

A consultation-workshop was conducted over three sessions last February 23-24, March 24-25, and April 13-15, 2021, to draft the Masterplan. The Masterplan is currently being finalized based on the results of the consultation-workshop.

Output 1.2.5 Assessment Report on Port Monitoring and Anti-Trafficking of Wildlife

A MOU between DENR-BMB and the PPA was signed on July 13, 2020, with the objective of enhancing government capacity to address illegal wildlife trade in seaports, and to support the assessment of selected seaports in NCR and Region 13 on tracking and monitoring illegal wildlife trade. A similar MOU among DENR-BMB, DENR-Region 7, and CPA was also signed last

January 27, 2021, with the same objective of supporting the assessment of the Cebu Domestic and International Seaports

An initial meeting with the DENR-BMB, Tanggol Kalikasan, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)/ GEF Project on Reducing Maritime Trafficking of Wildlife between Africa and Asia, World Wildlife Fund (Hongkong and Philippines), and TRAFFIC was held on July 31, 2020, to discuss possible collaboration and to seek guidance in port assessments using the PortMATE tool. During the meeting, it was explained that the PortMATE tool can be adjusted depending on the country’s circumstances. Hence, the Project calibrated the PortMATE tool to address local context and use for domestic seaport assessment.

A total of seven ports were assessed using the recalibrated PortMATE tool. Two ports were assessed in Region 13 (Lipata Port and Nasipit Port); three ports in NCR (MICT, Manila North Harbor, Manila South Harbor); and two ports in Region 7 (Cebu Domestic Port and Cebu International Port). The assessment determined the readiness of the ports, including the government agencies managing and manning the same, to monitor and track wildlife trafficking, and to jointly identify ways and approaches to enhance their capacity. The assessment was accompanied by a capacity building on the use of the PortMATE tool so that eventually, it can be applied to all seaports of the country. The details of the port assessments are as follows:

Port	Date	No. of Participants	Affiliation of Participants
Lipata Port, Surigao del Norte, CARAGA	November 11-16, 2020	43 (74% male, 26% female)	DENR-Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office (PENRO), BAI- National Veterinary Quarantine Services (NVQS), BPI- Plant Quarantine Services (PQS), BFAR- Region13, PCG Northeastern Mindanao, PCG Surface Support (SS)- Lipata, PNP – Surigao, PNP- MG, PPA, BOC, Philippine Archipelago Ports and Terminal Services Inc., APFC Fast Cat, GT Express Shipping Corporation
Nasipit Port, Agusan del Norte, CARAGA	November 18-23, 2020	39 (69% male, 31% female)	DENR City Environment and Natural Resources Office (CENRO), DENR PENRO, BAI-NVQS, BPI-PQS, BFAR, PCG, PNP, PNP-MG, PPA, BOC, 2GO Group Inc., Cokaliong Shipping, Nasipit Integrated Arrastre & Stevedoring Services, Inc., Seaborne Shipping, Philippine Span Asia Carrier Corporation, Lite Ferries
Manila North Harbor, NCR	November 25- December 1, 2020	38 (76% male, 24% female)	DENR-NCR, BFAR, BPI, BAI-NVQS, BOC, PCG, PNP, PNP-MG, PPA, Manila North Harbour Container Port Inc (MNHPI), Harbour Centre Port Terminal Inc., Northport Inc., 2GO Group, Vitas Arraste Corp.
Manila South Harbor	January 18-22, 2021	37 (70% male and 30% female)	DENR, BAI, BPI, BOC, BFAR, PPA, Asian Terminal Incorporated, PCG, PNP, PNP-MG, Philippine Ships Agents Association, Philippine Multimodal Transport and Logistics Association
Manila International	January 25-29, 2021	37 (65% male and 35% female)	DENR, PPA, BFAR, BAI, BPI, BOC, PCG, PNP, PNP-MG, Export Development Council of the

Port	Date	No. of Participants	Affiliation of Participants
Container Terminal			Philippines (EDC), International Container Terminal Services, Inc. (ICTSI), Association of International Shipping Lines (AISL), Port Users Confederation of the Philippines (PUCP),
Cebu Domestic Port	April 26-30, 2021	36 (70% male, and 30% female)	CPA, DENR-R7, BFAR-R7, BOC-EPCD-ESS, BOC-Assessment Division, BAI-Regional Veterinary Quarantine Services (RVQS)-R7, BPI-PQS, PNP, PNP-MG, Marina, United South Dockhandlers, Inc., Trans-Asia Shipping Lines Inc., Starlite Ferries Inc., Roble Shipping Inc., Ocean Transport Group, Gothong Southern Shipping Lines, DENR CENRO Argao
Cebu International Port	May 24-28, 2021	32 (71% male, and 29% female)	CPA, DENR-R7, BFAR-R7, BOC-EPCD-ESS, BOC-Assessment Division, BAI- RVQS-R7, BPI-PQS, PNP, PNP-MG, Marina, Office of the Transportation Security, Oriental Port and Allied Services Corporation (OPASCOR), Evergreen Shipping Agency, Crossworld Marine Services, Oriental Port and Allied Services Corporation, United States Embassy (USE)- Office of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL)

The results of the assessment of the ports in NCR and CARAGA were presented to Port stakeholders for their validation on May 11, 2021. Eighty-one (81) participants (53% male, 47% female) from PPA, Lipata Port, Nasipit Port, Manila North Harbor, Manila South Harbor, BOC, DENR, and stakeholders from the private sector attended the validation meeting.

Among the key findings of the abovementioned assessment workshops are: 1) absence of a single window environment for Electronic Clearance System; 2) lack of intelligence and intelligence access on a regional scale that may help the early detection and interception of wildlife contrabands entering the port; 3) lack of risk profiling system complemented with wildlife crime risk indicators; 4) absence of a K9 Unit able to detect wildlife, by-products, and derivatives; 5) presence of established standard operating procedures for inspection and seizure of wildlife and other illicit goods; 6) presence of a protocol on post seizure investigation of cases; 7) presence of an information exchange system with local ports (for PPA) but under-maximized communication exchange with international institutions; 8) presence of an established system to maintain employees' integrity, professional standards and to deter corrupt practices; and, 9) presence and participation of industry operators, and need for greater cooperation and support from other supply chains.

The workshops also identified the need for trainings in the following areas: a) interpreting wildlife images in scanning machines, concealment, and detection; b) analysis of wildlife trafficking patterns; c) wildlife laws and CITES regulations, wildlife identification, wildlife forensics, controlled delivery; and d) serving as witness in court for law enforcement agencies.

The full Assessment Reports of all seaports will be completed by Q3 2021.

Output 1.2.6 Assessment Report on scientific and technological innovations for IWT monitoring and law enforcement

Machine learning is a tool that utilizes artificial intelligence to track, mine and analyze data on wildlife trade in digital media. Recognizing the potential of machine learning in combating illegal wildlife trade, a study on wildlife trade in digital media was initiated in collaboration with the University of Helsinki Laboratory of Interdisciplinary Conservation Science, Department of Geosciences and Geography (HELICS) in November 2020. A national Consultant was engaged in April 2021 to support BMB and the work of HELICS.

It was agreed that HELICS will build the database of entries comprising of data mined for 156 target animal and plant species provided by BMB. The national Consultant will work in parallel with HELICS to develop an Analytics Dashboard that will translate the database into easy to understand and actionable data for DENR. Both HELICS and the National Consultant have submitted their Inception Reports to guide implementation of this study.

Population of the machine-learning database is ongoing. Data collection from the preliminary results highlighted in the mid-term report of HELICS focused on Google Search APIs (13,102 web addresses), online news (1,432 news articles), and social media (75,802 Flickr web addresses). The preliminary results looked promising in identifying posts on wildlife trade.

Output 1.2.7 Assessment Report on Wildlife Rescue Centers (WRCs)

An Assessment Framework and Methodology developed by the ASEAN Center for Biodiversity (ACB) was used to assess five DENR-established WRCs in the Project sites: National Wildlife Research and Rescue Center (NWRRC) in the NCR; Regional WRCs in Cebu City, Ayungon in Negros Oriental, and Talibon in Bohol (Region 7); and the Regional WRC in Kitcharao, Agusan del Norte (CARAGA).

Site assessments were originally scheduled for March 2020 but had to be rescheduled and redesigned due to quarantine restrictions posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Project opted to conduct an online assessment by sending the assessment tool to WRC focal persons and validating the responses through Zoom. Results of the assessment were presented in an online meeting with representatives from DENR-BMB, DENR Regional Offices and their WRCs (Region 7 and CARAGA) and the ACB for review and clarifications, as well as for validation.

The assessment evaluated the management policies, veterinary protocols, and facilities of the WRCs across 5 categories (Management, Environment, Housing Facilities and Enclosures, Animal Health and Welfare, and CEPA) and 21 sub- themes.

Among the key recommendations were: 1) consider establishing instead WRC hubs with state-of-the-art facilities and complete staff, with other WRCs serving as temporary holding facilities; 2) improve and standardize record keeping across WRCs; 3) revise and add to the WRC Manual of Operations full sections on veterinary care, waste control, and roles of DENR Regional Offices (Divisions/Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office/Community Environment and Natural Resources Office).

Component 2: Enabling institutional capacity development in tactical operations addressing wildlife crimes

Output 2.1.3 Key IWT capacity development modules

The modules on Introduction to Controlled Delivery, Introduction to Protocol on Safety Inspection of Wildlife, Introduction to Anti-Money Laundering (in relation to wildlife crimes), and the Prosecution of Wildlife Cases were developed, presented to DENR for comments and suggestions, and pilot-tested during the BWLE Trainings and in the Seminar on the Prosecution of Wildlife Cases.

The conversion of the BWLE Training Course into a self-paced eTraining Course was also initiated. Seven Modules and 18 topics were developed and uploaded to ADB e-Learn and mainstreamed into the DENR- ENR Academy as a specialized course. The eTraining Course will allow potential participants, including interested law enforcement officers, to take the Course entirely online, at their own pace, space and time, while still achieving the learning outcome.

Representatives from DENR- BMB and DENR-HRDS have been assigned as Course Managers to manage and track the course, and its attendees.

Output 2.1.4 Training Documentation Reports

Due to the uncertainty of conducting the face-to-face trainings because of COVID-19, the Project opted to conduct the trainings (BWLE Training, Webinar on Wildlife Laws for LGUs and Industry Players, and Seminar on the Prosecution of Wildlife Cases) online, through Zoom.

Five BWLE Trainings, three Webinars on Wildlife Laws for LGUs, one Webinar on Wildlife Law for Industry Players, and two Seminar on the Prosecution of Wildlife Cases were completed, as follows:

Region	Date	No. of Participants	Affiliation of Participants
BWLE Training			
Region 13 (Agusan del Norte, Agusan del Sur, and Region 11)	July 10- August 7, 2020 (AM Session)	61 (62% male, 38% female)	DENR, BFAR, CAAP, NBI, PPA, BPI, PNP, PCG
Region 13 (Surigao del Norte, Surigao del Sur, and Dinagat Islands)	July 10- August 7, 2020 (PM Session)	53 (72% male, 28% female)	DENR, PPA, BFAR, PNP, BAI, PCG, CAAP
Region 7 (Negros Oriental and Siquijor)	August 13- August 28, 2020	81 (70% male, 30% female)	DENR, BPI, PNP-MG, PNP-Aviation Security Group (ASG), PPA, NBI, BOC, BFAR, PCG
Region 7 (Bohol and Cebu)	September 23- October 7, 2020	47 (60% male, 40% female)	DENR, PPA, BAI, CAAP, CGS, BFAR, PNP, CPA, NBI, BOC
NCR	October 21- November 5, 2020	91 (60% male, 40% female)	DENR, Manila International Airport Authority (MIAA), Ninoy Aquino International

Region	Date	No. of Participants	Affiliation of Participants
			Airport (NAIA), BPI, BOC, PPA, PCG, BFAR, BAI, PNP
Webinar on Wildlife Laws for LGUs			
Region 13	September 28-October 2, 2020	58 (50% male, 50% female)	30 LGUs from Agusan del Sur, Agusan del Norte, Surigao del Sur, Surigao del Norte, and Dinagat Islands
Region 7	October 19-23, 2020	43 (65% male, 35% female)	28 LGUs from Cebu, Bohol, Negros Oriental, Siquijor
NCR	December 1-7, 2020	46 (55% male, 45% female)	All 13 LGUs in NCR participated
Webinar on Wildlife Laws for Industry Players			
NCR, Region 7, Region 13	January 18-19, 2021	14 (43% male, 57% female)	2GO, GT Express Shipping Corp., Lite Ferries, Carlos Gothong Lines, Cockaliong Shipping Lines, Philippine Span Asia Carrier Corp., Nasipit Integrated Arrastre and Stevedoring Services, Asian Terminals Inc., APFC Fast Cat
Seminar on the Prosecution of Wildlife Cases			
NCR, Region 7, and Region 13	November 23-27, 2020	85 (48% male, 52% female)	Office of City Prosecutor (OCP) in Project Sites, Regional Prosecutor's Office (RPO), Office of the Provincial Prosecutor (OPP), Department of Justice (DOJ), DENR, BFAR,
NCR, Region 7, Region 13	April 12-16, 2021	93 (48% male, and 52% female)	DENR Regional Offices in the Project Sites, DOJ- National Prosecution Service (NPS) Regional Offices, OCP in NCR

The BWLE Trainings were conducted over 10 to 20 sessions of 1.5 to 3-hour sessions per day or a total of 30 hours. They included lectures, practical exercises, mock inquest/ preliminary investigation, and court trial on topics related to substantive laws which include RA 9147, procedural laws, as well as technical and practical skills on wildlife handling, investigation, surveillance, apprehension, seizure, preparation of affidavits, serving as witness in court.

The Webinar on Wildlife Laws for LGUs was conducted over five sessions of two hours each per day or a total of 10 hours. It included lectures on the salient features of the Wildlife Act, the Fisheries Code, National Integrated and Protected Areas Act, as well as discussions on wildlife trafficking, the role of LGUs in the enforcement of wildlife laws, and identification of commonly traded wildlife.

The Webinar on Wildlife Laws for Industry Players was conducted over two session of three hours per day. It aimed to increase awareness on wildlife trafficking in the country, RA 9147, wildlife identification and wildlife permit familiarization. The training highlighted the important role of

the private sector in combating IWT since wildlife trafficking involves intensive logistical and transportation requirements.

The Seminar on the Prosecution of Wildlife Cases was conducted over five (5) days at two (2) hours per day or a total of 10 hours. It included lectures on salient features and prohibited acts of RA No. 9147, RA No. 8550, as amended, RA No. 7586, RA11038, Forestry Code of the Philippines as amended, Chainsaw Act, Cave Resources Conservation and Protection Act, including the pertinent implementing guidelines for the said laws. It also included a lecture on wildlife identification and wildlife permits, financial investigation, and money laundering. A workshop on the role of lawyers from DENR and BFAR and their partnership with public prosecutors was also held.

Subject-matter experts from DENR-BMB, NBI, PNP, BOC, DOJ, TK and DENR Regions served as trainers. Twenty (16.7% of all trainers) of these trainers were graduates of DENR-BMB’s Training of Trainers Program. The Webinar-type BWLE Training Course has been accredited by the DENR-HRDS and mainstreamed as a specialized course under the DENR-ENR Academy, in addition to the self-paced eTraining Course mentioned in 2.1.3.

Project beneficiaries have also attended international trainings organized in collaboration with international organizations or organized by the GWP. These are:

Region	Date	No. of Participants	Affiliation of Participants
UNODC Virtual Training Course on Financial Investigation of Wildlife and Forestry Crimes			
NCR, Region 7, Region 13, Region 4A, Region 5, Region 10, Region 11	April 6-8, 2021	80 (68% male, 32% female)	DENR, Anti-Money Laundering Council (AMLC), PNP, PCSD, and Wildlife Enforcement Officers (WEOs) in Ports
GWP Conservation Storytelling Workshop			
NCR	4 Sessions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • July 21, 2020 • August 5, 2020 • August 11, 2020 • September 15, 2020 	15	DENR-BMB, DENR-NCR, ADB, NIRAS
GWP Virtual Training Course on Human-Wildlife Conflict			
NCR, Region 13	June 10, 2021	6	DENR-BMB, DENR-Region 13

The Virtual Training Course on Financial Investigation of Wildlife and Forestry Crimes was part of the recommendations that resulted from the national assessment of the effectiveness of wildlife law enforcement response using the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crimes (ICWC) Indicator Framework. It discussed the Philippines’ legal framework related to investigations of IWT, introduction to money laundering and other financial crimes, key elements in the investigation of wildlife crimes, and case scenarios.

The GWP Conservation Storytelling Workshop focused on communication strategies that can help GWP country teams develop and disseminate knowledge and communication products to support achievement of project objectives and deliver vital knowledge exchange. The Virtual Training

Course on Human-Wildlife Conflict focused on understanding underlying social causes of a given conflict, identifying the positions, interests and relationships of the parties involved, designing processes for effective community engagement, and building sustainable collaborations. In addition to these training courses, Project beneficiaries also participated in various Webinars organized by GWP and its partners.

Lastly, the Project also supported the DENR-BMB and UNODC in the preparations for the virtual consultations on, and later turnover to BMB and the Department of Justice- National Prosecution Office (DOJ-NPS) of the Rapid Reference Guide (RRG) for the Investigation and Prosecution of Wildlife Trafficking drafted by UNODC. These consultations were held on September 1 and October 20, 2020, and formal turnover of the RRG from UNODC to DENR-BMB and DOJ-NPS was held on January 22, 2021.

Component 3: Reducing demand for illegal wildlife, products, and derivatives

Output 3.1.1 Economic valuation studies for two priority taxonomic groups

After submission during the 1st Quarter 2020 of the first draft of the Report on the Economic Valuation of Marine Turtle (pawikan) and Blue-naped Parrot (pikoy), the report was presented and circulated to various experts and stakeholders for review, comments and inputs on the content and assumptions used to calculate values.

A Technical Experts' Review was held on August 12, 2020, to solicit comments and feedback from experts on marine turtles, parrots, environmental economists, and conservation scientists. The Report was further enhanced and presented to the National Economic Development Authority (NEDA) on December 2, 2020, in response to NEDA's interest in valuation studies, including translating said valuation study for appreciation by policy and decision makers.

During the review process, the Project reconciled the assumptions and values to be used in the valuation. Difficulties arose due to lack of primary research data, and differing opinions from experts and stakeholders on which data to use.

After several versions and revisions of the Report, the results of the study yielded the following valuation estimates (based on a 10% discount rate) of marine turtles and blue-naped parrots:

Economic Value of Marine Turtles

Value Categories	Lower Bound (USD)	Upper Bound (USD)
Flow Use Value Population (Annual)	\$57,881,337.00	\$63,853,180.00
Stock Use Value Population (Lifespan)	\$634,394,524.00	\$699,847,482.00
Per specimen Use Value (Lifespan)	\$86,974.00	\$95,948.00
Existence Value (Annual)	\$186,041,848.00	
Total Existence Value (Lifespan)	\$2,039,067,086.00	

Economic Value of Blue-naped Parrots

Value Categories	Lower Bound (USD)	Upper Bound (USD)
Flow Use Value Population (Annual)	\$724,510.00	\$5,903,868.00
Stock Use Value Population (Lifespan)	\$3,879,941.00	\$31,616,750.00
Per specimen Use Value (Lifespan)	\$456.00	\$3,720.00
Existence Value (Annual)	\$667,589,622.00	
Total Existence Value (Lifespan)	\$3,575,116,464.00	

Output 3.1.2 Pre- and Post-Campaign Consumer Research Study

Following the submission and enhancement of the pre-campaign consumer survey report in NCR last May 2020, the Report was presented to DENR-BMB and DENR-NCR on July 28, 2020.

The completion of the face-to-face pre-campaign consumer survey of households in Cebu (one barangay) and CARAGA (four barangays) was delayed due to quarantine restrictions posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. Considering the uncertainty of the lifting quarantine restrictions, the Project decided to continue the localized household surveys through phone interviews. The household survey in Cebu was completed in July 2020 while the household survey in CARAGA was completed in November 2020.

A nationwide pre-campaign consumer survey was likewise conducted to supplement the localized surveys. A total of 800 (400 in Luzon, 200 in Visayas, and 360 in Mindanao) respondents were interviewed from August to September 2020.

The Cebu pre-campaign consumer survey report was submitted on August 24, 2020 and presented to DENR-BMB and DENR- Region 7 on September 11, 2020 while the CARAGA pre-campaign consumer survey report was submitted on December 4, 2020. The nationwide pre-campaign consumer survey report was submitted on November 20, 2020 and was presented to DENR-BMB and DENR CARAGA for their comments on January 19, 2021.

The results identified the different consumer-segments with regards to wildlife purchases of marine turtles and parrots in the Project sites:

Marine Turtles

	NCR	Region 7	Region 13	Nationwide
Acceptor	8%	1%	18%	14%
Rejector	51%	12%	65%	63%
Non-committal	41%	87%	17%	23%

Parrots

	NCR	Region 7	Region 13	Nationwide
Acceptor	20%	3%	22%	30%
Rejector	31%	8%	56%	44%
Non-committal	49%	89%	23%	26%

The report also identified the preferred channels to engage with each consumer segment, as well as the messaging approach that each consumer segment will best respond to.

These results of the reports were used to inform the development of the CEPA Strategy and Plan as well as the development and dissemination of the audience-segmented materials.

The Project has prepared the survey questionnaire for the post-campaign consumer research to be conducted nationwide and in the Project Sites as well.

Output 3.1.3 Sustainable Livelihood Study

An initial meeting between ADB, DENR-BMB, DENR-BMB’s Biodiversity-friendly Enterprises (BDFE) Core Group, and DENR- Region 13 (proposed site for the study) was conducted on August 5, 2020, to present the inception report for a Sustainable Livelihood Study detailing the methodology, timetable, and expected outputs for the study. An initial draft survey tool/questionnaire was likewise submitted for comments and suggestions. During the meeting, it was agreed that the Cabadbaran-Santiago Watershed Forest Reserve (CSWFR) will be the study site.

The proposed study was presented to the CSWFR Protected Area Management Board on December 17, 2020, for clearance, prior to conduct of field activities which began last January 2021. A draft report was submitted in March 2021 detailing the preliminary analysis of the results. The report is currently being reviewed and enhanced and is expected to be completed by Q3 2021. A journal article titled: “Investing on Sustainable Rural Livelihood: Will This Curb the Illegal Wildlife Trade in Caraga Region, Philippines” was likewise prepared for submission to credible journals.

Output 3.1.4 CEPA Strategy and Plan

The results of the pre-campaign consumer survey (see 3.1.2) were used to inform the development of the CEPA Strategy and Plan for each project site. The CEPA Strategy and Plan included the goals and objectives of the campaign, an analysis of the consumer segments and profile of target audience, CEPA campaign framework, communications channels, and messages by segmented audience, among others.

Three different CEPA Strategies and Plan were developed for NCR, Region 7, and Region 13 and were submitted and presented together with the respective pre-campaign consumer reports (see 3.1.2).

A combination of traditional and social media platforms was chosen to disseminate the various communication products, ranging from live guesting in hybrid teleradio shows which have radio, television, and digital followings, to the physical distribution of printed calendars, and through social media cards disseminated through Facebook.

Due to the COVID-19 quarantine restrictions from March 2020 onwards, the Project had to rely more on digital media platforms to reach audiences which have likewise been forced to stay at home. For enhanced traction and ease of tracking across social media and the web, all materials featured the #StopIWT and #StopIllegalWildlifeTrade hashtags.

The CEPA campaign was designed to focus on reducing demand for the identified taxonomic species (marine turtles and blue-naped parrots) as well as other threatened flora and fauna. The campaign was also designed to highlight the need to amend and strengthen RA 9147 through a series of press releases.

Output 3.1.5 Audience-segmented CEPA Materials

The #StopIllegalWildlifeTrade CEPA campaign ran from March 2020 until June 2021, with the campaign duration having been extended by several months to account for operational slowdowns caused by the nationwide COVID-19 restrictions.

The Project was able to develop and disseminate the following audience-segmented materials:

No.	Output	Audience Segment	Months Delivered
1	8 Social media Campaign Posts	Non-awares, non-committals, acceptors, rejectors	Social Media Cards posted and shared on DENR-BMB page and pages of allied institutions from November 2020 to May 2021. Additional 4 extra Social Media Cards
2	2 IWT Teleradyo Guestings	Non-awares, non-committals, acceptors, rejectors	2 guestings completed, (February 2021, and March 2021)
3	Communications Support for World Wildlife Day 2020 and 2021	Non-awares, non-committals, acceptors, rejectors	Delivered 3 March 2020 and 2021
4	RA 9147 Video	Non-awares, non-committals, acceptors, rejectors	Unveiled for World Wildlife Day 2021 in March 2021 but finalized in April 2021
5	4 Press Releases	Non-awares, non-committals, acceptors, rejectors	Press Releases written on the topics of Economic Valuation Study Teaser, Wildlife Act Amendments, World Wildlife 2021, and Economic Valuation Final Report
6	2 IWT Poster Calendars (in English and Visayan)	Non-awares, non-committals, acceptors, rejectors	10,500 calendars (6,500 English and 4,000 Visayan) printed and distributed by June 2021

For the social media cards (see No. 1), four sets were produced. Each set was crafted as a pair (Marine Turtle and Blue-naped Parrot) to build and sustain audience interest. The topic of each set are as follows: (1) Species spotlight, (2) debunking traditional beliefs, (3) economic value, (4) sustainable alternatives. All social media cards were posted in the DENR-BMB Facebook page and boosted to target audience segments (acceptors, rejectors, non-committals).

The social media cards were also shared to DENR-Regional Offices, and key opinion leaders like Ms. Karen Ibasco (Ms. Earth 2017), ACB, Large Marine Vertebrates Research Institute Philippines, MWWP, and Reefcheck for posting. As of reporting period, the #StopIWT social media cards cumulatively reached 1,115,682 people to generate 47,758 likes, 10,628 shares and 1,207 comments.

For the Teleradyo Guestings (see No. 2), The Project organized two radio guesting in Region 7 (Radyo Veritas) and CARAGA (Hope Radio) on February 4 and 18, 2021 respectively. The radio guesting highlighted the IWT issues and solutions and how people can help stop IWT. Mr. Rainier Manlegro of DENR Region 7 was the guest speaker for Region 7 while Atty. Theresa Tenazas of DENR-BMB, Mr. Gregg Yan of NIRAS Manila, and Ms. Jewel de Jesus of DENR-CARAGA were the guest speakers for CARAGA.

For the support to World Wildlife Day 2021 (see No. 3), the Project developed a long-format video on RA 9147 (see No. 4). Three (3) press releases were also crafted for the event: (1) World Wildlife Day 2021, (2) final version of the economic valuation study, (3) the pressing need to amend RA 9147 (see No. 5). The event generated a total of 27 media hits totaling PHP6,135,024 in media values.

Lastly, the Project developed an IWT Calendar 2021 (see No. 6) in collaboration with DENR-BMB. Ten thousand five hundred IWT calendars were produced and disseminated to DENR-BMB, DENR Regional Offices and other stakeholders. The calendar was also translated to Visaya for dissemination in Visaya speaking Regions.

Output 3.1.6 Knowledge Products (policy papers, journals, and publications)

The Project is continuously developing and disseminating knowledge products. Refer to *Section 6. Knowledge Activities/Products*.

Project Operations and Management

TWG and PSC Meetings

Consistent with DENR Special Order 2019-204 creating the PSC, TWG and Project Management Office, which also mandated the conduct and frequency of PSC and TWG meetings, the following were conducted:

3rd Project Steering Committee (PSC) Meeting, Zoom, July 16, 2020

The 3rd PSC was held to update the PSC on the Project's implementation progress, and to solicit guidance from PSC members on important project decisions. The highlights of the meeting are as follows:

- 1) On the Special Presidential Authority - It was agreed that ADB will fast-track the signing of the Approval Page, after which, the requirements for the Special Presidential Authority (SPA) can be endorsed to DENR-FASPS who will endorse it to DOF.
- 2) On Project Extension - The PSC endorsed the extension of the Project until 31 December 2021.
- 3) On Revisions to the Design and Monitoring Framework - The PSC asked the Project to include revisions to the IRR of the current Wildlife Act as a policy outcome indicator. The PSC also asked the Project Management Unit (PMU) to review the data on gender participation and propose an adjusted number.
- 4) On the Revised Work and Financial Plan - It was agreed that the PMU will furnish a copy of the WFP to PSC members for their review and comments or endorsement.

4th TWG Meeting, Zoom, 8 October 2020 and 14 October 2020

The 4th TWG meeting was held to provide updates on progress implementation, and to solicit technical inputs. The highlights of discussions and agreements are as follows:

- 1) On the proposed revisions to the IRR of the current Wildlife Act - DENR-BMB advised to exclude Bangsamoro Government (BMG) in the revisions to the IRR since the current Wildlife Act does not mention the BMG. The same exclusion applies to the delegation of

the authority to sign the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) from the Department Secretary to the Director level.

- 2) On the Inter-Agency Resolution Against Wildlife Crimes - The PMU sought clarification about the possible inclusion of agencies that are not members-agencies of the NALECC_SCENR as signatories to the resolution. It was clarified, however, that the signatories will be decided by the Office of the DENR Undersecretary for Enforcement and the NALECC-SCENR. The Project was instructed to submit a concept note with the suggested dates for the National Environmental Law Enforcement (NELE) Summit preparatory meetings, agencies to be invited, and proposed signatories to the Resolution.
- 3) On the development of Modules on the Prosecution of Wildlife Cases (Level 2) - It was clarified that the existing modules will be used and updated and/ or enhanced, as necessary. Three topics: a) Pertinent Provisions of Republic Act 8550, as amended, by RA 10654 in relation to Wildlife Resources Protection and Conservation Act (RA 9147); b) Prohibited Acts under Wildlife-related laws; and c) Rules on Electronic Evidence in Relation to Illegal Wildlife Online Trade, were enhanced to focus on the elements of the prohibited acts, in consideration of the needs of prosecutors.
- 4) On the self-paced eTraining Course on BWLE - It was mentioned that ADB eLearn will be used as the platform for the delivery of the eTraining Course in the absence of a Learning Management System in DENR. BMB indicated that the costs to develop the LMS can be included in the BMB's forward estimates and added that it is important to cascade the system to DENR field offices, once developed. It was also agreed that the content template/script of the Modules be shared to the Project TWG for comments.
- 5) On NIRAS schedule and timeline of activities - The TWG members expressed their concern on NIRAS' timeline, particularly the short period between the end of the CEPA campaign and start of the post-campaign consumer survey. It was suggested that NIRAS should revisit its calendar to address this concern.
- 6) On overall CEPA Strategy and Plan and draft audience-segmented CEPA materials - It was suggested to create CEPA materials that will target non-committals during the Christmas season (e.g., on gift-giving, giving the gift of life).
- 7) On the economic valuation study - It was agreed that NIRAS will submit the final version of the economic valuation study by October 28, 2020, so that it can be presented to the NEDA who has recommended that a policy paper or brief be prepared to make the report understandable to policy and decision makers.

4th Project Steering Committee Meeting, Zoom, June 25, 2021

The meeting was held to provide updates to PSC members on Project implementation as well as to solicit PSC comments and validation on: (1) Revised Work and Financial Plan for July to

December 2021, (2) Sustainability Plan for 2022-2028, (3) Schedule of Final PSC Meeting, and (4) Schedule of Terminal Evaluation. Highlights of discussions and agreements are as follows:

- 1) On the Senate Bills revising RA 9147 - The PSC Chair suggested to consider the timeline of both Houses and the upcoming 2022 elections, and to lobby rigorously to be able to reach Second Reading in the Senate before the filing of candidacy by October 2021.
- 2) On the proposed revisions to the RA 9147 IRR - The PSC Chair suggested to furnish DA and PCSD copies of the draft IRR once it is finalized so that their offices can already start the vetting process at the same time with DENR.
- 3) On the pilot-testing of eCITES PH - The PSC Chair suggested to include IWT hotspots or areas with high number of permittees in the pilot-testing of eCITES PH.
- 4) On the proposed Work and Financial Plan - BMB reiterated its request to appropriate funds to purchase equipment such as laptops and smartphones for use by DENR field offices in the NCR, Regions 7 and 13 to better enable DENR personnel to make use of the tools developed through the Project. Mr. Dunn replied that basic core IT equipment such as smartphones and laptops are not usually financed by the Technical Assistance (TA). However, he added that if it will be used for the tools developed through the Project, then it can be considered on a case-to-case basis.
- 5) On the proposed schedule for the Terminal Evaluation - The PSC Chair agreed and suggested to start with preparations for the terminal evaluation by September 2021 instead of the proposed January 2022 to comply with ADB timeline and requirements.

Other Project Management Related Activities

Participation in the Global Wildlife Program (GWP) Asia Coordination Call and GWP Annual Conference

The Project participated in the quarterly GWP Asia Coordination call held on September 24, 2020, and March 24, 2021 where a short presentation on implementation progress was provided to GWP and Asia partners.

The Project, together with representatives from the DENR -BMB and the Project TWG, also participated in the GWP Virtual Annual Conference held on December 1-3, 2020, via Zoom. The conference provided an opportunity for the Project to share the progress of its implementation, collaborate with and learn lessons from other GWP projects across 32 countries. BMB Chief of the Wildlife Resources Division joined the high-level segment which opened the annual conference. The Project also shared a short video of the BMB Director and PSC Co-Chair highlighting the challenges of implementing and adapting the Project during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Project Annual Assessment and Planning Workshop 2021

The 2021 Project Assessment and Planning Workshop was held on January 7, 2021, via Zoom to review the Project’s progress and accomplishments for 2020 and plan for activities for 2021. A total of 36 participants attended the workshop including government partners from DENR-BMB, DENR-FASPS, DENR-NCR, DENR-Region 7, and DENR-Region 13, Project Consultants/ Firms, and the PMU.

Project Sustainability Planning Workshop

The Project held a Sustainability Planning Workshop on March 29-30, 2021, to discuss opportunities for sustaining Project gains. Around 130 participants from DENR, Project partners and other stakeholders, attended the planning workshop (51% male and 49% female) and proposed activities that can be mainstreamed, scaled up or replicated. A draft Sustainability Plan was formulated, with proposed activities, timeframe, type of support, and lead and collaborating parties.

Challenges and Adjustments

Major Issues / Problems	Actions Taken	Recommendations
Policy Development		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Difficulty in engaging LGUs due to redirected and priority focus on COVID-19 response 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drafted LGU template Ordinance in lieu of Ordinances specific to LGU needs • Drafted LGU Statement of Support to the amendment of R9147 in lieu of LGU Resolutions 	
Capacity Building Activities		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Postponement in the conduct of capacity building activities due to restrictions from COVID-19 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Redesigned the trainings for online delivery through a series of Webinars. • Converted the BWLE Training Course into a self-paced eTraining course using the ADB eLearn as platform. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore support for the development of an eLearning Portal for DENR
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited IT equipment (laptops, mobile phones) in the Project sites to enable maximize participation in trainings. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Multiple participants share one laptop or 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instructed participants to join through their personal mobile phones, laptops, or desktops. Some used LCD projector in their offices. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approve the purchase or procurement of laptops for the Project sites as per TK’s contract variation.

Major Issues / Problems	Actions Taken	Recommendations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> desktop or headphones to participate. ○ Limited participation in the open forum due to lack of audio/and or video ○ Low participation in training evaluations 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technological capacity of the organizers and participants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explored the Zoom application thoroughly • Conducted a trial run a day before the actual training • Prepared for worst-case scenario (e.g., assigned alternative hosts, prepared alternative source of internet) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practice using the Zoom or other online platforms and ensure the availability of a co-hosts and alternative source of internet.
Economic Valuation Study		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of literature pertaining to the study <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Lack of scientific models that link and quantify the impacts of marine turtles and blue-naped parrots on ecosystems ○ Absence of updated data on the population of marine turtles and blue-naped parrots 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relied on estimates and expert validation • Used lengthy process of consensus making to establish estimates for computing economic value 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dedicated research should be considered for funding in the future.
Pre-campaign Consumer Research		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delay in completion of pre-campaign Consumer Research due to restrictions from COVID-19 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Fieldwork for Cebu (partial), CARAGA, and nationwide study conducted amidst strict quarantine protocols hampering the study's timeline. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopted the use of phone interviews for data gathering, particularly in field sites under various quarantine classifications 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employ third-party research services with interviewing facilities and access to consumer database to ensure sample and data reliability.

Major Issues / Problems	Actions Taken	Recommendations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High refusal rate or drop calls due to methodology (phone-interviews) and interview length. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set interview length to a maximum of 10 to 20 minutes per call, i.e., fewer number of questions asked, all close-ended and pre-coded questions (no probing or follow-up questions). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain key information (i.e., only include information identified as part of key success indicators in the campaign evaluation)
Project Management		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possible duplication in efforts with other ongoing illegal wildlife trade-related Projects. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Constant coordination with DENR- BMB and development partners (e.g., USAID Protect Wildlife, etc.) to avoid duplication and to complement, harmonize and build on initiatives, where necessary 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes in Project management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Reassignments of heads of offices (PSC Members, DENR-BMB leadership, Consultant Management Team) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Engaged with permanent personnel, middle managers, and technical staff of DENR and Project partners. ○ Oriented new officials about the Project 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ADB Procurement and Other Policies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Difference in ADB and government financial recording, monitoring, and reporting. ○ ADB allocated the GEF Project funds on cost category basis (e.g., trainings, supplies, equipment) while DENR-FASPS requires Projects to structure its work plan per component (e.g., policy, capacity development, CEPA, Project management). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The PMU is working closely with ADB and DENR to reconcile financial data and presentation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For information and guidance of DENR in future project planning and implementation arrangements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slow revert of documents and actions from DENR Central and Regional Offices due to skeletal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinated constantly with DENR officials and 	

Major Issues / Problems	Actions Taken	Recommendations
force and work from home arrangements attendant to COVID-19 quarantine restrictions	staff (from Undersecretary to Regional Offices)	

a. GEF Grant Disbursement

As of June 2021, out of the total budget of \$ 1.83 million (₱91.74 million)⁸, 74% or \$ 1.59 million (₱79.28 million) has been obligated. The obligated amount includes those committed to contracts (42% of total budget) and those already disbursed (45% of total budget). Disbursements include payments to consultants and firms, events held by the Project, and administrative expenses. The remaining balance of 13% or \$ 249,336 (₱12.47 million) will be utilized for support activities and project management costs until the end of the Project on December 31, 2021.

⁸ Using exchange rate of USD 1 = PhP 50.00

b. Stakeholder Engagement

Organization	Role in GEF Project (Based on Project Document)	Status
National and Subnational Government		
DENR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BMB • Wildlife Resources Division, BMB • Philippine Operation Group on Ivory and Illegal Wildlife Trade (POGI) 	As the government agency that has jurisdiction over all terrestrial animals, as well as over marine turtles and dugongs, and over nationally protected areas, the DENR-BMB serves as the overall Executing Agency of the project that sets the strategic direction and leads implementation. Under the DENR-BMB, the Wildlife Resource Division and POGI have regulatory and enforcement functions.	DENR Special Order 2019-204 was signed last March 19, 2019. The Special Order formally established the PSC, TWG, and PMO, and lists the members of each group, and outlines their roles and responsibilities. DENR-BMB is represented in the PSC and chairs the Project TWG. Focal persons in the WRD are regularly consulted and updated in the planning, implementation, and monitoring of Project activities. DENR- Central USEC for Policy, Planning, and International Affairs chairs the Project PSC. All policy documents drafted by the Project were also endorsed to the DENR-PTWG for finalization. Subject-matter experts from DENR provided support to the capacity building activities as trainers and resource-persons.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DENR Office of the Undersecretary for Policy, Planning and International Affairs (UPPIA) 	Serves as PSC Chair	The 3 rd and 4 th PSC Meetings were chaired by the Undersecretary in July 2020 and June 2021.

Organization	Role in GEF Project (Based on Project Document)	Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foreign Assisted and Special Projects Service (FASPS) • Policy and Planning Service (PPS) 	<p>Oversees and regularly monitors project progress</p> <p>Reviews Project policy outputs</p>	<p>The DENR-FASPS has continuously provided oversight over Project progress through regular monitoring and review of annual and quarterly reports submitted by the Project, e.g., Annual Project Report (2020), FASPS Tracking Form (FTF) for 3rd and 4th Quarters 2020, and 1st and 2nd Quarters of 2021.</p> <p>A Special Session of the DENR-PTWG to review the proposed amendments to the IRR of RA 9147, which has undergone multiple stakeholder consultations, was conducted on June 22, 2021.</p>
<p>DENR-Knowledge and Information Systems Service (KISS)</p>	<p>Serves as lead for Environmental Law Enforcement Management Information System (ELEMIS)</p> <p>Personnel from the DENR-Knowledge and Information Systems Service led the ICCWC Indicator Framework Assessment training in Metro Manila, Cebu Province, and Butuan City.</p>	<p>DENR-KISS will provide support to the press briefing and connectivity and logistic support for the July 2021 4th NELE Summit.</p>
<p>DENR Regional, Provincial, and City/Municipal Offices</p>	<p>Selected employees in the regional, provincial, and local offices whose work is relevant to wildlife law enforcement and information systems will be participants for the capacity-building activities related to the ICCWC Forest and Wildlife Crime Analytical Toolkit⁹ and Indicator Framework</p>	<p>The Regional Executive Directors of the project sites sit as members of the PSC while the Division Chiefs of the Enforcement Division sit a member of the TWG.</p> <p>The Project has on-going coordination and communication with DENR Offices in the</p>

⁹ In January 2020, DENR-BMB and UNODC agreed to just focus on the use of the ICCWC Indicator Framework since DENR already has a WildLEAP 2018-2028. It also agreed to defer the use of the ICCWC Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytic Toolkit in 2022 to coincide with the mid-term review of WildLEAP.

Organization	Role in GEF Project (Based on Project Document)	Status
	(replacing ELEMIS), CITES e-permit system, and wildlife law enforcement.	conduct of Project activities (e.g., capacity building activities, data gathering for the pre-campaign consumer research, posting and dissemination of CEPA materials, stakeholder consultations for the IRR, etc.).
Philippine Congress (House of Representatives and Senate)	The Philippine Congress will be a partner in reforming the Wildlife Act. The proposed amendments will be submitted to the House of Representatives and Senate, then harmonized based on the outcomes of the committee hearings.	<p>Senate Bill 2078 and Senate Bill 2079 on the “Revised Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act of 2021” were officially filed in Senate by Senators Villar and Zubiri, respectively, on March 2, 2021.</p> <p>Both bills were read for their first reading and endorsed to the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources and Climate Change and Committee on Finance.</p> <p>The Senate Committee hearing was held on June 30, 2021, and was chaired by Senator Villar, and attended by Senator Zubiri, representatives from DENR, other government agencies, and civil society organizations.</p>
Department of Justice (DOJ)	The DOJ has existing training programs and materials that will be used to train prosecutors on environmental laws, with special focus on the Wildlife Act and the Rules of Procedure for Environmental Cases.	DOJ co-organized and DOJ-NPS staff participated in the two Webinars on the Prosecution of Wildlife Cases. Experts and resource persons from DOJ-NPS were also invited to serve as trainers for the capacity building activities.

Organization	Role in GEF Project (Based on Project Document)	Status
PNP-Police Environment Desk Officers (PEDO)	PEDOs in Metro Manila, Cebu Province, and CARAGA will be recipients of capacity-building activities under Component 2.	PNP Regional Offices participated in the BWLE Trainings.
Bureau of Customs-Entry Processing Unit (BOC – EPU)	Members of the BOC-EPU will be engaged during activities related to “Ports of Excellence” work under Component 2.	BOC- Environmental Protection and Compliance Division-Enforcement and Security Services (EPCD-ESS) participated in the BWLE trainings and seaport assessments.
Port personnel in the Cebu Port Authority (CPA), and Port of Nasipit	The port personnel in the CPA Port of Nasipit will be subject to assessment activities under Component 2 (particularly under the purview of the UNDP GEF project on PortMATE).	A MOU between DENR-BMB and the PPA was signed in July 2020 with the objective of enhancing government capacity to address illegal wildlife trade in ports, and to support the assessment in ports within its jurisdiction on tracking and monitoring illegal wildlife trade. A similar MOU between DENR-BMB, DENR-Region 7, and CPA was also signed on January 27, 2021.
International Agencies / Organizations		
World Bank – Global Wildlife Program	The GWP seeks to address the illegal wildlife trade across 19 countries in Asia and Africa, including the Philippines. The GWP will serve as a platform for knowledge exchange and coordination, and support on-the-ground actions. This project will learn from past projects and contribute to the objectives of the GWP.	As a child project under the GWP, the Project attends the annual conference of the GWP and participates in quarterly coordination calls and virtual knowledge events.
CITES Secretariat	Personnel from the CITES Secretariat will be invited to be resource speakers and trainers during the CITES e-permit systems training.	Representatives from the CITES Secretariat served as Resource Person in the initial

Organization	Role in GEF Project (Based on Project Document)	Status
		meeting for the development of the eCITES Masterplan in the Philippines.
UNDP	The PortMATE tool will be one of the frameworks used to assess the capacity of Cebu ports and the Nasipit Port for combatting wildlife trafficking.	The UNDP/GEF Project on Reducing Maritime Trafficking of Wildlife between Africa and Asia provided technical support in the use of PortMATE for seaport assessments.
United Nations Office of Drug and Crime-International Consortium to Combat Wildlife Crime (UNODC – ICCWC)	The UNODC-ICCWC’s Toolkit and Indicators will be used as part of research, assessments, and monitoring and evaluation framework of the project. Collaboration with UNODC technical experts for capacity development and training under Component 2 will be sought – via the national office in Manila and through specialists based in Viet Nam.	UNODC co-organized and conducted the Virtual Training Course on Financial Investigation of Wildlife and Forestry Crimes for Project beneficiaries. UNODC also led the development of a Rapid Reference Guide for the Investigation and Prosecution of Wildlife Trafficking.
USAID-Protect Wildlife	USAID-Protect Wildlife (“USAID-Protect”) is a 5-year Technical Assistance Grant to (i) reduce threats to biodiversity; (ii) reduce poaching and use of illegally harvested wildlife and wildlife products; and (iii) improve relevant ecosystem goods and services that redound to increased wildlife conservation and human well-being. USAID-Protect has five strategic approaches (SA) for implementation: (1) Behavior changes targeting decision makers and on-site resource managers; (2) Intensifying public and private sector financing; (3) Building capacities of LGUs, Civil Service Organizations (CSOs), and Communities; (4) Linking universities’ research and development with conservation; and (5) Building capacities of national and local wildlife enforcement agencies. This GEF project is in line with SA 1, 3,	Not engaged during the reporting period. USAID-Protect Wildlife project closed last 1 st Quarter of 2021.

Organization	Role in GEF Project (Based on Project Document)	Status
	<p>and 5, and activities will be coordinated with USAID-Protect to complement efforts and eliminate redundancies. For USAID-PROTECT’S first year, the project will be focusing on Palawan, including Tubbataha Reef, and the Sulu Archipelago southwest of Zamboanga City. Field level coordination between the GEF project and USAID may be carried out in Butuan-General Santos City corridor, and Zambales-Metro Manila corridor. The GEF project will be complemented by the USAID PROTECT in areas related to policy / regulatory concerns (Component 1), as well as capacity development under Component 2. Demand reduction work under Component 3 will be coordinated between the two projects (for example, PROTECT Wildlife may focus on marine species or issue-based themes, whereas the GEF project will likely be concerned with ivory and one terrestrial species (under the Wildlife Act). The coordinating mechanism between the two projects will be the Office of the Chief, Wildlife Resources Division, DENR-BMB. A dedicated GEF Project Manager will ensure coordination at the day-to-day operational level.</p>	
<p>US Department of Interior, International Technical Assistance Program (US-DOI-ITAP)</p>	<p>The GEF project will have direct interaction with international technical experts deployed by the USDOJ under the Philippines Partnership for Biodiversity Conservation (PBC) in activities related to deployment of ELEMIS¹⁰ (Component 1) and ecosystems valuation (Component 3).</p>	<p>Tanggol Kalikasan, as the lead firm for the Project’s Component 2, also implements the PBC Project in the Philippines and serves as the Country representative of the US-DOI-ITAP.</p>

¹⁰ Replaced by ICCW Wildlife and Forest Crime Indicator Framework

Organization	Role in GEF Project (Based on Project Document)	Status
		The Project collaborated with US-DOI-ITAP and other partners in the conduct of the pre-meetings for the 4 th NELE Summit
Non-Governmental Organizations / Civil Society Organizations (Philippines-based)		
Ateneo de Manila University- School of Government (ASoG)	This project will leverage on the expertise and experience of ASoG in policy, legislative, and regulatory analysis, and reform for Component 1 and 2. ASOG has considerable experience in development of modules for law enforcement agencies through its ongoing work with the Department of Finance (DOF) in the Philippines. ASOG also facilitated the stakeholder process and drafted the WildLEAP.	ASoG has not been involved in the project since its inception due to a change in its management and conclusion of its work with DOF.
Indigenous Peoples (IP) Groups	The project will engage members of IP groups to provide inputs to the amendment of the Wildlife Act. For the creation of local legislation, the project will work with the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) Office in Cebu to identify IP groups in Cebu, and IP groups in or around Butuan City. CARAGA is home to five major ethnic tribes, namely the Manobo, Higa-onon, Mamanwa, Banwaon and Mandaya (Philippine Information Agency, 2012).	Representatives from NCIP and other IP CSOs attended the stakeholder consultations for the IRR. The Project conducted a Sustainable Livelihood Study in Cabadbaran Santiago Watershed Forest Reserve. The respondents for the study are Manobo and Mamanwa IP groups.
TK and other CSOs	Capacity-building activities will engage local CSOs in project sites and leverage / build on the existing training programs and materials from the Environmental Law Assistance Center as well as from TK through coordinating linkages with the	TK is the firm engaged to help deliver Component 2 of the project, as well as the port assessments and e-CITES Masterplan.



Organization	Role in GEF Project (Based on Project Document)	Status
	USDOJ-ITAP Program Partnership for Biodiversity Conservation III.	

c. Gender Action Plan Implementation Status

The Project does not have a specific Gender Action Plan, however part of the Design and Monitoring Framework (DMF) covers activities wherein women participation is required, such as:

DMF Indicator	Gender Indicator ¹¹	Status
1. Strengthened legal frameworks to address key concerns in national efforts to combat wildlife crimes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional stakeholder reviews are conducted in all three major island groups of the Philippines, with at least 30 participants per consultation, 30% of whom are women. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A total of 327 participants attended the 4 stakeholder consultations, 46% of the participants were female and 54% were male.
2. Increased sharing of information and knowledge to facilitate multi-agency coordination and support adoption of enforcement tools and methods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 30 personnel are trained on the use of ICCWC, 30% of whom are women • At least 30 personnel DENR personnel and permittees are trained on the use of eCITES PH, 30% of whom are women, 10% female trainers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For the Orientation/ Workshop on ICCWC Wildlife and Forest Crime Indicator Framework, 70 participants attended, 46% were female while 54% were male. • Still to be conducted
3. Long-term capacity building program for wildlife crime law enforcement developed and initiated	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 30 personnel are trained per project site, at least 10% of participants from DENR, NBI and PNP are female and at least 20% of prosecutors and judges are female, at least 30% of trainers are female 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A total of 585 participants (59% Male, 41% female) attended the capacity building activities
4. Demand reduction measures implemented for identified priority taxa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 500 people surveyed during consumer research studies, 50% of which are women 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A total of 1,281 people responded to the pre-campaign consumer research survey, 69% of which were female.

¹¹ Based on revised DMF indicators discussed and agreed on by the TWG Sub-Group tasked to review the DMF. The revised DMF was formally reviewed and validated by the PSC during its 3rd PSC Meeting on 16 July 2020.

d. Social and Environmental Safeguard Plan Implementation Status

Not Applicable.

C. Global Environmental Benefits (GEB) Objective/ Development Objective (DO) Rating:

Rating: Moderately Satisfactory

Outcome Indicators	Baseline	End-of-Project Targets	Status																				
<p><u>POLICY INDICATOR</u></p> <p>Level reached by the Senate bill amending the Wildlife Act of 2001</p>	No Senate Bill filed	Senate Bill reaches second reading	Senate Bill 2078 and Senate Bill 2079 were read in the First Reading in March 2021 and presented to the Senate Committee hearing of the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources and Climate Change last June 30, 2021.																				
Revised Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of the Wildlife Act of 2001 drafted	IRR of the Wildlife Act of 2001 as of 2004	Revised IRR of the Wildlife Act of 2001 drafted	The IRR has undergone a multi-stakeholder review process and is currently being finalized.																				
<p><u>Capacity Building Indicator</u></p> <p>Percent increase in the capacity scores from baseline year (2019) to end-of-project</p>	Capacity Scores based on Capacity-gaps and Training Needs Assessment (CTNA) Report	10% increase	<p>Post-training evaluations are still ongoing.</p> <p>Preliminary results are:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Agency</th> <th>2019</th> <th>2021</th> <th>% Increase</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>DENR</td> <td>27%</td> <td>46%</td> <td>19%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Partner Agencies*</td> <td>10%</td> <td>38%</td> <td>28%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>DOJ</td> <td>9%</td> <td>44%</td> <td>35%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>LGUs</td> <td>8%</td> <td>16%</td> <td>8%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Agency	2019	2021	% Increase	DENR	27%	46%	19%	Partner Agencies*	10%	38%	28%	DOJ	9%	44%	35%	LGUs	8%	16%	8%
Agency	2019	2021	% Increase																				
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<p><u>Demand Reduction and CEPA</u></p> <p>Percent increase in <i>general</i> illegal wildlife trade awareness from baseline data gathered from consumer research by end-of-project</p>	<p>47% - Generic 35% - RA 9147</p> <p>From the nationwide phone survey</p>	<p>67% - Generic 55% - RA 9147</p>	Post-campaign surveys are ongoing																				
Percent increase in illegal wildlife trade awareness for target <i>taxonomic groups</i> from baseline data gathered from consumer research by end-of-project	<p>Marine Turtles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NCR – 39% • Region 7 – 38% <p>Parrots:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NCR – 26% • Region 7 – 30% <p>Region 13 (generic) – 31%</p>	<p>Marine Turtles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NCR – 59% • Region 7 – 58% <p>Parrots:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NCR – 46% • Region 7 – 50% <p>Region 13 (generic) – 51%</p>	Post-campaign surveys are ongoing																				

Output Statement	Output Indicators	Baseline	End-of-Project Targets	Status
1.1 Strengthened legal frameworks to address key concerns in national efforts to combat wildlife crimes	Proceedings of national stakeholder consultations on the amendments to RA 9147 submitted	0	3	4
	Participants per consultation	0	150 (50 per consultation for each island group-Luzon, Visayas, Mindanao)	Mindanao- 111 Visayas- 97 Luzon- 88 Experts- 31 Total- 327
	Percentage of women participants per consultation	0	30%	Mindanao- 35% Visayas- 39% Luzon- 57%
	Local ordinances in support of the implementation of the current Wildlife Act drafted	0	6 (At least 2 per Project site: 1 province and 1 city)	LGUs are currently focused on COVID-19 response. Hence, it was decided with DENR-BMB that a Draft Local Ordinance template will be delivered instead.
	Local resolutions in support of the amendments of the Wildlife Act drafted	0	6 (At least 2 per Project site: 1 province and 1 city)	LGUs are currently focused on COVID-19 response. Manila, Makati, and Cabadbaran LGUs have expressed support to a Local Resolution
	Joint inter-agency resolution against wildlife crimes signed	0	1	Joint Declaration symbolically adopted during World Wildlife Day 2020; for adoption in the NELE Summit in July 2021
	Department Administrative Order (DAO) to adopt Wildlife Law Enforcement Action Plan (WildLEAP) signed	0	1	1
	DA-DENR-DILG Joint Administrative Order (JAO) on the permitting system for wildlife transport and trade drafted	0	1	1

Output Statement	Output Indicators	Baseline	End-of-Project Targets	Status
1.2. Increased sharing of information and knowledge to facilitate multi-agency coordination and support adoption of enforcement tools and methods	National Assessment Report on Wildlife Law Enforcement Response Effectiveness Using ICCWC Indicator Framework submitted	0	1	1
	eCITES Philippines electronic permitting system (formerly CEPMIS) developed	0	1	eCITES PH undergoing final enhancement
	DENR personnel and permittees trained on the use of eCITES PH	0	90 (10 = from BMB 48 = 3 per Region x 16 regions WTMU Permittees)	eCITES PH is undergoing final enhancement
	Percentage of women trained on the use of eCITES PH	0	30%	eCITES PH is undergoing final enhancement
	Percentage increase in permits processed by the eCITES PH	0	20% (or 230 target online permits)	eCITES PH is undergoing final enhancement
	eCITES PH Master Plan developed	0	1	Drafting of eCITES Masterplan is ongoing
	Assessment Report on Port Monitoring and Anti-Trafficking of Wildlife submitted	0	1	7 ports assessed Drafting of Assessment report is ongoing
	Assessment Report on scientific and technological innovations for IWT monitoring and law enforcement submitted	0	1	Study on Wildlife Trade in Digital Media (Machine Learning and Illegal Wildlife Trade) is ongoing
	Assessment Report on Wildlife Rescue Centers (WRCs) submitted	0	1	1
2. Long-term capacity building program for wildlife crime law	Capacity Gaps and Training Needs Assessment (CTNA) Report on	0	1	1

Output Statement	Output Indicators	Baseline	End-of-Project Targets	Status
enforcement initiated	Wildlife Crime Law Enforcement submitted			
	Capacity Building Plan developed	0	1	1
	Modules developed and delivered	0	4	4 Webinar-type BWLE Training Course was converted into a self-paced eTraining Course
	Training Documentation Reports submitted	0	10	11
	Personnel trained in all project sites	0	150 (50 per site)	585
	Training participants interviewed to evaluate knowledge and skills acquired	0	20%	Post- training evaluations are still ongoing
	Trainers who are graduates of the DENR Training of Trainers	0	10% (or 12 trainers) (Note: There are 124 Training of Trainers or ToT graduates from the Project sites)	20
3. Demand reduction measures implemented for identified priority taxonomic groups	People surveyed during pre-campaign consumer research studies	0	500	Nationwide Survey = 800 Metro Manila = 161 Region 7 = 160 Region 13 = 160 Total = 1,281
	Percentage of women surveyed	0	50%	69%
	People reached collectively through the marketing collaterals	0	500,000	50,870,325 ¹²
	Economic valuation study for one taxonomic group and one species submitted	0	1	1

¹² Based on total readers for 108 PR Exposures / Social Media Posts which have featured the Project's IWT content to date. This number does not include PR Exposures and Social Media Posts from DENR-FASPS, and Biodiversity Sentinel.

Output Statement	Output Indicators	Baseline	End-of-Project Targets	Status
	Sustainable Livelihood Feasibility Survey Report submitted	0	1	Final Report on Sustainable Livelihood Study is undergoing revisions
	Pre-Campaign Consumer Research Reports submitted	0	1	4 Pre-campaign consumer research reports for NCR, Region 7, CARAGA, and Nationwide submitted
	Post-Campaign Consumer Research Report submitted	0	1	0
	CEPA Strategy and Plan developed	0	1	3 (NCR, Regions 7 and 13)
	Audience-segmented CEPA Materials developed and disseminated	0	At least 10, number may increase subject to the final consumer segments identified.	14 Social Media Cards Produced 5 Press Releases Produced 4 IWT Radio Guestings Facilitated 2 IWT Calendars (English and Visaya) Produced and Distributed 1 Video on RA 9147 Produced 1 CEPA Video for Ports
	Knowledge products (e.g., publications, policy papers, reports etc.) excluding audience-segmented materials developed and disseminated	0	At least 14	20

D. Risk Rating:

Rating: Low Risk (L)

As reference, below are the risks and countermeasures identified in the Project Document. During project implementation, however, an unidentified risk- the COVID-19 pandemic- occurred which caused significant impact to the design and delivery of Project outputs. As a countermeasure, the Project conducted most of its activities online.

Risk	Proposed measure
Limited collaboration across agencies	The project will be participatory and inclusive by bringing national government agencies, local government units, indigenous peoples, civil society organizations, academic and research institutions, and private sector together. Capacity-building activities and stakeholder consultations will foster relationships, strengthen networks, clarify roles, and encourage joint action. Annual monitoring and evaluation activities will help sustain relationships and networks formed.
Influential and vested interests stall progress for legal reform	Efforts to combat environmental organized crime cannot be effective and sustainable without political will. Such political commitment will be necessary to address the supply and marketing of threatened species. The project will devote significant attention to high-level government engagement, particularly with the legislative and judiciary, to encourage good governance that emphasizes transparency and accountability. The dialogue will be through a hybrid of measures, including working level meetings, focused training, and information sessions to leverage maximum political commitment.
Low priority for wildlife crime	Wildlife crime in the Philippines is still considered petty and victimless compared to other crimes in the Revised Penal Code, such as kidnapping, human trafficking, and drugs. The current administration has waged a “war on drugs,” which serves as the cornerstone of the administration’s domestic policy (Council on Foreign Relations, 2016). ¹³ The series of capacity-building activities are intended to increase awareness and appreciation for wildlife and wildlife crimes and foster inter-agency cooperation. The proposed joint Resolution to recognize wildlife crime as a serious transnational crime will help law enforcement understand that there are sometimes inextricable linkages between wildlife crimes and other types of crime. The adoption of the WildLEAP will declare the government’s commitment to act on wildlife crimes. The economic valuation studies can provide data to link biodiversity loss caused by wildlife crimes to economic development in relation to ecotourism and ecosystem services.
Change in political leadership	Change in political leadership at national and subnational levels is inevitable. The proposed amendments to the Wildlife Act, the creation of local ordinances in support of the Wildlife Act, the joint department Resolution, and DAO for the adoption of WildLEAP will institutionalize policies and policy reforms.

¹³ Xu, Michelle. "Human Rights and Duterte's War on Drugs." Council on Foreign Relations. December 16, 2016. <https://www.cfr.org/interview/human-rights-and-dutertes-war-drugs>.

Risk	Proposed measure
	<p>Through the capacity-building activities, the project will empower career track civil service officers at the national government agencies and local government units to avoid dependence on government officials in positions that need to be elected or re-elected every three years. Furthermore, the demand reduction measures will focus on the consumer end to initiate, sustain, and achieve long-term behavior change.</p>
<p>Economic development priorities overshadow natural resource management, and initiatives may put pressure on local livelihoods and alternative sources of income</p>	<p>Policy and decision-makers need to understand the economic costs of inaction, and the economic implications of continued biodiversity loss, especially to ecotourism and ecosystem services. The knowledge management strategy will support efforts to mainstream this into economic development planning processes, supporting WildLEAP and Philippine Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (PBSAP) implementation in this connection. The results of the economic valuation studies will be translated into policy papers or briefs for better understanding and appreciation of policy and decision-makers, and for guidance in law enforcement and demand reduction measures.</p> <p>This project will not offer livelihood programs, but there are opportunities to leverage on existing initiatives from institutional partners, local governments, and CSOs to explore livelihood options, using the results from a sustainable livelihood survey.</p>
<p>Physical security</p>	<p>There is an increasing number of documented extrajudicial killings since July 2016, with over 6,000 deaths of suspected drug dealers and users (US Department of State, 2017)¹⁴. The Philippines has also been described as the “second most deadly country for environmental activists in 2015, with 33 killings” (Global Witness, 2016)¹⁵.</p> <p>This project will build alliances between and among national government agencies, local governments, CSOs, and local communities; strengthen intelligence gathering networks and methods; and to the extent possible, avoid project activities if threat levels are high. The project will also introduce adaptive management measures and encourage institutional partners to allocate sufficient budget for tactical responses.</p>
<p>Obstruction to wildlife law enforcement officers or operations</p>	<p>Illegal wildlife traders have been recorded to file lawsuits against law enforcement agents for grievances like illegal arrest or qualified theft (Ranada, 2016). The capacity-building activities for law enforcers will include modules on building cases and collecting evidence to prevent the aforementioned grievances, and the Rules of Procedure for Environmental Cases, which contains the Strategic Lawsuit against Public Participation, defined as “a legal action filed to harass, vex, exert undue pressure or stifle any legal recourse that any person, institution or the government has taken or may take in the enforcement of environmental laws, protection of the environment or assertion of environmental rights” (Supreme Court, 2010)¹⁶.</p>

¹⁴ United States Department of State, 2016 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices - Philippines, 3 March 2017, available at <https://www.refworld.org/docid/58ec89e2f.html>

¹⁵ "Killings of Land and Environmental Defenders in 2015." June 20, 2016. <https://www.globalwitness.org/en/campaigns/environmental-activists/dangerous-ground/>.

¹⁶ *Rules of Procedure for Environmental Cases*, Supreme Court 2010, rule 6.

Overall Rating of the Project:

Rating: Moderately Satisfactory

As of June 2021, the Project is already at 85% (33 of 39 months) of Project implementation. During this time, the Project has accomplished 82.32% against the target of 96.92% completion of Project activities with a slippage of 14.59%.

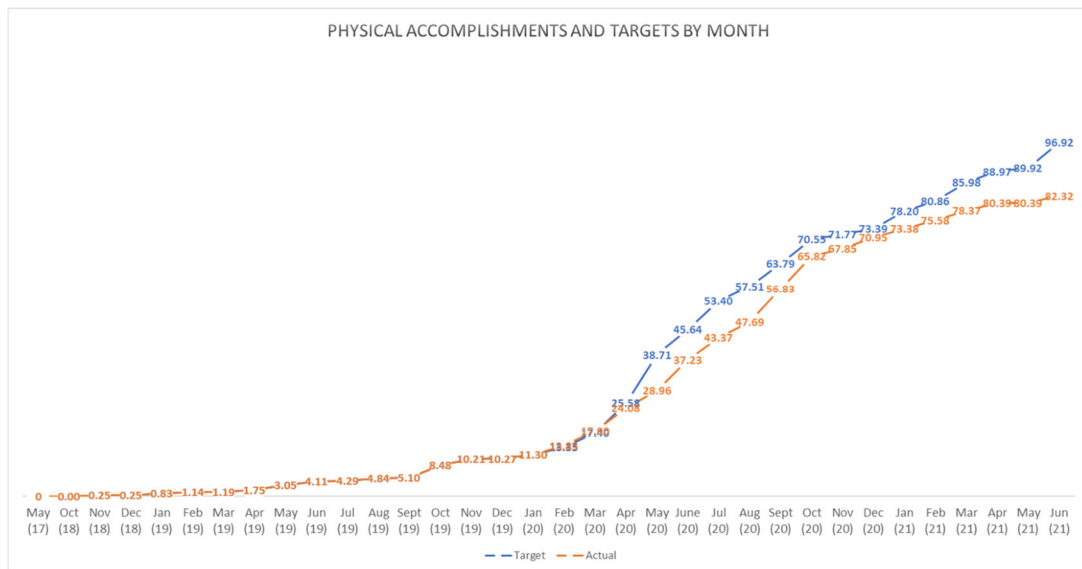


Fig. 5. S-curve of physical progress as of June 30, 2021

Regarding financial utilization, as of June 2021, out of the total budget of \$ 1.83 million (₱91.74 million)¹⁷, 74% or \$ 1.59 million (₱79.28 million) has been obligated. The obligated amount includes those committed to contracts (42% of total budget) and those already disbursed (45% of total budget). Disbursements includes payments to consultants and firms, events held by the Project, and administrative expenses. The remaining balance of 13% or \$ 249,336 (₱12.47 million) will be utilized for support activities and project management costs.

¹⁷ Using exchange rate of USD 1 = PhP 50.00

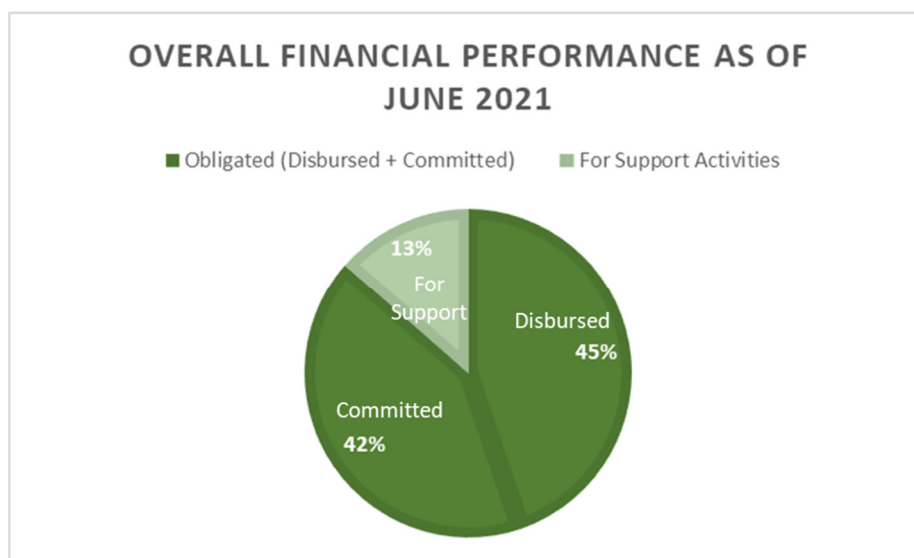


Fig. 6. Overall Financial Performance as of June 30, 2021

The Project encountered issues in implementation due to delays mainly stemming from the restrictions due to COVID-19. However, as detailed above, the Project was able to adjust its implementation design to be fully online (e.g., conduct of trainings and assessments via Zoom, conduct and completion of surveys through phone interviews,) and was able to catch-up with most of the slippages. Given this, the Project rates its annual and overall performance as **moderately satisfactory** because despite the unprecedented challenges posed by the pandemic, the Project was able to adapt and redesign its activities to be able to still accomplish them effectively.

E. Additional Comments – Good Practices and Lessons Learned:

The following are good practices and lessons learned during project implementation:

1. Parallel actions were undertaken to mitigate potential delays that are outside Project control
 - a. Drafting of Revisions to the RA 9147 IRR- The Project was directed to review and update the 16-year-old IRR of RA 9147 as a parallel move at the administrative level in case the draft Bill is not enacted into law.
2. The Project conducted the Stakeholder Reviews of the RA 9147 IRR online through Zoom. Both the chat function of Zoom and Google Forms were used to facilitate the taking of comments/suggestions of participants. This approach is very effective as:
 - a. It allows participants to share their own ideas independent of each other
 - b. It also allows a more effective and efficient way to collect data
 - c. It can be used in face-to-face stakeholder consultations in the future.
3. The lack of face-to-face trainings due to COVID-19 restrictions necessitated transition to online delivery:
 - a. Webinar-type BWLE Training, Wildlife Laws for LGUs and Industry Players, and Seminar on Prosecution of Wildlife Laws

- b. Approved integration of the BWLE Training Course (webinar-type) as a specialized course in the DENR ENR Academy
4. A self-paced eTraining Course on BWLE was developed and integrated as a specialized course in the DENR’s ENR Academy.
5. The PortMATE) Tool was customized for use in domestic seaports and applied in the context of Philippines.
6. Pre-campaign consumer surveys shifted from face-to-face to online/phone interviews due to COVID-19 restrictions. The sampling design was modified to ensure that necessary sampling parameters are obtained. Lessons from the conduct of the pre-campaign consumer survey was shared during the USAID-SIBOL IWT Discussion Series in June. The pre-campaign consumer survey and work on demand reduction was also cited in the Draft Guidance for CITES Parties to Develop and Implement Demand Reduction Strategies to Combat Illegal Trade in CITES-listed Species per CITES Notification 2021/038.
7. The CEPA strategy gave added attention to online/social media campaign, with the expectation that the COVID-19 pandemic will continue until end of Project.
8. Tools for information and knowledge sharing were developed:
 - E-CITES Philippines - eCITES PH is an online permitting system in the Philippines developed to facilitate the processing of permit applications for import, export, and re-export of terrestrial wildlife listed under CITES.
 - WildALERT Flora – WildALERT is a digital tool that will aid users in identifying wildlife species, reporting wildlife crimes, and managing reports submitted from the field. The Project supported the WildALERT system by providing the flora component in the species library.
 - Machine Learning Analytics Dashboard – The Analytics Dashboard features key statistics on priority species mined online through machine learning and artificial intelligence and will allow users to interact with the data in simple, user-friendly ways.

F. Knowledge activities / products:

The following knowledge activities were undertaken during the period covered by this Report:

Knowledge Activities		
Title	Date	Location
World Wildlife Day 2021	March 3, 2021	Ninoy Aquino Parks and Wildlife Center; Zoom

Based on the Project Document, knowledge products are defined as brochures, posters, banners, pamphlets, manuals, policy briefs, short public service announcements, modules, social media posts, radio, TV, and print articles. From July 2020 to June 2021, the Project has the following:

Knowledge Products		
Title	Type/Location	Link
DENR, ADB extends Project on Combating Environmental Organized Crime in The Philippines	News article/DENR-BMB/ DENR-FASPS Website	https://bmb.gov.ph/index.php/resources/news-and-events/134-denr-adb-extends-project-on-combating-environmental-organized-crime-in-the-philippines https://fasps.denr.gov.ph/index.php/resources/news-and-information/biodiversity/38-denr-adb-extend-project-on-combating-environmental-organized-crime-in-the-philippines
What is the Value of Wildlife?	News article/DENR-BMB/ DENR-FASPS Website	https://bmb.gov.ph/index.php/resources/news-and-events?start=10 https://fasps.denr.gov.ph/index.php/resources/news-and-information/biodiversity/35-economic-valuation-of-marine-turtles-and-blue-naped-parrots-held
Technical Experts' Review of the Economic Valuation of Marine Turtles and Blue-naped Parrots	News Articles	https://dailyguardian.com.ph/what-is-the-value-of-wildlife/ https://thespherical.com/economic-valuation-of-wildlife-like-blue-naped-parrots-is-conducted/ https://mb.com.ph/2020/08/19/economic-valuation-of-wildlife-species-being-conducted/ http://www.wazzuppilipinas.com/2020/08/economic-valuation-for-marine-turtles.html https://www.technologytimes.pk/2020/08/22/illegal-wildlife-trade-to-be-curbed-in-philippines/
180 trainees from DENR and other Law Enforcement Agencies graduate from Virtual Wildlife Law Enforcement Training	News article/DENR-BMB/ DENR-FASPS Website	https://bmb.gov.ph/index.php/resources/news-and-events/144-180-trainees-from-denr-and-other-law-enforcement-agencies-graduate-from-virtual-wildlife-law-enforcement-training https://fasps.denr.gov.ph/index.php/resources/news-and-

Knowledge Products		
Title	Type/Location	Link
		information/biodiversity/47-scores-graduate-from-wildlife-law-enforcement-training-held-online
DENR and ADB train 61 Vis-Min LGUs on wildlife laws	News article/DENR-BMB/ DENR-FASPS Website	https://bmb.gov.ph/index.php/resources/news-and-events/156-denr-and-adb-trains-61-vis-min-lgus-on-wildlife-laws https://fasps.denr.gov.ph/index.php/resources/news-and-information/biodiversity/62-vis-min-lgus-attend-wildlife-laws-webinar
137 NCR-based trainees from law enforcement agencies and LGUs graduate from Virtual Wildlife Law Enforcement Training	News article/DENR-BMB/ DENR-FASPS Website	https://bmb.gov.ph/index.php/resources/news-and-events/162-137-ncr-based-trainees-from-law-enforcement-agencies-and-lgus-graduate-from-virtual-wildlife-law-enforcement-training https://fasps.denr.gov.ph/index.php/resources/news-and-information/biodiversity/73-wildlife-laws-enforcement-training-held-online-for-metro-manila-based-agencies-and-lgus
DENR leads the celebration of the 8 th World Wildlife Day	News Article	https://bmb.gov.ph/index.php/resources/news-and-events/170-denr-leads-the-celebration-of-the-8th-world-wildlife-day
Caraga and NCR seaports assessed for wildlife traffic readiness	News Article	https://bmb.gov.ph/index.php/resources/news-and-events/171-denr-adb-ppa-assess-caraga-and-ncr-seaports-for-wildlife-traffic-readiness https://fasps.denr.gov.ph/index.php/public-relations/project-stories/biodiversity/93-caraga-and-ncr-seaports-assessed-for-wildlife-traffic-readiness
BMB launches online platforms for wildlife law training, education	News Article	https://bmb.gov.ph/index.php/resources/news-and-events/172-denr-bmb-naglunsad-ng-online-platforms-para-sa-wildlife-law-training-education https://fasps.denr.gov.ph/index.php/public-relations/project-stories/biodiversity/98-bmb-launches-

Knowledge Products		
Title	Type/Location	Link
		online-platforms-for-wildlife-law-training-education
“A Shifting Landscape: Rethinking Illegal Wildlife Trade and the Law”	Policy Brief	https://www.dropbox.com/s/pi3nnn59xeh3np7/IWT-PB-A4-Spreads.pdf?dl=0
RA 9147 Frequently Asked Questions	Spread	https://www.dropbox.com/s/oafe5pp37iovqpz/IWT-FAQ-Layout-A4-Draft-V1-Preview-Spread.pdf?dl=0
Promotional Video on eTraining Course	Short Video	https://1drv.ms/u/s!AoklsOtbv4o402xvUfP_CkH8m3-8?e=eq1Vhc
Promotional Video on eCITES PH	Short Video	https://1drv.ms/u/s!AoklsOtbv4o402xvUfP_CkH8m3-8?e=eq1Vhc
Repatriation of Wildlife	Short Video	https://1drv.ms/u/s!AoklsOtbv4o402xvUfP_CkH8m3-8?e=eq1Vhc

G. Location Data:

Project Sites	Country	Latitude	Longitude
Metro Manila (National Capital Region)	Philippines	N 14° 36' 15"	E 120° 58' 55"
Metro Cebu (Central Visayas)	Philippines	N 10° 19' 0"	E 123° 53' 26"
CARAGA (Agusan Del Norte and Surigao Del Norte)	Philippines	N 8° 56' 33"	E 125° 49' 5"

For Projects that have conducted Midterm Review Mission and Project Completion Mission (from 1 July 2020- 30 June 2021)

IV. Materialized Co-financing

Co-financing Table

(For projects which underwent a mid-term review/evaluation or terminal evaluation in FY)

Materialized Co-financing

[Please refer to the PIF template on the GEF webpage]

Sources of Co-financing ¹⁸	Name of Co-financer	Type of Co-financing ¹⁹	Amount Confirmed at CEO endorsement / approval	Actual Amount Materialized as of June 30, 2021	Actual Amount Materialized at Closing
Recipient Government	Department of Environment and Natural Resources	In-kind	\$575,757		
Donor Agency	Asian Development Bank	Technical Assistance	\$750,000		
TOTAL			\$1,325,757		

Reminder: Kindly include in your submission a copy of the following:

1. For projects that conducted **Midterm Review Mission**: Copy of the MOU Midterm Review Mission; BTOR and Updated Tracking Tools
2. For projects that conducted **Project Completion Mission**: Copy of the PCR, Copy of the MOU Midterm Review Mission; and Updated Tracking Tools

¹⁸ Sources of Co-financing may include: Bilateral Aid Agency(ies), Foundation, GEF Agency, Local Government, National Government, Civil Society Organization, Other Multi-lateral Agency(ies), Private Sector, Other

¹⁹ Type of Co-financing may include: Grant, Soft Loan, Hard Loan, Guarantee, In-Kind, Other

Signature:
Name of Project Officer:
Position:
Date:

Francesco Ricciardi
Francesco Ricciardi
Environment Specialist
August 15, 2021

Annex 1: DEFINITION OF RATINGS

Implementation Progress Ratings

Highly Satisfactory (HS): Implementation of **all** components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised implementation plan for the project. The project can be presented as “good practice”.

Satisfactory (S): Implementation of **most** components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan except for only a few that is subject to remedial action.

Moderately Satisfactory (MS): Implementation of **some** components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan with **some** components requiring remedial action.

Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU): Implementation of **some** components is not in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan with **most** components requiring remedial action.

Unsatisfactory (U): Implementation of **most** components is not in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan.

Highly Unsatisfactory (HU): Implementation of **none** of the components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan.

Global Environment Objective/Development Objective Ratings

Highly Satisfactory (HS): Project is expected to achieve or exceed **all** its major global environmental objectives, and yield substantial global environmental benefits, without major shortcomings. The project can be presented as “good practice”.

Satisfactory (S): Project is expected to achieve **most** of its major global environmental objectives, and yield satisfactory global environmental benefits, with only minor shortcomings.

Moderately Satisfactory (MS): Project is expected to achieve **most** of its major relevant objectives but with either significant shortcomings or modest overall relevance. Project is expected not to achieve **some** of its major global environmental objectives or yield some of the expected global environment benefits.

Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU): Project is expected to achieve of its major global environmental objectives with major shortcomings or is expected to achieve only **some** of its major global environmental objectives.

Unsatisfactory (U): Project is expected **not** to achieve **most** of its major global environment objectives or to yield any satisfactory global environmental benefits.

Highly Unsatisfactory (HU): The project has failed to achieve, and is not expected to achieve, **any** of its major global environment objectives with no worthwhile benefits.

Risk Rating

Risk ratings will assess the overall risk of factors internal or external to the project which may affect implementation or prospects for achieving project objectives. Risks of projects should be rated on the following scale:

High Risk (H): There is a probability of greater than 75% those assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face high risks.

Substantial Risk (S): There is a probability of between 51% and 75% those assumptions may fail to hold and/or the project may face substantial risks.

Modest Risk (M): There is a probability of between 26% and 50% those 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% those assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/ or the project may face only low risk.