



Project Proposal to the African Elephant Fund (AEF)

COVID 19 related evaluation criteria:

1. The project should address priority objectives 1, 2 or 3 as set out in the African Elephant Action Plan (AEAP);
2. The project should start its activities withing 3 months of its approval by the steering committee and completed in no more than 12 months from its inception;
3. The project should be subject to at least one or many of the following criteria:
 - a) Secure small / vulnerable populations that are faced with an immediate threat;
 - b) Address prosecution and criminal investigations;
 - c) Prevent immediate human-elephant conflicts;
 - d) Address a site that is experiencing an escalation in poaching;
 - e) Address a site that is experiencing a decline in law enforcement capacity.
4. Funding request should not exceed 50,000 USD.

1.1: Country: Nigeria

1.2: Project title: Saving Nigeria's Largest Elephant Population in the Midst of COVID-19

1.3: Project location: Yankari Game Reserve, Bauchi State

1.4: Overall project cost (USD): \$84,960

Amount Requested from African Elephant Fund (USD): \$50,000

Co-funding source and amount (if applicable) in USD: \$34,960

1.5: Project duration: 12 months

1.6: Project proponent: Federal Ministry of Environment in collaboration with the Wildlife Conservation Society, Nigeria Program

Other project partners: Bauchi State Government (*letter of endorsement is attached*).

1.7: Name and institution of project supervisor: Nachamada Geoffrey, Wildlife Conservation Society

1.8: Address of project supervisor: Wikki Camp, Yankari Game Reserve, Bauchi State, Nigeria

1.9: Telephone number: +234 802 497 6056

1.10: Email: ngeoffrey@wcs.org

1.11: Date of submission: 6 July 2020



2.0: Project summary (overall rationale, objectives of the project, expected outputs and expected results maximum 1 page) (*How is this project addressing COVID 19 related challenges that are hampering elephant conservation?*)

The project aims to secure for the relatively small and vulnerable elephant population in Yankari Game Reserve during the COVID19 outbreak by providing the essential support required to sustain 16 anti-poaching ranger patrols each month in Yankari Game Reserve, home to Nigeria's largest elephant population. The project will also provide new ranger uniforms essential to maintain morale, discipline and *esprit de corps* as well as personal first-aid kits to improve levels of safety of rangers in the field.

Managed by the Bauchi State Government since 2006 as a game reserve, there was an increase in elephant poaching and the ivory trade during the period from 2006 to 2014. The elephant population declined dramatically during this time from an estimated 348 in 2006 to no more than 100 to 150. The Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) signed a co-management agreement for Yankari with Bauchi State Government in 2014 including management responsibility for the rangers and since 2015 there has been no elephant poaching recorded. Unfortunately Bauchi State Government has not provided counterpart funding in recent years and it has been left to WCS to fund the ranger patrols necessary to safeguard Yankari's elephants. The proposed project will enable WCS to sustain the crucial anti-poaching efforts required to protect Yankari's elephants and ensure their full recovery. This crucial support will cover the provision of field rations, camping allowances, fuel for ranger support vehicles, uniforms, boots, and first aid kits.

3.0: Which priority objectives, strategies and activities of the project (there may be more than one) are related to the African Elephant Action Plan (AEAP)?

This project addresses **two** of the priority objectives, **two** strategies and **three** activities contained in the African Elephant Action Plan (AEAP):

Objective 1: Reduce Illegal Killing of Elephants and Illegal Trade in Elephant Products

Objective 2: Maintain Elephant Habitats and Restore Connectivity

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

Strategy 2.4: Ensure adequate maintenance of current elephant habitat within and between elephant range States.

Activity 1.1.3. Equip wildlife authority staff on the frontline of enforcement with appropriate tools to carry out their mission as safely and effectively as possible.

Activity 2.4.1. Provide adequate resources for effective management of existing protected areas and dispersal areas.

Activity 2.4.2. Improve or maintain good management in existing protecting areas in African elephant range States.

4.0: Project Rationale – why is this project necessary? What threats face this elephant population (for example, what information you have regarding population details, trends in population (downward or upward), ivory seizure information, details about levels of poaching, human/elephant conflict, habitat loss etc.) (2 pages maximum)



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Yankari’s elephant population suffered a marked decline from 2006 to 2014 due to poaching for their ivory. Although poaching rates have decreased dramatically since 2014 when WCS signed a co-management agreement for Yankari with Bauchi State Government, and there has been no case of elephant poaching since 2015, we need to sustain these levels of protection so that the population recovers fully. This proposed project will be instrumental in sustaining the strengthened protection efforts needed. The Yankari elephant population is the largest remaining elephant population in the country. WCS has demonstrated that our approach to protection carries great promise for Yankari’s elephants and the population is currently believed to be stable/increasing. Unfortunately, due to the COVID19 outbreak, there has been a downturn in tourism and any counterpart funding from Bauchi State Government during this time is unlikely. It is crucial now that we sustain our protection strategy for Yankari’s elephants. This grant will help consolidate the long time achievement that WCS has recording in securing Yankari elephant population to zero elephant poaching encountered since 2015.

5.0: Detailed Proposal – including activities to be carried out, anticipated milestones), timelines, reporting channels and procedures, etc. (3 pages maximum).
In responding to this section, it would be helpful if you could divide it into five phases (see below tables):

Planning: detailed logistical planning for weekly patrols will be done jointly by the WCS Landscape Director and senior rangers. Data and information regularly gathered from rangers, elephant satellite collars, the existing informant network throughout Yankari’s neighbouring communities, community members engaged as “elephant guardians” and from the use of the SMART law enforcement monitoring tool, will be integrated for improved effectiveness of patrol planning,

Implementation: 48 patrols will be organised each quarter by the WCS Landscape Director based at Wikki Camp in the centre of the reserve (a total of 192 patrols over the 12-month grant). Each patrol team is made up of 6-7 rangers employed by Bauchi State Government and each patrol lasts for 7 days at a time. Patrols are done by foot, but require close vehicle support to carry field rations, water and camping equipment. Data collected by rangers on handheld devices is downloaded into the existing SMART database at the end of each patrol.

5.1.1: Planning

| Statement of the objectives | Activities | Timeframe | Anticipated milestones | Indicators | Channels or process Consultation with stakeholders/partners |
|------------------------------|---|-----------|---|------------------------------------|--|
| Reduce killing of elephants. | Support for anti-poaching patrols through field rations, camping allowances | 12 months | 192 anti-poaching patrols over 12 months provides close and effective protection for elephants, with zero levels of elephant poaching in the reserve (last case of elephant | Number of elephant carcasses found | |



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|----------------------------|--|-----------|--|--|--|
| | and fuel for support vehicles. | | poaching was May 2015). | | |
| Maintain Elephant Habitat. | Support for anti-poaching patrols through field rations, camping allowances and fuel for support vehicles. | 12 months | 192 anti-poaching patrols over 12 months reduce the rate of livestock grazing and logging in the reserve | SMART data from ranger patrols and number of persons arrested. | |

5.1.2: Procurement (goods, services, equipment, travel, workshop, accommodation etc)

(Please explain what goods and services you will be procuring and for what purpose)

Field rations for ranger patrols (including maize flour, rice, beans, oil, sardines and salt) will be purchased from local markets and from directly from farmers surrounding the reserve. Fuel and engine oil for vehicles used to support ranger patrols will be purchased in Bauchi and transported to Yankari in drums each month. We will purchase ranger uniforms and first-aid kits for rangers from a reputable company in South Africa (good quality equipment is not available in Nigeria) and arrange shipment to Nigeria. Ranger patrol boots will be purchased locally in Nigeria.

5.1.3: Implementation: activity plan, timeline

| Activities | Outputs | Delivery Date |
|------------|--|--|
| Activity 1 | 48 anti-poaching patrols to be organised each quarter | 4 patrols organised per week. 192 patrols to be organised in 12 months |
| Activity 2 | First aid kits and ranger uniforms to be purchased from South Africa and shipped to Nigeria. Boots will be purchased locally | First Quarter |
| Activity 3 | Monitoring visit by staff of the Federal Department of Forestry, Ministry of Environment | Third Quarter |



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5.1.4: Monitoring and evaluation measures of the project

We will measure the progress of this project through monitoring the illegal killing of elephants by mapping all elephant carcasses discovered by ranger patrols, researchers and tourists - data that is already shared with MIKE. Data collected by rangers using SMART will be used to ensure that assigned patrols are carried out correctly, that patrol coverage of the reserve is adequate, and to monitor trends in wildlife encounter rates and patterns of human activity.

SMART data will be used to produce regular progress reports on a monthly, quarterly and annual basis. This regular analysis of SMART data will help to provide new insight into the effectiveness of our anti-poaching efforts. This will include regular assessment of patrol effort effectiveness together with a discussion of possible improvements to the overall protection and monitoring strategy. Progress reports will be shared with project partners via the WCS Nigeria website <https://nigeria.wcs.org> and regular updates will also be provided through our popular Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/YankariWCS/> which now has more than 11,000 followers. Project activities in the field will be managed by Nacha Geoffrey, WCS Landscape Director. Technical and financial oversight will be provided by Andrew Dunn, WCS Nigeria Country Director and Ogechi Nwachukwu, WCS Finance Manager. Dunn will undertake periodic monitoring visits to Yankari Game Reserve each quarter.

5.1.5: Technical and financial reporting

Interim and final technical reports will be prepared by WCS Yankari Landscape Director Nacha Geoffrey in collaboration with project partners: the Federal Ministry of Environment and Bauchi State Government. Financial reports will be prepared by WCS Finance Director Ogechi Nwachukwu. Both technical and financial reports will be reviewed and formally submitted to the African Elephant Fund (AEF) by WCS Country Director Andrew Dunn. The reports provided will list the number of patrols achieved, the distance patrolled, the number of arrests made and the number of elephant carcasses recorded. Quarterly project reports will also be produced for sharing with project stakeholders. At the end of the project a representative of the Federal Ministry of Environment will visit Yankari to evaluate the effectiveness of the project. Summary data from SMART will be used as the basis for the interim and final technical reports submitted to the AEF.

6.0: Please explain long term measures to ensure sustainability of the project.

WCS has made a long-term commitment to the protection of Yankari Game Reserve as one of the priority landscapes within the WCS Sudan-Sahel Region. WCS has a strong working relationship with Bauchi State Government, and we currently manage all rangers and conservation activities in Yankari under a co-management agreement with the Government of Bauchi State (BASG). However, responsibility for the long-term funding of the project rests firmly with BASG who has already made a significant long-term investment in tourism at the site and continues to pay monthly salaries for approximately 80 rangers. Unfortunately, revenues from tourism have declined due to the current instability in much of northern Nigeria and BASG is unable to fully provide all the required funding at this time. This is a long-term project that demands a long-term



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commitment; all the project activities described here will continue beyond the time period of this proposal. WCS and others will ensure that funding gaps are covered until such time as Yankari can be self-sustaining. Future funding plans include proposals to the Lion Recovery Fund and the Elephant Crisis Fund (ECF).

7.0: Will this project receive any other funding other than AEF? Give all relevant details (for example, amount in USD, source of funds, any restrictions? Please specify.

Yes, the project receives additional funding from the Lion Recovery Fund (\$100,000), the Elephant Crisis Fund (\$99,945), the USFWS (\$207,297), BMU (\$99,213), Tusk Trust (\$37,314), the AEF (\$29,768), NC Zoo (\$15,000) and other donors.

7.1: Please provide a detailed proposed activity-based budget for this project (in USD) as per table below:

(N/B: Expenses that fall under incidental procurement which amounts to 20,000\$ or above, or 15% of the total budget (whichever is lower), will require that the implementing partner be subject to the UN procurement assessment.)*

**Incidental procurement: equipment, vehicles, travel, furniture, supplies, commodities and materials.*

| Budget | | | | | | |
|---|----------|---------|-----------------|------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|
| Activity | Quantity | Unit | Unit Cost (USD) | Total Cost (USD) | AEF budget | Co-funding (Non-AEF Budget) |
| Activity 1: | | | | | | |
| Camping allowances (70% contribution to 16 patrols/month) | 192 | patrol | 135 | 25,920 | 16,763 | 9,157 |
| Field rations (70% contribution to 16 patrols/month) | 192 | Patrol | 97 | 18,624 | 9,648 | 8,976 |
| Vehicle fuel 5 vehicles @ \$180/vehicle/mnth | 12 | Month | 1,085 | 13,020 | 5,789 | 7,231 |
| Vehicle servicing 5 vehicles@ \$80/vehicle/month | 12 | Month | 481 | 5,772 | 2,774 | 2,998 |
| Office supplies | 4 | Quarter | 63 | 252 | 252 | 0 |
| Utilities (generator fuel) | 12 | Month | 127 | 1,524 | 785 | 739 |
| Sub-total | | | | 65,832 | 36,731 | 29,101 |
| Activity 2: | | | | | | |
| Ranger uniform | 60 | Piece | 162 | 9,720 | 4,824 | 4,896 |
| Individual first aid kit | 60 | Piece | 60 | 3,600 | 3,600 | 0 |



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|--|---|--------|-------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| International and local freight | 1 | Event | 4,845 | 4,845 | 4,845 | 0 |
| Sub-total | | | | 18,165 | 13,269 | 4,896 |
| Activity 3: | | | | | | |
| Return flight for 2 persons: Abuja to Bauchi/Gombe | 2 | Flight | 164 | 328 | | 328 |
| Airport transport in Abuja | 2 | Trip | 37 | 74 | | 74 |
| Accommodation in Yankari | 3 | Night | 125 | 375 | | 375 |
| Subsistence allowance | 3 | Night | 62 | 186 | | 186 |
| Sub-total | | | | 963 | 0 | 963 |
| Total Cost | | | | 84,960 | 50,000 | 34,960 |

The following budget items are not funded by the AEF, as agreed by the rules of procedures of the AEF Steering Committee:

1. Salaries, excluding experts/consultants hired for specific activities related to project implementation;
2. Daily subsistence allowances and accommodation, unless it is part of training or activities in remote/rural areas;
3. Flights, purchase of vehicles, excluding bicycles and motorbikes;
4. Educational programmes including bursaries & interns.

Please submit the completed project proposal to: mamadou.kane@un.org and dorris.chepkoech@un.org; with a copy to: unep-africanelephantfund@un.org

You should receive acknowledgement of receipt of your proposal within 14 days. If you do not receive such an acknowledgement, please call: +254 719744186 / +254 710602646.

Additional information on the project proposal may be requested by the Steering Committee of the African Elephant Fund.

N/B: The full project proposal should be translated into a two-page executive summary in the other working languages of the AEFSC (English/French and vice-versa). For more information, please visit our website: www.africanelephantfund.org