



WWF

REPORT

MM

2018

# 2018

# ANNUAL REPORT



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## A MESSAGE FROM CHRISTY



This has been a year of results.

From zero elephant rangers we now have 220 on the ground in our Central Elephant Landscape and have gone from one elephant poached per week, to one a month and now one every six months.

We have achieved one of the toughest wildlife laws in Asia with a mandatory minimum three years imprisonment for poaching or trade of completely protected species and seen it implemented in the courts. Through the Voices for Momos campaign we have secured a ban on illegal wildlife sales in Yangon region.

It has also been a year of challenges.

The Dawei Road project has re-awoken and is pushing ahead with potential devastating impacts to a critical tiger corridor. Conversations around dams are becoming louder and more frequent and everyone is aware of the challenges Myanmar is facing in its transition to democracy.

To meet these challenges we are expanding our presence with offices now in Naypyidaw, Hpa-An, Dawei and Yangon, and work focused across three landscapes –Dawna Tenasserim, Central Elephant and Ayeyarwady.

Our work in natural resource protection and management is investment in the peace, stability, and prosperity of an entire nation. This is evidenced in our Dawna Tenasserim projects where we are working alongside returning Karen refugees supporting livelihoods through a sustainable, inclusive, landscape approach.

Now more than ever we need to ensure Myanmar's natural heritage remains and underpins sustainable, inclusive development for the good of all its people.

*Christy Williams*

# OUR YEAR HIGHLIGHTS





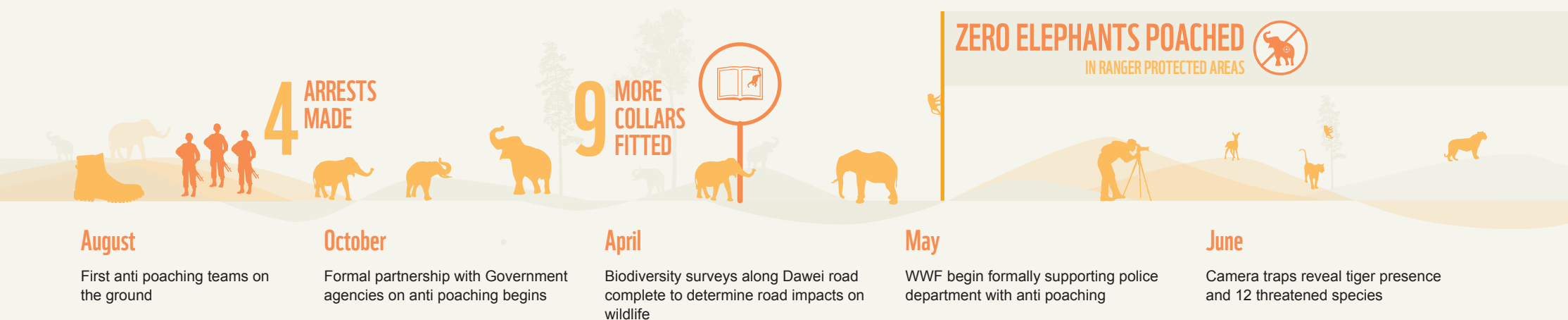
# WILDLIFE



The responsibility of protecting Myanmar's awe-inducing wildlife rests firmly on all of our shoulders. Wildlife still thrives here, and we have the opportunity to learn from the mistakes of our neighbouring countries and to turn this story into one of hope.



Our wildlife work focuses on saving the remaining populations of tigers and Asian elephants in Myanmar. For elephants 2018 has been a year of great hope, with poaching rates plummeting in ranger protected areas. For tigers, the future remains uncertain. With plans for a new road threatening to slice through prime tiger territory a monumental, collaborative effort is needed to protect their habitat in Dawna Tenasserim - one of the few remaining tiger ranges in the world.



# WILDLIFE

## the next steps



- 2019 Collar 18 more elephants
- 2019 Establish wildlife ranger college to train rangers in DTL and other regions
- 2020 As follow up to surveys devise management plan with KNU for conservation areas in Dawna Tenasserim
- Establish more Wildlife Protection Units
- Protect elephants outside Dawna Tenasserim in poaching hotspots (ongoing)

Join us in taking these next steps  
We can't do it alone



## WHAT DOES SUCCESS LOOK LIKE?

Critical corridors are connected, protected areas are secured, and there is zero poaching of tigers and elephants.





# CENTRAL ELEPHANT LANDSCAPE

## TRAININGS



## POACHING STATUS IN PROJECT AREAS

### BEFORE PROJECT



**3.8** AVERAGE NUMBER OF ELEPHANTS KILLED EVERY MONTH

### PROJECT STARTS

**3.25** AVERAGE NUMBER OF ELEPHANTS KILLED EVERY MONTH

## ARRESTS



AUGUST 2017 WEAPONS & SKIN



APRIL 2018 WEAPONS & POACHERS & ELEPHANT SKIN



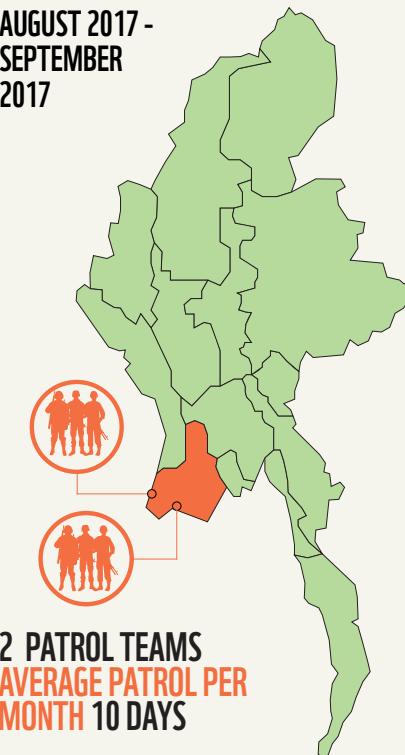
MARCH 2018 WEAPONS & POACHERS



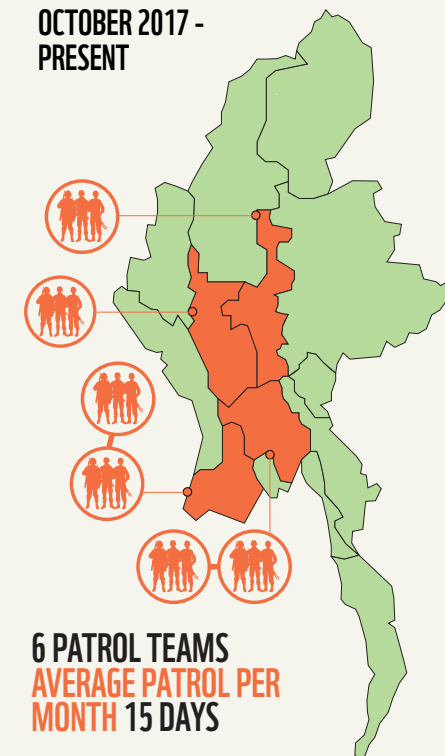
MAY 2018 WEAPONS

## PATROLLING

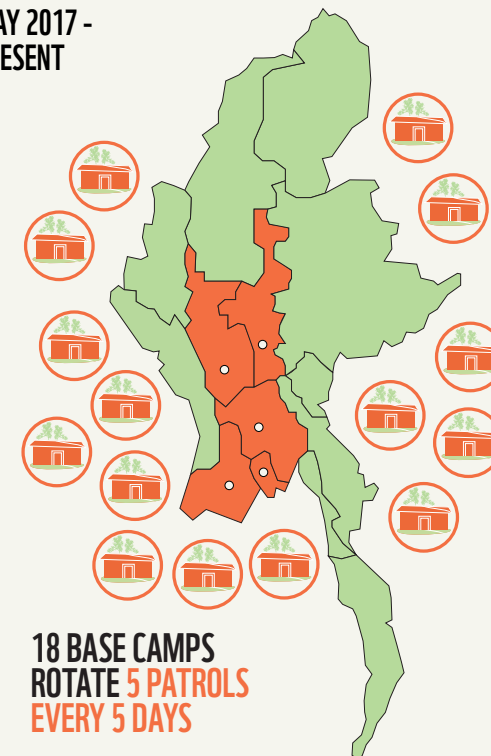
AUGUST 2017 - SEPTEMBER 2017



OCTOBER 2017 - PRESENT



MAY 2017 - PRESENT



58% DECLINE IN ELEPHANTS POACHED

**1.6** AVERAGE NUMBER OF ELEPHANTS KILLED EVERY MONTH

140 DAYS ZERO POACHING

**ZERO** ELEPHANTS KILLED IN RANGER PROTECTED AREAS

### GOAL

ZERO POACHING BY **2020**



# FORESTS

Unless we urgently forge a more sustainable path, a third of Myanmar's remaining forest will disappear within the next 30 years. If we do act now though Myanmar could become one of the precious few countries left boasting pristine forest home to endangered species, and play a major role in the global fight against climate change.

We are working to protect this invaluable ecosystem by reducing deforestation rates in the critical Dawna Tenasserim through partnerships with local government, private sector, communities and civil society organisations. This year we scaled up from 174ha of community forest to 7,000ha, and sustainable rubber production practices are now beginning to separate rubber from deforestation.



# FORESTS

## the next steps

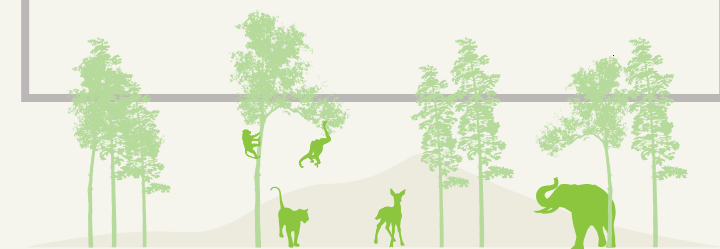
- 2018 Finalise shared landscape vision with key partners
- 2018 Map high conservation value (HCV) areas
- 2020 Delineate and recognise locally conserved areas
- 2020 Secure (or apply for) land tenures in at least 7 more communities
- 2021 Establish 30 community managed forests

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**We can't do it alone**



## WHAT DOES SUCCESS LOOK LIKE?

Zero deforestation in intact forests.





**THE DAWNA TENASSERIM**  
IS LARGER THAN SWEDEN  
AND STILL UNDER **83%**  
TREE COVER







# ILLEGAL WILDLIFE TRADE

Myanmar is a global hub for illegal wildlife trade. Our remaining wilderness and abundant wildlife makes our forests a prime source for the most poached species such as tigers, Asian elephants and pangolins. To make matters worse, Myanmar is situated next to the notorious lawless Golden Triangle region, the global illegal wildlife hypermarket.

We are working with government and partners to end the open sale of illegal wildlife products within the next two years, and then to close the Golden Triangle markets. In Yangon, markets have already agreed to end sales of ivory and other wildlife products and across the country we are training law enforcement to identify, seize and deal with wildlife products. At a policy level we have helped to close the loopholes in existing laws, making Myanmar’s one of the strongest illegal wildlife trade laws in the region, and have been asked to draft a national Illegal Wildlife Trade action plan.



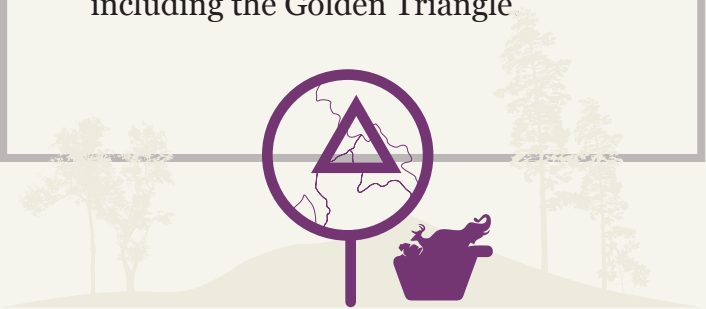
# ILLEGAL WILDLIFE TRADE

## the next steps



## WHAT DOES SUCCESS LOOK LIKE?

There is no open sale of illegal wildlife products in Myanmar, including the Golden Triangle







MAY - SEPTEMBER 2018  
**ZERO ELEPHANTS POACHED**  
IN MYANMAR'S RANGER  
PROTECTED AREAS





# FRESHWATER



Fewer than 70 of the world's longest rivers remain free-flowing, and Myanmar is home to two of them - the magnificent Salween and Ayeyarwady Rivers. They are home to species seen nowhere else on earth, and the Ayeyarwady is at the heart of the country's development journey. But in the face of sand-mining, overfishing and hydropower dams - this lifeblood artery is at risk of buckling under pressure.

As well as protecting species and important habitats in Myanmar's rivers we are laying the milestones for valued river systems. This starts by getting people to think differently about rivers - showing the private sector, government and communities that we all have a vested interest in ensuring our most important rivers stay healthy.



October

State of the Basin report on sediments and geomorphology produced for the attention of the Ayeyarwady Integrated River Basin Management



May

"The Ayeyarwady River and the Economy of Myanmar" report released and discussed with decision makers to show the true value of the river to Myanmar



DO YOU KNOW THE TRUE VALUE OF A RIVER?

June

"Sediment Superheroes" video demonstrates the critical need to regulate sandmining



July

"Ayeyarwady Futures" report released with projected future scenarios for Myanmar

# FRESHWATER

## the next steps



2019 Map the country's free-flowing rivers and tributaries to protect the most ecologically important rivers



2019 Support Myanmar in the development of a sustainable hydropower framework



2019 Determine the role of ecosystems and green infrastructure in disaster risk reduction



2020 Ensure that key freshwater habitats in the delta are better protected and managed



2020 Secure the Irrawaddy dolphin population in the Ayeyarwady river

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**We can't do it alone**



## WHAT DOES SUCCESS LOOK LIKE?

The Ayeyarwady river is free-flowing with healthy populations of key species, including the Irrawaddy dolphin. Important habitats are protected and well-managed, supporting sustainable economic development in the Ayeyarwady basin.





60% OF MYANMAR'S  
PROTEIN INTAKE COMES  
FROM FISH







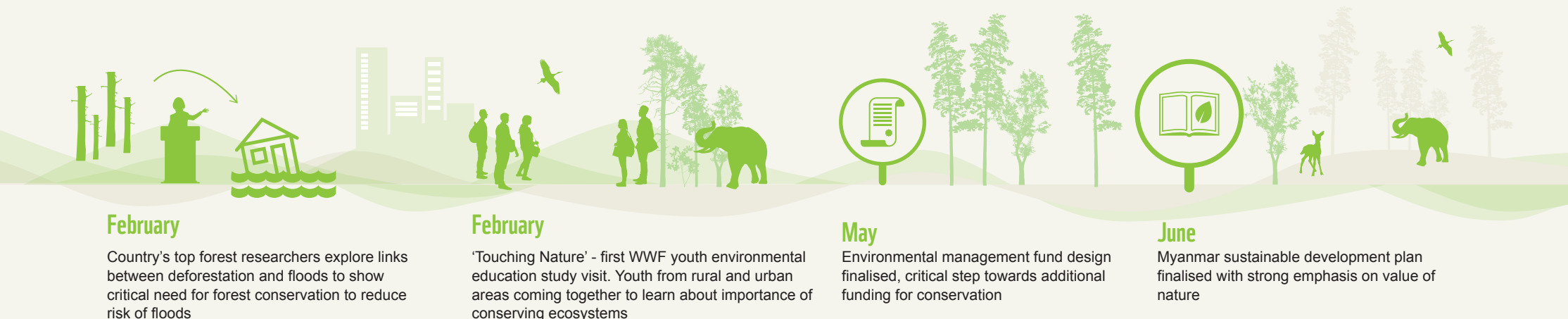
# GREEN ECONOMY



Having worked to show the links between people, nature and the economy, 2018 has been a year of working closely with the government to consolidate policies and steer finances toward conservation. Significant steps have been taken towards a green economy in Myanmar.



Myanmar's overall Sustainable Development Plan (MSDP) 2018-2030 now places substantial emphasis on the value of nature, recognizing that "the natural environment is the foundation upon which Myanmar's social, cultural and economic development may be sustained". On the ground and armed with new knowledge, the Environmental Impact Assessment Division will become Myanmar's environmental guardians as infrastructure development booms.



# GREEN ECONOMY

## the next steps



**2019** Natural capital assessments guide development planning - sustainable infrastructure, agriculture and energy - at national and regional levels



**2020** Public financing increases to support conservation



**2021** Policy and economic incentives in place for increasing investments in renewable energy, natural capital, sustainable infrastructure and sustainable agriculture

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## WHAT DOES SUCCESS LOOK LIKE?

Myanmar is one of the region's leading green economies. A place where the true value of nature is represented in policy, development and commercial investments. Where incentives, support and best practice create a magnet for sustainable investment.







**THE DAWEI ROAD**  
POSES MAJOR THREATS TO  
BOTH HUMANS AND WILDLIFE





# CLIMATE&ENERGY



With projections for climate change more worrying than ever, the world must rally together for urgent action against carbon emissions. Sea levels are projected to rise higher and faster than anticipated and as Myanmar is the world's second most vulnerable country to rising sea levels, protecting the ecosystems that safeguard our homes, livelihoods and future is critical. Fortunately thanks to its abundant renewable resources, Myanmar's energy agenda need not compromise its natural environment.

Together with the Government, diplomats, private sector and CSOs we are building an enabling environment for renewable electrification in Myanmar. The Government has already started to implement renewable energy initiatives and progress is on track, now we are supporting the government to scale up.



# CLIMATE&ENERGY

## the next steps

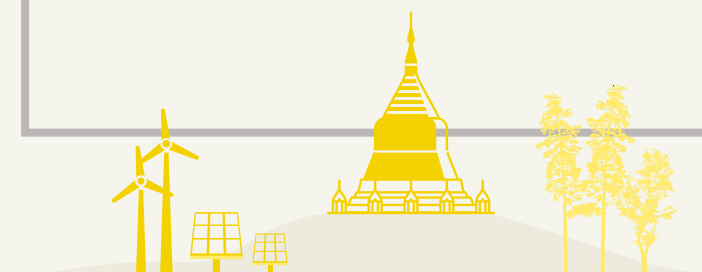
- 
- 2019** Attract investment for regional power development in Kayin (Tanintharyi)
  - 2019** Finalise third round of Barefoot College training and sustainable village electrification
  - 2019** Initiate renewable power education in villages
  - 2020** Host first Renewable Energy Investment Summit, together with government
  - 2021** Raise at least 10 million dollars toward climate fund for renewable power

Join us in taking these next steps  
**We can't do it alone**



## WHAT DOES SUCCESS LOOK LIKE?

Myanmar utilises its full potential for renewable energy, and attracts renewable energy investment. Myanmar's ecosystems are resilient and enhanced to support adaptation to climate impacts.





MYANMAR'S ABUNDANT  
**RENEWABLE RESOURCES**  
COULD MEET THE  
ENERGY DEFICIT







# SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS



The need for development is great in Myanmar, and finding the delicate balance of development and sustainability will be critical for the country's long term prosperity. This is both a challenge and a significant opportunity for Myanmar.



We are working with the rubber, banking and food and beverage industries to plan and support sustainable business practices, and to create new, sustainable supply chains where industries are emerging. For rubber production, this process is already well underway. As of this year our sustainable finance project is now supporting banks so that their lending has limited impact on the environment whilst supporting sustainable development. economic growth.



# SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS

## the next steps



- 2019 Build tree-to-tire sustainable, fully traceable and verifiable rubber supply chain
- 2019 Ensure that two leading banks integrate ESG criteria in lending decisions
- 2020 Establish water fund for integrated water resource management
- 2021 Majority of rubber and other deforestation commodities are produced sustainably in Dawna Tenasserim
- 2021 Leverage over \$100 million private sector investment in wastewater management

Join us in taking these next steps  
We can't do it alone



## WHAT DOES SUCCESS LOOK LIKE?

The private sector has minimized its impact on critical habitats, and is contributing to preserving biodiversity and ecosystem health.







MYANMAR COULD BECOME  
THE FIRST COUNTRY TO  
PRODUCE VERIFIABLE  
SUSTAINABLE RUBBER

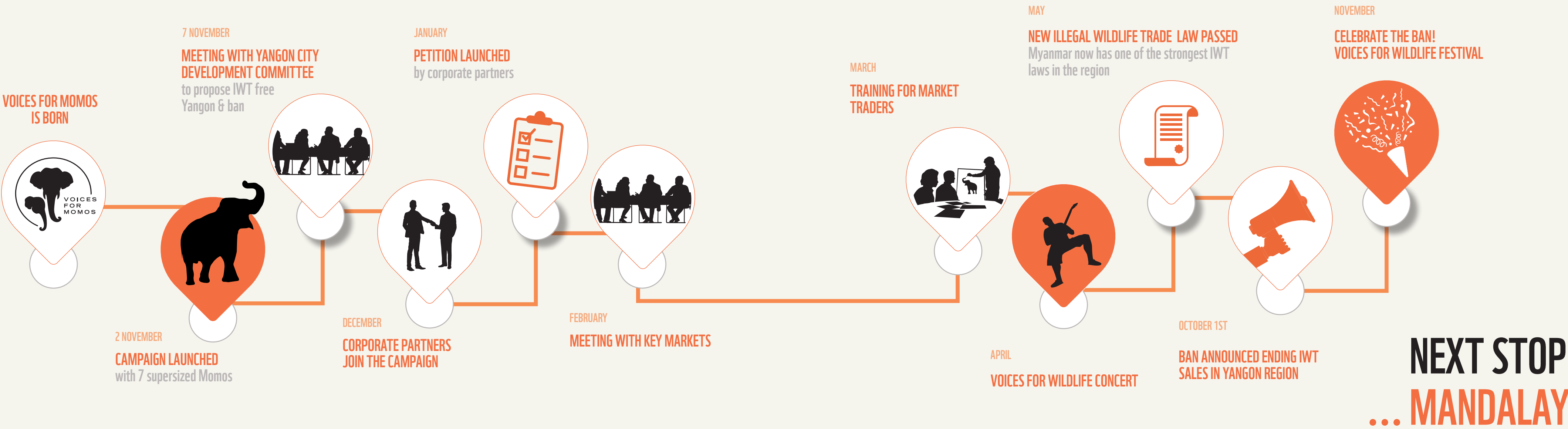






# ENDING ILLEGAL WILDLIFE TRADE IN YANGON

HOW? USING A REGIONAL APPROACH STARTING WITH YANGON TARGETING HIGH PROFILE MARKETS UMBRELLA CAMPAIGN BRINGING IN ALL INGO/NGO PARTNERS









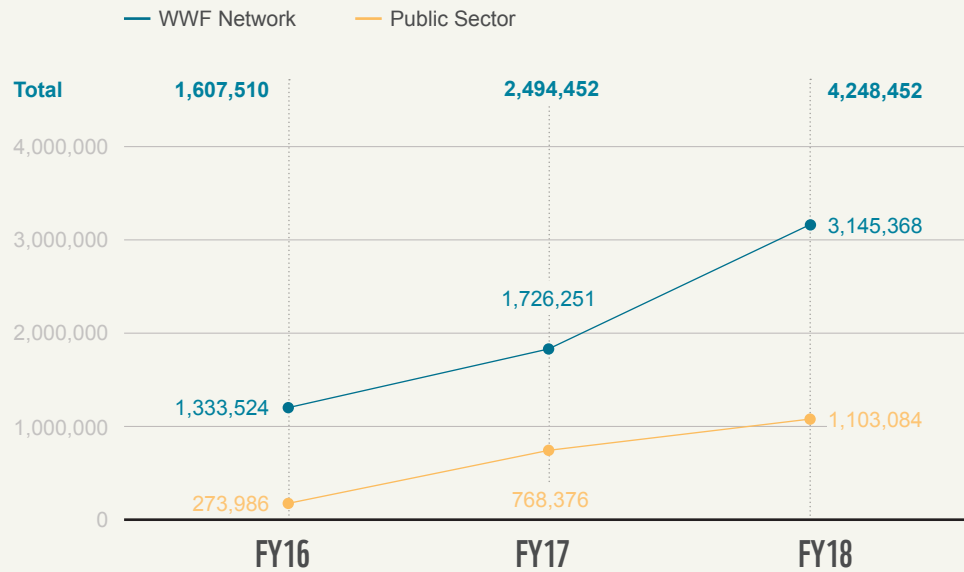
# THE TEAM



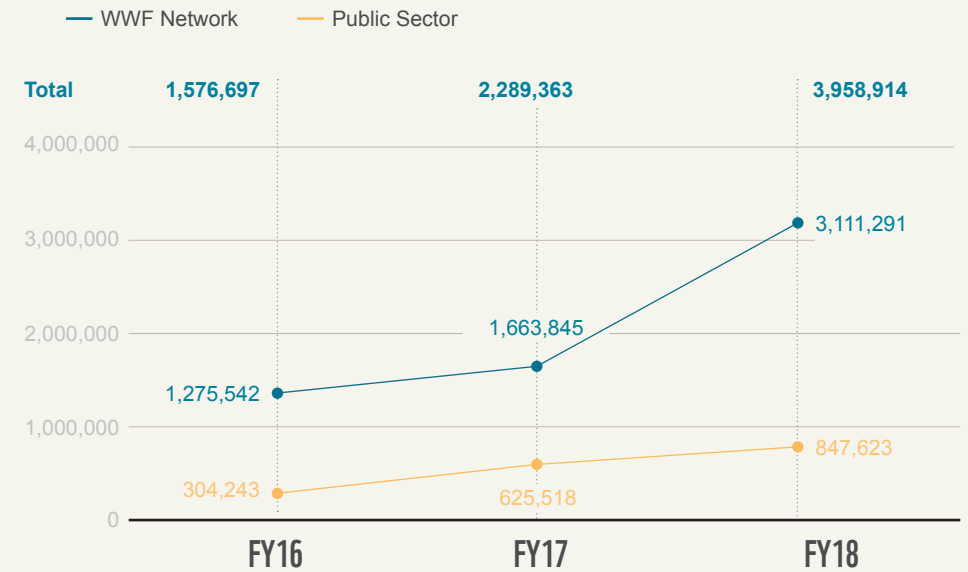


# FINANCIALS

## Income for WWF-MYANMAR (3 years)



## Expenses for WWF-MYANMAR (3 years) Audited





# PRACTICES

WWF-Myanmar's work focuses on **four** of WWF's six global goals and the **three** key drivers of environmental problems.

## GLOBAL GOALS

### FORESTS



A world enriched by extensive, resilient forest and landscapes, benefiting biodiversity, people and climate.

### WILDLIFE



The world's most threatened and ecologically, economically and culturally important species are secure in the wild.

### CLIMATE & ENERGY



By 2030, an equitable and just transition is underway that limits warming to 1.5°C, protects people and biodiversity and builds a climate resilient future.

### FRESHWATER



Freshwater ecosystems and their services sustain people and nature

## DRIVER OUTCOMES

### GOVERNANCE



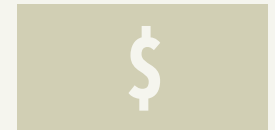
Progress is made on the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals and targets, and robust, transparent governance and policy mechanisms are in place

### FINANCE



Increase in public and private financial flows towards sustainable development. Public and private financial institutions catalyze change in government and business policies and practices to reduce threats to nature

### MARKETS



Effective market-based change mechanisms to measurably shift local, regional, and global markets towards sustainable production and consumption



# NETWORK CHAMPIONS





# THANKS TO OUR PARTNERS



Funded by  
the European Union





**3,900**

estimated number of wild  
tigers left in the world

**95%**

drop in tiger numbers since  
beginning of 20th century



**2 million**

number of years tigers  
have existed on our planet

**13**

number of tiger range  
countries, including  
Myanmar