



Combating Illegal wildlife (IWT), poaching Via Community Awareness in selected three zones (Fafan, Jarar and Sitti). Community and districts cognizance about wildlife protection



DECEMBER 2024, SOMALI REGIONAL STATE, ETHIOPIA.

1. Introduction

1.1. Background: Brief overview of the illegal wildlife trade and its impacts on biodiversity and local ecosystems. In Somali regional state, Illegal trade and trafficking of wildlife, especially of iconic species, such as cheetah, elephant and other antelope has reached crisis proportions. In last four years, more than ten cheetahs were confiscated by EPRLA B bureau. To outline the efforts made to raise awareness about illegal wildlife trade and poaching within the officials in districts and community. This community awareness makes provision with respect to the development, conservation and sustainable utilization of wildlife resources in Somali region, Ethiopia. Including

wild animals found in the region particular those species migrating from country to country (Trafficking).

2. Objectives:

- Educate community members about the consequences of illegal wildlife trade.
- Promote conservation efforts and the importance of protecting wildlife.
- Encourage community involvement in monitoring and reporting illegal activities.

3. Methodology

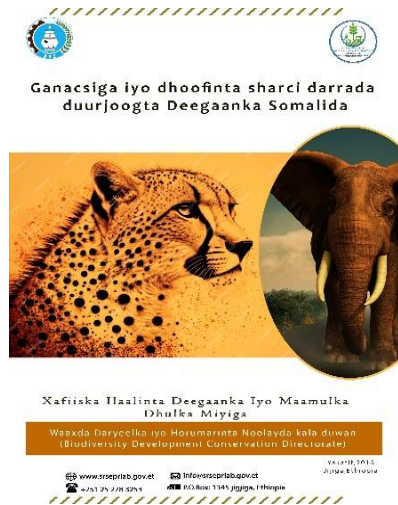
- Workshops and Seminars: Organizing educational sessions involving experts in districts and zonal particular police, security
- Community Outreach Programs: Engaged local leaders and districts officials to disseminate information to the community
- Distributing Educational Materials: Pamphlets, posters, and digital content to spread awareness.

4. Activities Conducted

- Held more than 20 meetings attended by official zones and districts, village leaders by distribution Wildlife protection manual books
- Village Programs: Conducted sessions in local community, reaching ten thousand individuals out of 120 villages in 25 districts selected in fafan, sitti and jarar zone.

5. Key Messages Delivered via stickers, posters and manual

- The ecological and economic impacts of poaching.
- Legal repercussions for participating in illegal wildlife trade.
- How community can contribute to wildlife protection and report to poaching, illegal actions to government



6. Community Engagement

- Feedback collected from participants indicated a 70% increase in awareness, that killing, poaching and trafficking are illegal trade, after conducted community awareness in the three zones

7. Challenges Encountered

- Limited resources for broader outreach in the zones and districts of the region
- Lack of infrastructure and road network in the zones and districts
- Lack of Human-wildlife conflict compensation

8. Conclusion

- Summary of the importance of continued efforts in raising awareness.
- Call to action for ongoing community engagement and support for wildlife conservation.

9. Recommendations

- Increase funding for awareness programs.
- Foster partnerships with international and local NGOs
- Implement regular follow-up sessions to maintain community interest.

10. Appendices



Community awareness Meeting 18 villages in Goljano district, September,2024.



Meeting Community

