



International  
**Alliance** against  
**Health Risks** in  
**Wildlife Trade**

## Launch of the Consultation Facility



Initiated by



Federal Ministry  
for Economic Cooperation  
and Development



Federal Ministry  
for the Environment, Nature Conservation,  
Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection



Implemented by

**giz** Deutsche Gesellschaft  
für Internationale  
Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

# Agenda



1. Introduction
2. Rationale and introduction of the Consultation Facility
3. Q&A

# Reviewing 2.5 years Alliance 1/2



## Aspiration

- International, interdisciplinary network of experts, implementors, and policy makers across sectors
- Fostering exchange & collaboration by sharing knowledge, data and translating evidence and expertise into policy

## Current situation

- Currently 180+ member organisations and individual experts
- Two regular exchange formats (Expert Talk & Voices From the Ground)
- 3 active working groups (Science Policy, Big Picture, Evaluation)
- 17 financed member projects
- Contribution to e.g., CITES, CBD and Pandemic Instrument

# Reviewing 2.5 years Alliance 2/2



- The Alliance is successful in facilitating the exchange between scientists, NGOs and representatives of international and national organisations.
- However, it is particularly necessary to strengthen national capacities and framework conditions to sustainably reduce health risks from wildlife trade.
- The past period has shown the challenges to attract ministries or other government bodies to join the Alliance - without a targeted and specific offer of support.

# The need to strengthen the Science Policy Interface



Among others, two factors are hindering significant progress towards pandemic primary prevention – pre-spillover prevention – in the context of wildlife trade, handling and consumption:

- **Insufficient political recognition** of the importance, effectiveness and overall potential of primary prevention – pre-spillover prevention – through a One Health approach, including in the context of wildlife trade, handling and consumption (especially commercial; live, dead, legal, illegal, wild-caught and captive-bred)
- A **lack of sufficient knowledge**, context-specific evidence and identification of relevant critical control points, suitable good practice examples for effective interventions and operationalization of the One Health approach

The facility will address these gaps and challenges **in alignment with its charter** – identifying, promoting and enabling integrated biodiversity and health interventions and solutions.”

# Introducing: the Consultation Facility



The **goal** of the Consultation Facility is to provide context-specific multidisciplinary consultancy services from Alliance experts to governments/governmental institutions in countries with a high risk of novel diseases of zoonotic origin to prevent spill-over infections. The focus lies on proactive, primary prevention measures.

# The Consultation Facility 1/3



- Along the entire contact and trade chain, the expertise of more than 180+ member organisations and individual experts in the Alliance will be used to put together interdisciplinary teams for specific advice in line with country needs to support countries on primary prevention measures and interventions at the wildlife-human interface.
- USP: The Facility specializes on medium-term, preventive and context-specific government advisory services with concrete results in the context of health risks in wildlife trade and consumption.
- The Facility can be an accelerator to further activities and engagement of governments, national experts and stakeholders involved in the wildlife-human interface within identified “hotspot” regions or contexts.

# The Consultation Facility 2/3



## Possible activities

- Surveillance (pathogen and disease monitoring) in wildlife populations and products (e.g. wild meat including seasonal patterns)
- Knowledge and understanding of critical control points for risk reduction and appropriate, realistic intervention along the wildlife and wildlife product supply chain
- Data linkage and content exchange between relevant ministries and government agencies, establishment of relevant processes and (national/international) partnerships
- Coordination of targeted risk reduction measures and their monitoring



# The Consultation Facility 3/3



## Possible activities

- Tailor-made support for changes in processes and structures for risk reduction, including topics of budget and mandate allocation within relevant (governmental) structures
- Information on risks and behavioural prevention measures in dealing with wildlife and wildlife consumption (hygiene / bio-security / bio-safety/ occupational safety / food safety etc.)
- Recommendations for regulation and legislation, more effective enforcement and international cooperation, including demand reduction

# Key points



- The total amount available for missions is **1.8 Mio €**
- Missions planned for 2024
- Potential countries and matching organisations will be proposed to the Global Project (GP) by a temporary **Alliance TAG**
- A **Letter of Interest** must be submitted by a governmental body to the GP to prove interest and ownership
- Appraisal missions are conducted by a **Head of Mission** and supported by GP staff to assess the match between the country's needs and what can be offered
- Consulting missions for the Facility will be conducted by **executing organisations** through a finance agreement
- Based on the mission design, job profiles for **Alliance experts** will be made available to Alliance members

Example of Benin, the first country to have submitted a letter of interest

A young brown monkey is the central focus, sitting on a large, weathered wooden log. The monkey has dark brown fur and a lighter face, looking directly at the camera with a curious expression. The background is filled with more wooden logs, some debris, and a piece of colorful fabric, suggesting a cluttered or possibly a market-like environment. The overall lighting is natural and somewhat dim, highlighting the textures of the wood and the monkey's fur.

# CONSULTATION TO STRENGTHEN POLICY FRAMEWORKS FOR PRIMARY PANDEMIC PREVENTION AT KEY WILDLIFE TRADE INTERFACES



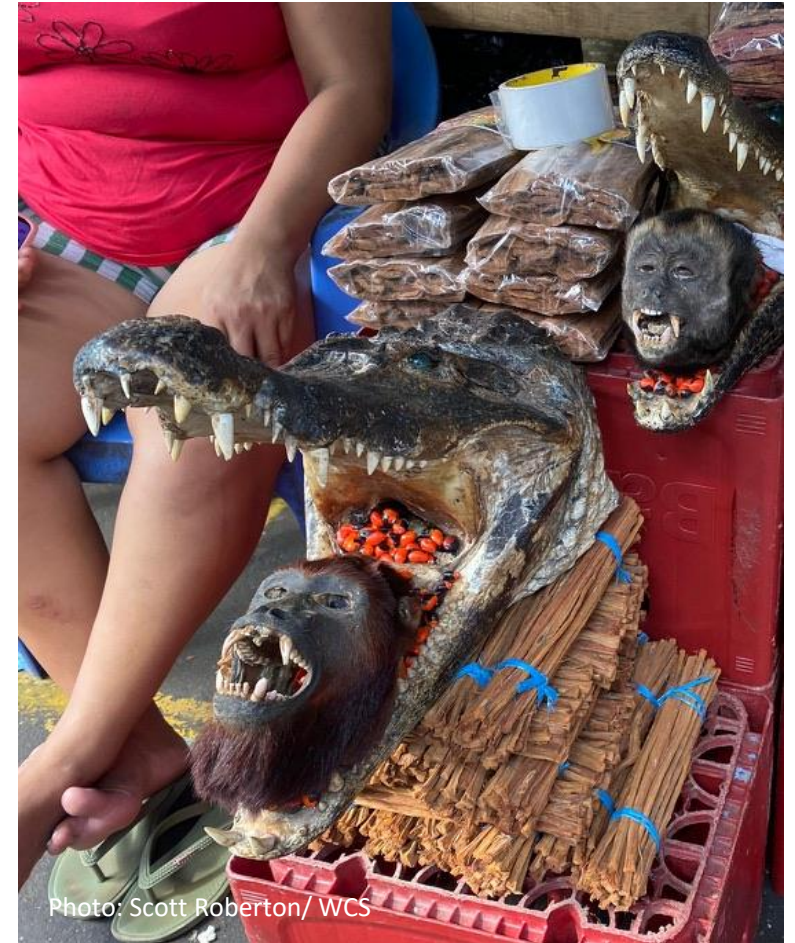
Wildlife  
Conservation  
Society

Photo: Musuk Nolte/ WCS Peru

# OBJECTIVE

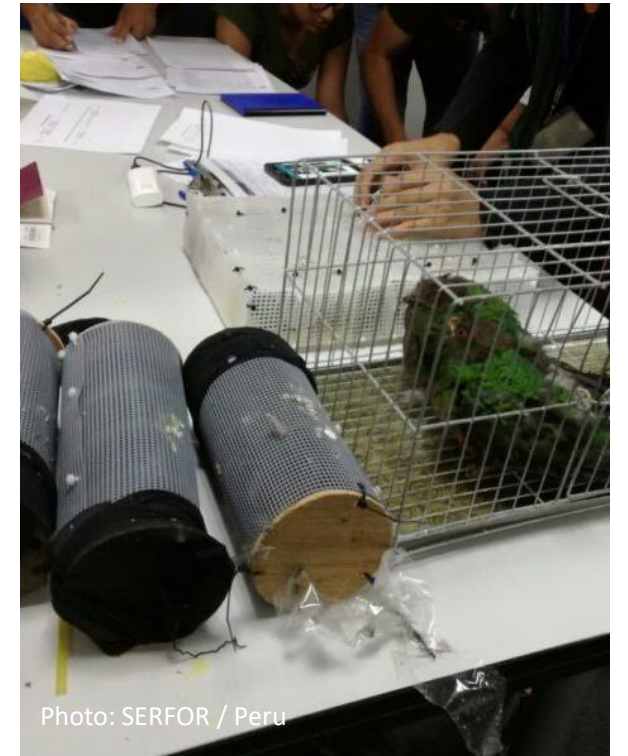
Elevate understanding of wildlife trade dynamics and critical control points for risk reduction of pathogen emergence along wildlife trade chains, to inform policy revisions that strengthen primary pandemic prevention in three priority countries.

**OUTCOME:** Recommendations produced for strategic policy changes that reduce risks for pathogen emergence from wildlife trade.



# Initial Focus Countries: Bolivia, Peru, and Guatemala

- Highly-biodiverse countries with large volumes of wildlife trade (legal & illegal)
- Governments have demonstrated interest in addressing health threats from wildlife trade (WT)
- Key challenges:
  - A dearth of information regarding the dynamics, structure and risks of illegal wildlife supply chains
  - Complex, poorly understood, and inconsistently implemented legal frameworks – health risks associated with WT
  - Limited international and inter-agency cooperation
  - Inadequate capacity in key enforcement and judicial agencies to CWT effectively
  - These are further compounded by the fact that IWT frequently occurs in the context of other serious crimes



- **In Bolivia**, WCS has worked since 1997 with national and regional governments and CSOs and recently to systematize IWT incidents, producing the first high-level analysis in the country.
  - >1700 illegal wildlife trade (IWT) incidents involving ~4500 live individuals in conditions that heighten risk for disease emergence and spillover (2010 -2020)
  - Support to Indigenous territories and protected areas to improve monitoring and response to IWT, community small animal health interventions and improved vicuña shearing practices
- **In Peru**, WCS has supported sustainable natural resource use and landscape management since 1986.
  - With support of WCS and other CSOs, Peru has included IWT as an organized crime
  - Recently received recognition as an official "Friend of the Peruvian CDC" for support of One Health efforts
- **In Guatemala**, since 1992, WCS has supported management of the Maya Biosphere Reserve, building local and national capacities, strengthening civil society, and supporting local communities and the government in conservation efforts
  - WCS collaborates with the government to support a One Health approach for disease prevention and control including establishment of a national One Health technical committee
  - WCS played a pivotal role in assisting the government in developing the first National CWT strategy issued in 2020



# Commencing January 2024:

- **Activity 1: Conduct appraisal missions in Bolivia, Guatemala, and Peru to identify knowledge and policy gaps for strengthening legislation to reduce risks of pathogen emergence from WT**
- **Activity 2: Create country-specific needs list for assistance to address gaps that will support the strengthening of regulations to reduce risks for pathogen emergence from WT**
- **Activity 3: Support Expert consultancies with Alliance members to address country-identified gaps**
  - WCS will work with relevant local stakeholders and authorities to draft Terms of References for expert support as identified in Activity 2.
  - Call for experts issued for Alliance members to fill these consultancy/advisory roles
  - Exact activities and deliverables will be defined through the consultations and needs list development (Activities 1 & 2) however, from our existing awareness of wildlife trade dynamics, mitigation efforts and challenges in Bolivia, Guatemala and Peru, activities might include:
    - In-depth analysis and detailed mapping of WT chains including links to epidemiological risks and identification of critical control points
    - Identification of locally relevant, realistic approaches to reducing risk at critical control points
    - Identification of key trade stakeholders, drivers for their participation and potential alternatives
    - Assisting the government in formulating their annual CITES report, the CITES implementation report, associations with zoonoses, and the report on illegal trade, valuable tools for understanding trade
    - Policy research on the interconnected risks posed to human, animal, and environmental health to determine recommendations and priority actions for spillover prevention that are most appropriate to each country's context
    - Biosecurity guidelines and guidelines on wildlife trade data collection and management (to increase capacity for analysis), and on disease evaluation for confiscated wildlife for formal adoption as national protocols
    - Identification of necessary processes and support for formalization of One Health and other multidisciplinary platforms that promote mitigation efforts



# Roles 1/3:



## Technical Advisory Group (TAG)

- A group of 6 Alliance members will support the GP in a TAG to identify potential countries and appropriate member organisations for the Facility.
- Every member of the Alliance can apply for the position, the GP will decide based on qualification (in a separate ToR) and regional/national expertise. The seats represent a region:
  - Asia
  - South East Asia
  - 2x Africa (south + east/ north + west)
  - South America
  - Central/North America
- Members of the TAG are not allowed to propose + vote their own organisations
- A short term contract (max. 6 months; 1 day/month) will be concluded with each member of the TAG

# Roles 2/3:



## Head of Mission

- After the identification of potential countries and a suitable organisation, an appraisal mission will be conducted per country by a designated and separately commissioned Head of Mission and supported by GP staff
- This person will be responsible for the mission design and formulation job profiles and the coordination of the overall mission

## Executing organisation

- Identified jointly by the GP and the TAG and commissioned by the GP
- Requirements: proven expertise in respective region/field of action, demonstrated capacity to perform the contract
- Separate MoU to clarify the relationship with GP, Alliance Experts and organisation

# Roles 3/3



## Alliance Experts

- Based on the mission design and required profile, the required team composition will be contracted from the Alliance membership
- Consultancy opportunities will be shared with all Alliance members for each mission.
- The contract of employment is concluded with the executive organisation.
- The remuneration is based on the GIZ salary scale.

# The Process of the Consultation Facility



**Thank you!**