**HUNTER CHAUCER PROGRAMME**

Benefits Realisation Summary FY 2019 - 2020

# Overview

## Background

The Hunter Chaucer Programme (HCP) aims to sustainably improve the ability of host country border authorities to tackle border crime and facilitate the movement of legitimate people and goods. It is overseen by the Department for International Development (DFID) and funded through Official Development Assistance (ODA) eligibility. In January 2016, Border Force International (BFI) secured ODA funding of £124.5m over 5 years (FY 2016-17 to FY 20-21) to develop targeting and profiling systems throughout developing countries that qualify for ODA funding.

## Development History 2019/2020

The following key areas have been established and have been under continued development over the 2019/2020 financial year.

1. Development of the established global infrastructure and platform across Europe, Asia, Africa and the Americas. These regions are now capable of delivering benefits in over 30 countries, together with an established support infrastructure for over 100 staff. ICT together with BFI have developed a partnership which includes a Programme Management Office (PMO) established to support, manage and govern all capability enhancement programmes effectively.
2. BFI identified and successfully aligned, both in-country and in the UK, the inordinate number of stakeholders with interests in border security outcomes. These included internal Home Office departments, wider HMG departments, in-country government departments and international bodies
3. Management of the appropriate governance and assurance through boards, internal audit (Operational Assurance Directorate), line reporting to International Directorate and external audit including DFID, Government Internal Audit Agency (GIAA) and Independent Commission for Aid Impact (ICAI).

## BFI’s Key Performance Measures

BFI have continued in the following key performance measures for HCP:

* increased capability and capacity to tackle border threat through the use of targeting and profiling methodologies in the host countries
* an increase in the quantity of illegal commodities seized
* an increase in the number of people intercepted for both immigration and goods offences
* a decrease in the number of illegal goods and people seized and detected at UK and EU ports
* evidence of increased operational coordination between partners and improved operational methods within host agencies
* an enhanced intelligence capability and dialogue between the UK and host countries

The programme expressed its expected benefits as Key Performance Indicators (KPI’s):

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Key Performance Indicator (KPI)** | **Qualitative** | **Quantitative** | **Both** |
| An increased capability and capacity to tackle border threats |  |  | **√** |
| An increase in the quantity of drugs and other illegal commodities seized |  | **√** |  |
| An increase in the number of drugs couriers intercepted |  | **√** |  |
| A decrease in the number of narcotics and other illegal goods seized at UK and EU ports |  | **√** |  |
| Evidence of increased operational co-ordination between partners and improved operational methods within host agencies | **√** |  |  |
| An enhanced intelligence capability and dialogue between the UK and host countries | **√** |  |  |

BFI FY 2019/2020 benefits realisation against key performance measures for HCP have now been made and are summarised in the section 2.

# Summary FY 2019/2020

## Introduction and Context

For the first three years of the HCP, much of the investment in resources (people, finance, technology, infrastructure) has been in setting up and establishing a global infrastructure capable of delivering the capability building required to deliver the anticipated benefits, identifying and aligning the many stakeholder interests and ensuring that this is underwritten through internal and independent assurance groups.

By the end of year four, it was expected that sustained growth in host capability to use systems would have had been achieved, identifiable core levels of expertise and capability across host border agencies across the full range of modes and at all ports in the host country existed and embedded robust relationships exist between Border Agencies that provides for regular operational and intelligence collaboration to identify mutual threats.

Acknowledgement is made of the environments in which these infrastructures and stakeholders operate. By default, the countries that require the greatest support (as identified through key ODA criteria of Gross National Income (GNI) per capita) also express other challenging criteria. These include safety concerns, operating from poor or very low-level border security platforms, challenges around language and communications, human rights issues, unaligned and diverse in-country departments and lack of engagement via formal agreements.

Similarly, corruption within public services in many target countries is prevalent which leads to promotion of poor practice, porous borders and directly threatens the ability to successful implement impacts and outcomes.

Acknowledgement is also made of the latter part of the 2019/2020 campaign the programme was impacted by the global spread of the COVD 19 pandemic. This has seen a number of projects postponed and activity reduced due to travel and work restrictions.

As a result, benefits realisation has been more limited than expected although acceleration in the pace of wider benefits realisation has been observed in 2019/2020.

## Results

The overall indication is that activity undertaken in the first 4 financial years, focused on setting up and establishing a global infrastructure, is now producing significant results in Hunter Chaucer objectives. Although results differ from region to region, and between agencies, it is worth acknowledging that environments in which the BFI operations are being carried out also differ significantly.

* There is tangible evidence that the majority of the host country’s capacity and capabilities to tackle Border threats has increased in the aviation and maritime areas.
* There is tangible evidence that there has been a significant increase, within the majority of the host countries, in the quantity of illegal commodities seized upon previous HC years.
* There is tangible evidence that there has been a significant increase in the number of people targeted interceptions upon previous HC years.
* Further information is needed to show that the benefits realised overseas that have led to significant rise in interception of people or a significant decrease in illegal goods and people seized and detected UK ports of arrival.
* There is tangible evidence that benefits have increased as operational co-ordination between partners stakeholder/partner has improved.
* There is growing evidence that enhanced intelligence capability and dialogue has increased upon previous HC years. However, the low numbers of activity and seizures within the UK as a result HC and host country intelligence sharing indicates that this is an area for significant improvement.