

Darwin Initiative for the Survival of Species

Half Year Report Form

Project Title	A national plan for carnivore conservation in Tanzania
Country	Tanzania
Organisation	Institute of Zoology, Zoological Society of London
Project Ref. No.	11-007
Report date	Apr 2003-Sep 2003

1. Outline progress over the last 6 months against the agreed baseline timetable for the project (if your project has started less than 6 months ago, please report on the period since start up).

Progress has been to schedule and the following outputs been achieved:

- Building of the centre has been finished, wired for internet access, and staff have moved into their new offices. The centre has been a frequent feature for visitors to TAWIRI headquarters in Arusha.
- The first workshop was conducted in Apr 2003 to disseminate information about the centre and gather feedback from key stakeholders.
- The project administrator has been identified and will be appointed in Oct 2003.
- The first newsletter has been produced to disseminate information about the project.
- Interviews have been conducted to identify for two research assistants (graphic design: Jerome Kimaro and GIS: Alexander Lobora). They will start in Nov 2003 and Jan 2004 respectively.
- A number of PR outputs have been achieved. The workshop was widely covered by the national press. We have established a new web site profiling the cheetahs in the Serengeti as sent in through our Cheetah Watch Campaign – www.wcs.org/meetthecheetahs. We hope to use this website to encourage more people to submit information by posting contributors names under the cheetahs they have seen. Various articles have been written for newsletters and web sites, both nationally and internationally.

2. Give details of any notable problems or unexpected developments that the project has encountered over the last 6 months. Explain what impact these could have on the project and whether the changes will effect the budget and timetable of project activities. Have any of these issues been discussed with the Department and if so, have changes been made to the original agreement?

The cost of networking the building was not included in the original budget, neither were costs of landscaping exterior or for security. Some of these costs have been raised through an additional grant from the Wildlife Conservation Society, who have agreed to support the project since July 2003. TAWIRI have also assisted with the costs of the landscaping. There is still a small amount outstanding that has yet to be raised, and we are taking measures to do this. This has no implications for our Darwin Initiative budget and timetable.

At the start of this project we changed our priorities to ensure the involvement of our stakeholders early on. This was to ensure sufficient data collection on which our project depends, and the requirements of which came out as a key criticism in our first review. We therefore promoted the first workshop to take place ahead of schedule, with the result that we are now behind schedule on some of our training and PR targets including appointing masters

students and our newsletters.

3. Are there any other issues you wish to raise relating to the project or to Darwin's management, monitoring, or financial procedures?

In the first assessment of this project, the need to demonstrate that we will be able to collect sufficient data to ensure the success of the project was a key criticism. We have made this our main priority over the coming year, and are appointing a network of carnivore representatives across Tanzania who will be responsible for encouraging contributors to send in information. In our opinion the interest and will is there, and we have been overwhelmed by the positive feedback we have had about the project, however we appreciate that we need to ensure constant feedback to ensure that contributors send us data.

Please send your **completed form by 31 October each year per email** to Stefanie Halfmann, Darwin Initiative M&E Project Manager, Email: stefanie.halfmann@ed.ac.uk