

Darwin Initiative

Half Year Report (due 31 October each year)

PLEASE NOTE: Due to the increased number of reports expected in 2005, we will not be able to confirm receipt of reports but will contact you individually should any questions arise

Project Ref. No	162/12/007
Project Title	Afi Mountain Wildlife Sanctuary Conservation Programme
Country(ies)	Nigeria
UK Organisation	ResourceAfrica, P.O. Box 198, Cambridge CB3 0TF
Collaborator(s)	Cross River State Forestry Commission, Nigeria Conservation Foundation, Pandrillus, Wildlife Conservation Society, Fauna & Flora International
Report date:	October 2005 (April –September 2005)
Report No. (HYR 1/2/3/4)	Year 3
Project website	N/A

1. Outline progress over the last 6 months (April – September) 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).

The following progress was made against each project output during the period under review in accordance with the workplan for the third and final year of Darwin funding.

Capacity Building – as part of the strategy to enhance the effectiveness of the protection and monitoring team and to involve the local communities further in the protection of the Sanctuary, 10 community scouts were hired to work alongside the Forestry Commission Rangers. These scouts were trained in various aspects of the protection and management of the Sanctuary including how to use of the Geographical Positioning System (GPS) technology to track and document monitoring data. Community delegates from the 16 communities around the Sanctuary were also trained on how to organise meetings with the entire communities, how to communicate messages related to the protection of the Sanctuary, how to record minutes of the meetings, and on how to assist the communities in identifying appropriate support for the protection of the Sanctuary.

Support to field team/sanctuary protection and monitoring – new patrol equipment and uniform were acquired for the rangers and scout team during the period under consideration. Intensive patrols were also organised during this period. Several hunting sheds were destroyed and dozens of snares and shot gun shells collected and disposed of. A hunter who killed a drill monkey was reported to the police and investigation is still in progress as the suspect absconded. The police has declared him wanted and has also requested members of the public to pass on information on his where about. The Sanctuary management opened up new patrol trails which allowed the core area of the Sanctuary to be easily patrolled.

Sanctuary infrastructure, headquarters and office equipment – Activities under this section revolved around enhancing the ecological integrity of the sanctuary through maintaining its boundaries and clearing out pillars particularly in areas where encroachment is highest. The section of the boundary cleared during this period has been marked with over 800 bush mango seedlings collected from Pandrillus nursery. With the dry season approaching, planting of indigenous seedlings as markers will be suspended to reduce the mortality rate. During this period, 5 signposts were erected at strategic locations around the Sanctuary. The facilities of

