

Darwin Initiative for the Survival of Species

Half Year Report (due 31 October each year)

Project Ref. No.	14 - 033
Project Title	<i>Darwin Training Programmes for Integrated Protected Area Management: Ghana</i>
Country(ies)	Ghana
UK Organisation	Living Earth Foundation
Collaborator(s)	Living Earth Foundation Ghana (LEFG)
Report date	<i>11 October 2006</i>
Report No. (HYR 1/2/3/4)	<i>HY1</i>
Project website	<i>www.livingearth.org.uk</i>

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).

-Monitoring and evaluation as above (timing: Continuous).

The project manager travelled to Ghana last September to monitor the progress of the project. He had meetings with the Living Earth Foundation Ghana team and the Director of the Wildlife Division WD and his advisory team.

-Preparation of Training Course Book (timing: Month 7 to 13) & Direct training and ToT for WD staff (timing: Month 7 to 30) & Preparation of Community Liaison Guide (timing: Month 7 to 17) & Publication of Training Course Book (timing: Month 15)

The training consultant has been identified and contacted in the UK.

A ToR for the training consultancy activities has been developed in consultation with the training consultant.

There were 3 working meetings between WD and LEFG over the last 3 months with the purpose of defining the specific approach of the training courses. There is a high level of sensitivity at the WD concerning the potential 'interference' that a project supported by an international donor could create in their own policies. LEFG and LEF UK have been discussing these issues with the WD in a frank dialogue. A consensus on policies and approach has been agreed for the implementation of the courses.

LEFG has recruited a new Training Manager (TM) to work on its training and educational programmes, including the Darwin project (where the TM will provide liaison between the training consultant from the UK, the LEFG team and the Wildlife Division with the objectives of preparing the modules, organizing the courses and preparing the publication of handbooks). The recruitment process was subject to unavoidable delay and the Training Manager was only able to take up her post at the beginning of last September. This delay has impacted the timetable concerning the implementation of the training activities.

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 affect the budget and timetable of project activities.

The delay experienced on the recruitment of the TM has delayed the timetable for the *Preparation of Training Course Book* (timing: Month 7 to 13) & *Direct training and ToT for WD staff* (timing: Month 7 to 30) & *Preparation of Community Liaison Guide* (timing: Month 7 to 17) & *Publication of Training Course Book* (timing: Month 15).

As a result of the delay the preparation of the community liaison guide and the training course book will be finished in February 2007, the ToT courses will start in December 2006 and the training courses for communities will begin in March 2007. The Training course book will be printed in January 2007 and the Community Liaison Guide will be printed in March 2007. However the general schedule and the implementation of the actions planned for the 2005/2007 won't be affected.

Have any of these issues been discussed with the Darwin Secretariat and if so, have changes been made to the original agreement?

The delays have not been discussed with the Darwin Secretariat. Despite these delays, the implementation of the key milestones will be within the financial year. It is anticipated that time will be recovered during the delivery of the training courses, thus keeping the overall project on schedule.

We will be closely monitoring the evolution of project implementation in Ghana and specifically the performance – linked with the project's actions - of the new TM of LEFG until January. In the event of continuing delays we will contact the DI Secretariat formally to discuss changes in the project schedule.

Discussed with the DI Secretariat: **no/yes, in..... (month/yr)**

No

Changes to the project schedule/workplan: **no/yes, in.....(month/yr)**

No

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

If you were asked to provide a response to this year's annual report review with your next half year report, please attach your response to this document.

Comments on the Training Need Assessment (TNA):

Despite of the little primary information within the TNA's content, this document supplies - from section 2 to 6 - practical information on the WD structure and about the background on the CREMA concept that helped to design the modules of contents. Additionally, the section 2.1 provides a clear insight of environmental challenges perceived from within the WD and the section 7 presents information on an institutional evaluation focussed on the WD.

The section 10 of the TNA helped to adjust the terms of the partnership between the WD, LEFG and LEF UK through a useful identification of the WD's needs (related to the potential support from external bodies on CREMA implementation and future publications).

The mentioned TNA's inputs has been used for the design of the ToR of the Training Consultant and as a discussion baseline during the meetings on training definitions between LEFG and WD.

The new Training Manager is reviewing the TNA and researching for additional information linked with the document's references and will work on the definition of the final training scheme – with the WD's team - using the TNA as a general guidance. Finally, there are more specifications on the training needs that have been identified through the workings meetings (some limitations or needs have been informally exposed during the recent institutional interactions).

Please note: Any planned modifications to your project schedule/workplan or budget should not be discussed in this report but raised with the Darwin Secretariat directly.

Please send your **completed form by 31 October each year per email** to Stefanie Halfmann, Darwin Initiative M&E Programme, stefanie.halfmann@ed.ac.uk . The report should be between 1-2 pages maximum. **Please state your project reference number in the header of your email message.**