

Darwin Initiative: Half Year Report

(due 31 October 2012)

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| Project Ref No: | 19-013 |
| Project Title: | Research to Policy: building capacity for conservation through poverty alleviation |
| Country(ies) | Uganda |
| UK Organisation | IIED |
| Collaborator(s) | ITFC, JGI, ACODE |
| Project Leader | Dilys Roe |
| Report date | October 2012 |
| Report No. | HYR 1 |
| Project website | http://povertyandconservation.info/en/pages/pclg-darwin-initiative-project-research-policy-building-capacity-conservation-through-0 |

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).

Project start date: 1 July 2012.

Project inception/ Research Planning Workshop: The inception workshop was held from the 12th to the 14th of July 2012. The location was changed from Kabale to Kampala so that more national stakeholders were able to attend and involved introducing the project as well as making initial plans for the research and advocacy work. The project partners (IIED, JGI, ACODE and ITFC) reviewed the research activities and project outputs with national and local stakeholders. Roles and responsibilities were agreed between the project partners.

Inception workshop report: A workshop report was produced in consultation with the project partners and is available to download on the project website [<http://bit.ly/XSKEvg>].

Raising awareness about the project: In order to raise awareness, a press release was made to Ugandan journalists, introducing the Uganda Poverty and Conservation Learning Group, the purpose of the Darwin project and the workshop report <http://www.iied.org/uganda-project-strengthen-policies-link-poverty-conservation>, this was picked up by a few media outlets including "News from Africa" http://www.newsfromafrica.org/newsfromafrica/articles/art_13548.html.

Preparation for field surveys on resource use behaviour: ITFC held consultative meetings with local stakeholders including local leaders, all Community Conservation Rangers (CCRs) and the Law Enforcement Warden in Buhoma in August. This introduced the project and built rapport. ITFC has also conducted meetings with wardens and rangers (who will be collaborating on the project) at all ranger posts to explain the project's purpose.

Literature review: The research team is carrying out a literature review, focused on previous studies that have looked into different resource user groups around Bwindi Impenetrable National Park (BINP). In addition members of the wider project team are contributing a book chapter titled "Linking protected area conservation with poverty alleviation: an evaluation of ICD at Bwindi Impenetrable National Park, Uganda" for a book called "National Parks: Sustainable Development, Conservation Strategies and Environmental Impacts" due to be published by Nova Publishers.

Development of methods: The methods for the project are currently being designed by the

project team and Uganda partners and will shortly be reviewed by scientific advisors from Imperial and Cambridge.

Ranger Based Monitoring Data: Bwindi Rangers around BINP are sharing data about unauthorised resource user groups with the project's lead research partner ITFC. A monthly arrest form has been designed to document profiles of unauthorised resource users, which will help to understand trends in resource users around the park and where they are located. Meetings are being carried with rangers every month to discuss the challenges involved in filling the monthly arrest forms and gain insights helpful to the project.

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.

No unexpected developments – the delayed start to the project was agreed with LTS via a formal change request in March 2012. .

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

Yes – deferred start date to July 2012 and corresponding amendment to budget phasing.

Discussed with LTS: **no/yes, in March 2012**

Formal change request submitted: **yes, in March 2012**

Received confirmation of change acceptance **yes in March 2012**

3. Do you expect to have any significant (eg more than £5,000) underspend in your budget for this year?

Yes No

If yes, and you wish to request a carryforward of funds, this should be done as soon as possible. It would help Defra manage Darwin funds more efficiently if you could give an indication of how much you expect this request might be for.

Estimated carry forward request: £

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

Not at this stage

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.

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

Please send your **completed form by email** to Eilidh Young at Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.uk. The report should be between 1-2 pages maximum. **Please state your project reference number in the header of your email message eg Subject: 17-075 Darwin Half Year Report**