

# Darwin Initiative: Half Year Report

(due 31 October 2013)

<b>Project Ref No</b>	Ref # 20-011
<b>Project Title</b>	Community-based conservation and livelihoods development within Kenya's Boni-Dodori forest ecosystem
<b>Country(ies)</b>	Kenya
<b>UK Organisation</b>	WWF - UK
<b>Collaborator(s)</b>	ZSL, KWS, KFS, Local communities
<b>Project Leader</b>	Kiunga Kareko
<b>Report date</b>	31 October 2013
<b>Report No. (HYR 1/2/3/4)</b>	HYR 1
<b>Project website</b>	<a href="https://www.wwf.basecamphq.com">https://www.wwf.basecamphq.com</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).**

**Project Inception Workshop:** To launch the project, harmonise expectations and understanding, a Darwin Initiative Project Inception Workshop was delivered successfully. The two local communities (Aweer and Ijara) were represented and contributed significantly, clearly outlining the role they will play during project implementation. The Project Steering Committee was re-constituted adding additional project stakeholders, i.e. Fisheries Department, North Coast Conservation Ltd. (NCC) and Kibodo Trust. The two communities are also represented in the committee.

**Output 1: Activity 1.1:** *Conduct resource mapping &/or collate & analyse available information on local indigenous knowledge of forest resources.* **Update:** Meetings were held to review and validate an existing forest resource map produced by Kibodo Trust in conjunction with Kenya Secure Project and WWF. The lack of inclusion of local indigenous knowledge of forest resources was identified as a big gap which will be addressed through activities 1.3 and 4.1 and the resource map updated.

**Activity 1.2:** *Establish a standardised biodiversity database.* **Update:** WWF & ZSL held planning meetings with Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) and National Museums of Kenya (NMK) scientists. KWS agreed to host the database and the initial agreement was reached on how data and information will be stored and accessed.

**Activity 1.3** *Conduct biodiversity assessments – human plant use.* **Update:** This activity was carried out together with Activity 4.1 (therefore please see Output 4: Activity 4.1 below).

**Output 2: Activity 2.1:** *Carry out a Human Wildlife Conflict (HWC) assessment.* **Update:** Through stakeholders meetings, community members participated and provided information on HWC and helped map out the areas worst affected in six Ijara and five Aweer villages, respectively and with ten key informants (men, women and youth), KWS and KFS representatives in each village. Increased understanding of types of HWC locally, existing compensation schemes, HWC hotspots, roles and responsibilities of communities and KWS in identifying, addressing and mitigating HWC was achieved.

**Activity 2.2:** *Establish a system for recording HWC.* **Update:** Stakeholder meetings examined current HWC reporting and recording systems used by KWS, Kibodo Trust and NCC, and proposed a workable system useable by all. A protocol was agreed for use in the Boni-Dodori area

with consensus and commitment gained from all stakeholders, especially local community representatives, to record & report HWC cases to relevant authorities for action and/or compensation.

**Activity 2.4:** *Conduct an exposure/cross visit (on HWC).* Update: Deferred to Q3 (Oct – Dec 2013) to allow finalisation of Activities 2.1 & 2.2 & a clearer understanding of HWC to emerge and therefore better inform identification of appropriate sites for any exposure visit.

**Output 3: Activity 3.2:** *Establishment of multi-partner/community stewardship teams & capacity building of existing/establishment of new community structures.* Update: Capacity building is a continuous and ongoing activity, during the reporting period the Ijara CFA and AWER Group were provided with training on participatory forest management and effective advocacy.

**Output 4: Activity 4.1 (1.1 & 1.3):** *Carry out capacity building in participatory appraisal and social survey techniques (and human plant use survey).* Update: Documenting and developing an inventory of local forest biodiversity has been initiated with the training of 15 community, government agency and NGO representatives in participatory appraisal and social survey techniques. This “team” then undertook participatory appraisal of indigenous knowledge on biodiversity with the results being validated with six community elders. An inventory of biodiversity (species of plants/ trees, animals and birds) and their economic importance was generated.

**Output 5: Update:** No activities under this output were planned during the reporting period as the output has been hitherto achieved through another complimentary project. On **Activity 5.2: Boni-Dodori ecosystem management plan:** WWF staff, community representatives and other stakeholders participated in the development and launch of the KWS-led Kiunga and Boni-Dodori Conservation Area Management Plan.

**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 project activities did not start as anticipated due to staffing issues which resulted in a delay of about two months. However the activity schedule is more or less back on track, and has had no major impact on the overall activity schedule or the budget.

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

As any issues were felt to be of minor significance they were not raised directly with LTS International but dealt with by the project management team.

**Discussed with LTS:** no/yes, in..... (month/yr)

**Formal change request submitted:** no/yes, in.....(month/yr)

**Received confirmation of change acceptance** no/yes in.....(month/yr)

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

Yes  **No**

If yes, and you wish to request a carry forward 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:** £ N/A

**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](mailto: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**