



Darwin Initiative: Half Year Report

(due 31 October 2014)

Project Ref No	20-023
Project Title	An integrated approach to enhancing socio-ecological resilience in coastal Mozambique
Country(ies)	Mozambique
Lead Organisation	Zoological Society of London
Collaborator(s)	Associação do Meio Ambiente (AMA), Bioclimate, Research & Development Ltd. (Bioclimate), Coastal Oceans Research and Development in the Indian Ocean (CORDIO), Faculdade de Ciências Sociais e Humanas - Universidade Nova da Lisboa (FCSH-UNL), Universidade Lúrio (UniLúrio)
Project Leader	<i>Dr Nicholas Hill</i>
Report date and number (eg HYR3)	<i>HYR2</i>
Project website	<i>Upcoming</i>

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

The below outlines activities undertaken and progress achieved in the past 6 months (April – September 2014) against the project Outputs:

Output 1: CCPs with three user groups and integrating women formally established in two pilot villages and supported to develop and implement co-management plans through (a) the delivery of training courses targeting CCP members and supporting institutions (AMA, IDPPE, District Service of Economic Activities – DSEA) and (b) the collection and feedback of relevant biological and socioeconomic data.

- Presentation of biological and socioeconomic results back to the communities and local authorities ongoing.
- Diagnostic analysis of Community Fisheries Councils (CCP) creation in project sites undertaken with IDPPE, and preliminary selection of CCP participants undertaken by community members. Current nominated CCP representatives include 10 men and 5 women in Lalane, and 14 men and 5 women in Nsangue Ponta. This is work in progress and represents a better gender ratio than most traditional CCPs. The ratio may change further following additional activities supporting this output, as outlined below.
- Communication plan developed and in place to address CCP creation process – particularly for issues of gender.
- Resource User Groups in development for intertidal harvesters consisting almost exclusively of women. These Resource User Groups are being integrated into the new CCPs.
- Resource mapping and habitat mapping of intertidal resources completed.
- Cross-visits to other sites with CCPs to learn lessons and share experiences undertaken.
- Training of project extensionists in marine biology and co-management of marine resources, with a focus on governance and gender undertaken in collaboration with the responsible government agency the Institute for the Development of Small Scale

Fisheries (IDPPE) and project partners.

- Exchange visit of community leaders to Madagascar in collaboration with Blue Ventures (that has already visited and assessed the project sites) to raise awareness on marine resources management and sustaining fishers' income (initially planned in Nov 2014 and postponed to Feb/March 2015 due to Blue Ventures agenda for key activities and availability).
- Mapping of octopus trading ongoing, with a view to understanding whether markets can cope with impact of octopus management within the area (spikes in catches following closures – as experienced by Blue Ventures).
- CPUE monitoring ongoing, with great information being collected by fishery and by landing site by the project biologist.

Output 2: Equitable and robust Community-PES schemes reinforcing the implementation of co-management plans and supported by local authorities and private sector actors

- Presentation of Community-PES concept to project extensionists and discussion of potential schemes.
- Contact with tourism industry initiated and ongoing.
- Workshops between ZSL and Bioclimate undertaken based on results of early surveys to identify potential Community-PES schemes, and scoping work for these schemes in progress, with four draft schemes identified, and scored against various selection criteria to produce a priority list.
- Training on governance and integration of good governance plan and communication plan in place for community management, which is essential for any Community-PES scheme.
- Development of local stakeholder group in process, and plan for establishing broader steering committee (which would include EC delegation) in progress.
- Partnership with Fauna & Flora International on Oil & Gas marine offsets project + Ecosystem Services Dependencies project (initiated and ongoing) – with a view to trialling a marine offset with funds coming into our Trust Fund. Also in discussion with IUCN about their Fair Coasts 2 initiative (Fair Coasts 1 was part of match funding for this Darwin project).

Output 3: VSLAs established and Village Agents trained increasing the capacity of villagers to manage income from PES and improve living conditions, and supporting investment in new sustainable enterprises

- Four VSLAs established in the two villages, with a total of 34 men and 58 women members (photo on right).
- Three other VSLAs formed and due to start training and saving in the next few weeks.



- Strategy for linking VSLAs, Resource User Groups and CCPs developed.

Output 4: New sustainable enterprises developed through the provision of training and linking to relevant markets, increasing levels of livelihood diversification.

- Trialling a market garden initiative with a women's group in Lalane (photo on right). Oversight and assessment of this group ongoing with a view to replicating to other groups.



- Identified oyster aquaculture as a possible livelihood, and currently exploring technical aspects of this with in-house ZSL expertise – to be linked with Community-PES.

- Discussions with CocoArt in Kenya to explore opportunities for similar enterprise in project sites. Clear opportunities, and potential design and marketing consultant from CocoArt has developed a proposal. This is beyond the scope of this Darwin project, but we are exploring matched funding opportunities, and have some possible CSR interests that we are currently pursuing.

- Scoping for flipflop recycling and engaging with Ocean Sole (the FlipFlop Recycling Company) undertaken. Providing a supply to the Kenya-based organisation does not look feasible due to export costs and issues, and the fact that Ocean Sole are currently flooded with supply but struggling with finding sufficient demand. In discussion with CocoArt (above), we may be able to build in using waste flipflops in their designs.

In response to reviewer comments for previous Annual Report:

- Community-PES activities have primarily been focused on two areas:
 - o Establishment of appropriate governance structures at a community level. This has required detailed consultation both with appropriate government agencies (IDPPE) and with communities, as well as detailed training of the project implementing partner AMA. We have developed a communication plan specifically to address these concerns.
 - o Scoping of potential schemes. Through some initial field surveys, followed by two-day Community-PES workshop in Edinburgh between ZSL and Bioclimate staff, we explored potential interventions appropriate for Community-PES. We identified four possible interventions to address some of the direct concerns, and discussed appropriate timing and phasing of these events in the communities. These schemes were scored against various considerations for suitability and feasibility, and then prioritised based on these scores. No-take zones are an obvious end-goal for a Community-PES scheme, but one that is reasonably complicated. In order to build community support and confidence in these fairly fractured communities, we will start with something more feasible that is likely to yield more immediate benefits (i.e. can involve smaller sub-groups of direct beneficiaries). One such scheme is to develop an oyster aquaculture scheme in the shallow intertidal areas, where small groups of female fishers will be asked to (a) give up mosquito net fishing, and (b) enforce a no-mosquito net fishing zone, to help address the issue of illegal mosquito net fishing and initiate concepts involved with marine protected areas in a voluntary capacity. We will start with a small women's group, and as it progresses we will recruit additional people to the group and expand the size of the no-mosquito net fishing zone. More details on these schemes and on the rationale for the schemes will be provided in the Annual Report.

- Clearer strategy to mainstream gender. To address this issue we have implemented the following:
 - o Undertook a training course in July with all project staff, that covered marine ecology and included a significant amount on good governance and representation – how to avoid elite capture and ensure gender equality.
 - o Developed a communication plan and process to ensure that female fishers and traders are properly represented in CCPs, and to avoid elite capture. This includes ensuring each type of fishery (as identified through the household censuses, socioeconomic surveys, and CPUE surveys) are appropriately represented in Resource User Groups that are linked to the CCP.
 - o Reviewed the CCP initiation process and improved systems to mainstream gender in these traditionally male dominated organisations – initial results to this strategy are encouraging with Darwin project initiated CCPs having a higher ratio of women than usual.
 - o Contracted a gender specialist to develop a gender strategy for all AMA activities, and to provide clear guidance and more detailed training. Results and the strategy will be provided in the Annual Report.

Other news

- Rebecca Short started at Imperial College London and ZSL as a PhD student on 1st October. Rebecca's thesis will be investigating the biological and socioeconomic impact of mosquito net fishing in northern Mozambique, with a view to developing specific policy advice to tackle this highly controversial issue, and provide more detailed information that is currently lacking on the trade-off between biological impacts and socioeconomic role of mosquito net fishing. Rebecca is co-supervised by Professor EJ Milner-Gulland, Dr Marcus Rowcliffe, Dr Nicholas Hill and Dr Sergio Rosendo (Nick is Darwin PI and Sergio is partner on the DI project).

2a. 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.

Although the project is progressing well, as evidenced by Section 1 of this report, northern Mozambique remains a very challenging place to work. Fieldwork has at times been delayed by multiple incidences of malaria, major floods, changes in staff, and administration issues – all of which have been reported in the last annual report. More recently there have been incidences of robbery resulting in the loss of a project laptop. Additionally, the introduction of the European Commission project has come with its own challenges in terms of adjusting administrative procedures and practices. Whilst this has at times been challenging, as yet the project is more or less on track in terms of completing project activities. However, when combined with some other challenges such as the bureaucratic process of establishing CCPs, and the challenges of setting up appropriate larger-scale governance structures necessary for developing co-management plans, there are some concerns about the trade-off between completing activities and achieving the quality and impact that we are aiming for. For instance, whilst we can establish a CCP, ensuring that it is set up with appropriate governance structure and using approaches that are replicable, factoring in key considerations like mainstreaming gender, is time consuming and requires encouraging change more broadly than simply within the community. With some key activities targeted within the next six months, including site visits and assessments by project partners, we will be able to discuss our plans and strategy to addressing this in the Annual Report.

The overall scope and outcomes of the project remain totally feasible and achievable. Because of the additional European Commission financing that we have received, we also feel that we can still achieve the outcomes and impact within budget.

2b. Have any of these issues been discussed with LTS International and if so, have changes been made to the original agreement?

Discussed with LTS: No

Formal change request submitted: No

Received confirmation of change acceptance No

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

Yes No Estimated underspend: £

3b. If yes, then you need to consider your project budget needs carefully as it is unlikely that any requests to carry forward funds will be approved this year. Please remember that any funds agreed for this financial year are only available to the project in this financial year.

If you anticipate a significant underspend because of justifiable changes within the project and would like to talk to someone about the options available this year, please indicate below when you think you might be in a position to do this and what the reasons might be:

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

AMA, our implementing partner in Mozambique is reporting to us (on the Darwin and EC co-funded project) but also to our partner Bioclimate (our partner on EC-Darwin project, but they also have their own GPAF-funded project for which AMA reports to them direct). It appears that two 2013 receipts were reported to both Bioclimate and ZSL (therefore, to Defra in the first year report). These receipts were meant to be reported to Bioclimate only. The amount over-reported is £850. In the first year report we submitted to Darwin we reported an underspend of £2,621.45 when the actual underspend should have been £3,471.45.

However, two other receipts dated from 2013 were not reported either to ZSL or Bioclimate and therefore not accounted for in the Darwin accounts for Year 1 when they should have been. These two receipts total £2,400 which decreases our underspend from £3,471.45 down to £1,071.45. We appreciate that the reporting year has been closed, and our financial report has been accepted for the first year. Yet, we would like to request that we can adjust our financial report to account for these issues, so that AMA does not find themselves out of pocket. As we reported in our first annual report, there have been a few challenges with changes to AMA staff, illness and weather, followed by the start of the EC project which obviously had an impact on the administrative system. These issues have created a challenge for enhancing the administrative capacity of AMA which we have been working hard to achieve in the last six months. Nonetheless we are now in a much stronger position, which is why we have been able to uncover these issues. There are a few outstanding points we are trying to iron out, particularly in relation to how AMA is accounting for banking fees and taxes.

The ZSL project coordinator Jeremy Huet recruited in June 2014 under the European Commission contract will be working in Mozambique with the AMA finance department from November 3rd to December 12th to sort out unreported banking fees and income taxes from August 2013 and March 2014. If you agree it is possible for us to adjust our last financial report, we will send a Change Request by mid-December.

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 can be discussed in this report but **should also be raised with LTS International through a Change Request.**

Please send your **completed report by email** to Eilidh Young at Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.uk . The report should be between 2-3 pages maximum. **Please state your project reference number in the header of your email message eg Subject: 20-035 Darwin Half Year Report**