

Darwin Initiative Main/Post/D+ Project Half Year Report (due 31st October 2017)

Project reference	23-008
Project title:	Upgrading and Broadening the South-Pacific International Coconut Genebank
Country(ies)/territory(ies)	Fiji, Papua New Guinea (PNG) and Samoa
Lead organisation	Bioversity International
Partner(s)	SPC, Governments of Fiji, PNG & Samoa, CIRAD, APCC, GCDT
Project leader	Dr Alexia Prades ¹
Report date and number (e.g., HYR3)	HYR2
Project website/blog/social media etc.	Announcements are carried on http://www.cogentnetwork.org/ ²

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 following are the activities from the original proposal on which progress has been made during the reporting period:

	Activity	Status
1.2	State of the art on the climate change threats and GIS in the South Pacific countries. Search for climate change and sea level rise forecast in the future 40 years. Search for mapping of current or past coconut trees plantation at any scale. (2 MSc)	ongoing
1.3	If not available, creation of a map of the coconut cultivation area in the countries targeted by the project	ongoing
1.4	Creation of the maps of the current and future endangered coconut cultivated areas in the Pacific.	ongoing
2.3	ITEx n°1 build a protocol and write guidelines for the identification/characterization/ collection and transport of the new accessions (1 PhD). The team also make a list of the current and potentially interesting cultivars for the international collection	ongoing
2.5	Workshop (combined to the 3rd SC Meeting) to communicate, discuss and endorse the results of the mapping, the guidelines, finalize the list of cultivars and design a plan of collect.	Meeting deferred to 6-10 Nov in, Samoa. Prime Minister of Samoa will inaugurate meeting and has offered conferencing and other support.
2.6	Validation of the guidelines, protocols, list and plan of collect by the 3 rd SC. Preparation of the work-plan for year 2.	Meeting deferred to 6-10 Nov in, Samoa. Prime Minister of Samoa will inaugurate meeting and has offered conferencing and other

¹¹ Vincent Johnson of Bioversity International assumes direct grant management from Alexia Prades of CIRAD in November 2017

² Communications consultant will be starting in November 2017 to establish project IntraNet within project pages on COGENT website, to expand on the communications vehicles internally and externally

		support.
2.7	Official presentation of the project at the 7 th Governing Body Session of the Treaty	Videoconference linking meeting in Samoa with Treaty meeting in Rwanda , prior interactions with the Treaty, the project has supplied the Treaty Secretary and other participants with some briefing material, and also interacted with the Treaty focal point for PNG (Birte Konolong) to develop a joint statement on ICG status.
2.8	Preparing and recording of the accessions in CGRD (COGENT database) (1 MSc)	not started
2.9	Preparation of the 3 sites or quarantine areas for the newly collected accessions (nurseries and sanitary issues)	ongoing

2a. Give details of any notable problems or unexpected developments/lessons learnt 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.

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 issues were discussed with LTS international during the reporting period; the issues raised in the review of Y1 Annual Report are addressed in Annex I_Response to Y1 Annual Report Review

Formal change request submitted: Not with this report. Bioversity International has submitted three change requests before (November 2016, May 2017 and June 2017)

Received confirmation of change acceptance see above

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

Yes **No** x Estimated underspend: £

3b. If yes, then you need to consider your project budget needs carefully. 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, please submit a rebudget Change Request as soon as possible. There is no guarantee that Defra will agree a rebudget so please ensure you have enough time to make appropriate changes if necessary.

4. 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. Additionally, if you were funded under R23 and asked to provide further information by your first half year report, please attach your response as a separate 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 e.g. Subject: 22-035 Darwin Half Year Report**