



**Darwin Initiative Main/Post/D+ Project
Half Year Report
(due 31 October 2016)**

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| Project Ref No | 23-017 |
| Project Title | Building resilient landscapes and livelihoods in Burkina Faso's shea parklands. |
| Country(ies)/Territory(ies) | Burkina Faso |
| Lead Organisation | BirdLife International |
| Partner(s) | Naturama, RSPB, VBN, Trinity College Dublin, University of Ouagadougou, Global Shea Alliance |
| Project Leader | Ms Elaine Marshall. |
| Report date and number (e.g., HYR3) | HYR1 |
| Project website/ Twitter/ Blog/ Instagram etc | http://www.birdlife.org/africa/news/shea-butter-nourishes-more-dry-skin https://twitter.com/NaturamaBurkina http://www.naturama.bf/web/index.php/component/k2/item/83-projet-darwin-naturama-et-birdlife-international-pour-une-gestion-durable-des-parcs-agroforestiers |
| Funder (DFID/Defra) | Defra |

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).

Output 1. Research outputs completed and used to educate the shea-growing community around KTNP via pollination demonstration sites. Entire evidence base reviewed and used to inform development of the "trees, bees and birds" agri-environment strategy.

Activity 1.1 : A successful project launch workshop was held July 15, 2016 in Nobéré, Burkina Faso, which helped to develop the "trees, bees and birds" (TBB) strategy. The meeting brought together 44 stakeholders from local communities, NGOs, government, science and private sector. Feedback from the meeting has fed into the revision of the TBB strategy, and reports can be found via weblinks above.

The meeting was followed up with 2 additional community workshops, which were held in Po September 20, 2016 and Nobéré September 21. Over 50 case study community representatives participated in the village meetings, allowing continued community involvement and input into the TBB strategy (**Activity 1.1**), and the development of a training and capacity building plan (**Activity 2.1**).

Activity 1.8 : A baseline survey was undertaken using a questionnaire to establish what was known about pollinators and pollination, in the project villages. Some 60 community members of both genders were interviewed, and the survey highlighted a low level of understanding with regards to pollinators, and against which we can measure project impact on improving awareness and knowledge. Two meetings were held to provide community feedback and plan priority training activities, and were attended by nineteen representatives from the project villages. Further community consultation to discuss the survey findings, and various pollinator education activities are planned (**Activity 1.7**).

Output 2. 500 people from 10 communities around KTNP have implemented the “trees, bees and birds” parkland management strategy, while another 1000 via farmer-to-farmer education have the knowledge and capacity to do so. Access to market and potential revenue streams have increased via better knowledge of certification.

Activities 2.3, 2.6 : Extensive surveys were carried out to establish both socio-economic baselines and community willingness and capacity to implement the proposed TBB strategy. Results demonstrated that Shea producers were eager to take part in the initiative and highlighted important knowledge gaps to address with training. Surveys were also conducted to investigate the role of women in NRM decision-making. On the basis of these surveys a comprehensive training and capacity building plan was developed (**Activity 2.1**), and subsequently approved by the communities during municipal workshops.

Activity 2.2 : Upon the development of the training plan and the revision of the TBB strategy, practical tree planting training sessions were delivered to 332 producers (of which 107 were women), following which a total of 10,660 trees of 6 different species were planted. Continued support will be provided to facilitate further farmer:farmer new knowledge dissemination (**Activity 2.5**).

Twenty potential pilot demonstration sites for the TBB strategy were identified during biodiversity and habitat surveys (**Activities 2.3, 2.4**)

Activity 2.7 : Project stakeholders identified a preference and need for training provision in certification, as opposed to production techniques for high-quality shea butter and soap. This option was deemed more likely to provide tangible livelihood benefits, and a suitable trainer has been identified and their training terms of reference developed.

Output 3. Capacity of the host country for pollination research, long-term impact monitoring, and pollination education has been developed via mentoring by in-country and international pollination experts. Naturama have the capacity for ongoing development and monitoring of the “Trees, bees and birds” strategy.

Activity 3.1: The Pollination Advisory Committee was formed of Prof. Jane Stout, Prof. Issa Nombéré, Dr Cath Tayleur, and Mr Adama Nana. The post doc pollination scientist (Aoife Delaney) was appointed following a competitive recruitment process, and will join the project in November and travel to Burkina Faso in January 2017. Prof. Issa Nombéré of the University of Ouagadougou is in the process of recruiting a Masters student to start imminently (**Activity 3.2**). Naturama staff undertook a training session, lead by Prof. Nombéré to improve their knowledge of pollinators. All project staff were involved and the training provided them with the knowledge they require to work with the communities and produce educational materials for training, and also covered practical pollinator survey techniques (**Activity 3.3**).

Output 4 : No activities were scheduled to take place in the first 6 months of the project.



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.

Due to the late announcement of the funding we needed to delay the start of the project by one month, but this has not significantly affected the project activities.

We have had a number of staff changes, including our Project Leader who is currently on maternity leave. However we have had no difficulties recruiting adequately qualified and experienced staff into vacated roles.

We have requested one log-frame change in relation to training women's groups in certification. Community and industry consultation indicated this was not the most effective way to improve livelihoods, so have refocused training to help women achieve improvements in shea butter quality and end product diversification, thereby improving security and potential income generation.

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: Yes

Formal change request submitted: Yes

Received confirmation of change acceptance Yes.

3a. Do you currently expect to have any significant (e.g., 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. 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?

No

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 e.g., Subject: 22-035 Darwin Half Year Report**