



**Darwin Initiative Main/Post/D+ Project
Half Year Report
(due 31st October 2018)**

Project reference	23-027 ref 3250
Project title	Cultural and economic incentives for endangered species conservation in Cambodia
Country(ies)/territory(ies)	Cambodia
Lead organisation	Fauna & Flora International
Partner(s)	Promvihearthor Organisation, The Forestry Administration of the Royal Government of Cambodia, Engineers Without Borders Australia
Project leader	Tim Bergman
Report date and number (e.g., HYR3)	HYR3
Project website/blog/social media etc.	http://www.fauna-flora.org/explore/cambodia/

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

(1.1) 16 group trainings on four topics of rice production were delivered to 201 participants (57% female) across five villages. 23 individuals, including local agri-sellers and seed purifiers, received one-to-one coaching, and smart subsidies were provided to 12 individuals who met the qualifying criteria.

(1.3) 73 participants (54% female) received group training on chicken disease and vaccinations (the last topic in the training course). To complement this with on-going support, project staff conducting 346 one-to-one coaching sessions (62% female). Smart subsidies were provided to 23 individuals who met qualifying criteria.

(1.4) Completed

(1.5) Completed

(1.6) In mid-October we trained Ministry of Environment rangers in HEC mitigation techniques and supported them to take a more proactive role in the communities in response to HEC. We are in the process of a review of current and previous HEC techniques used to develop a strategy moving forward. This will be complete by the end of October 2018.

Output 2

(2.1) Two business skills training sessions were provided to the lemongrass essential oil enterprise. In addition, project staff started a 6 month tailored training course aimed at building their capacity to support the growth of the local enterprises ran by the project participants.

(2.2) Within this period, one paravet business has become sustainably profitable, averaging a monthly revenue of \$187 and average monthly profit of \$67. Her business is growing at a good rate with expansion costs taken into account in her business tracking. In the past 6 months, the project has supported a new agri-seller and paravet in a different site who are still in their early

stages of growing the business. They have good structures and market connections, however are yet to make sustainable business profit. The lemongrass essential oil enterprise is entering its second cycle, it has not been very active in the past 6 months due to processing not being possible in wet season.

(2.3) Market surveys to identify interested private sector companies focusing on chicken and rice inputs were conducted in two provinces. These private sector actors were connected with the project paravets and agri-sellers. In addition, one exchange visit between the lemongrass essential oil enterprise and Bodia, the company they sell to, was conducted. This allowed the lemongrass enterprise to visit their factory, learn about processing and discuss new contract details.

(2.4) Recent quarterly data from our sample (60 individuals) is showing us that income gained from chicken raising (facilitated through the paravet's business) is over double that from the baseline.

(2.5) The project facilitated the subsidised sale of 152 water filters to 148 households in project sites accounting for 55.2% of total households. Baseline data was collected to monitor health and environmental benefits.

Output 3.

(3.1) We currently support seven community elephant wardens from three different villages. They are conducting monthly patrols monitoring elephant presence and threats using SMART, and in this period covered 835 kilometres over 49 days. The wardens are also working with our team in the elephant monitoring programme using 42 currently deployed camera traps.

(3.2) We are now annually monitoring forest loss around the communities in which we work. Year 3 report will be completed by March 2019.

(3.3) Our 31 crocodile wardens continue to patrol five crocodile sanctuaries, using SMART to monitor threats and crocodile presence. Within this period they patrolled 1805km over a 153 days.

(3.4) Crocodile wardens regularly engage with fishermen and community members concerning fishing impacts and regulations, this is monitored using SMART. We have had no incidents of poaching or accidental capture of crocodiles in the past 6 months.

(3.5) We have engaged with the Ministry of Environment and local communities concerning supporting protected area zonation and demarcation. In collaboration with the NGO Wildlife Alliance, we have demarcated key parts of the protected areas around the critical elephant habitats, and drafted a proposed zonation scheme for the entire Cardamom Mountain Landscape. The Ministry of Environment is currently reviewing the proposal.

Output 4

(4.1) Completed

(4.2) Completed

(4.3) Completed

(4.4) The social media campaign continued throughout May, June and July 2018 and was wrapped up with the final report and evaluation finalised. The project targets were exceeded, with the campaign reaching over 700,000 people with an engagement rate of 8.14%, averaging over 9000 people engaging on posts a month.

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.

In July this year several of the communities in the project sites suffered abnormally bad flooding for over two weeks. This caused several project participants to lose crops and, due to the duration of the stagnating water in the fields, may still affect the rice yields in this upcoming seasons due to damaging the growth of the plant. Project staff provided increased technical support to these community members, no changes to the budget or timetable are foreseen.

Prior to the flooding, the project has facilitated the subsidised access to, and sale of, water filters to one community, who benefitted from them greatly during the flooding. A consequence of this was that after the flooding, the provincial government supplied the rest of the households in the project and neighbouring communities with waterfilters from the request of their community leaders. This indirect impact of the project activity impact has been good to see.

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	N/A

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. Additionally, if you were funded under R24 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**