



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

Project Ref No	23-029
Project Title	Investing in agro-forestry options for forest restoration in Indonesia
Country(ies)/Territory(ies)	Indonesia/ Harapan Rainforest in Sumatra
Lead Organisation	Burung Indonesia
Partner(s)	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB), Restorasi Ekosistem Indonesia (PT REKI), World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF), University of Bangor, University of Edinburgh
Project Leader	<i>Mangarah Silalahi</i>
Report date and number (e.g., HYR3)	<i>HYR2</i>
Project website/ Twitter/ Blog/ Instagram etc	
Funder (DFID/Defra)	<i>DFID</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).

1. Analysis of the gender-disaggregated survey instruments for household livelihoods, farms systems and economic games. (Outputs 1.3, 1.6 and 1.9; Output 2.3)

The Project conducted 477 household interviews between March and April 2017; 191 of the respondents were women comprising 40.5%. The preliminary analysis report from the survey (Annex 1) was completed in July, distributed to all partners in August and translated into Bahasa Indonesia (Annex 2). Partners and the team on the ground at PT REKI discussed the report by Skype and provided feedback in September 2017. A further report called additional analysis was prepared to inform the direction of agroforestry under the project and this document is still being finalised following a visit by the team of partners in late September. The household survey will be the baseline for the gender disaggregated livelihoods impact survey instrument for the project and a review will take place towards the end of Year 2.

2. Participatory sessions and workshops in communities ensuring gender balance is considered in design, to refine proposed options and agree on an implementation plan

PT REKI staff held 7 consultation sessions involving 118 participants (including 40 women) during this reporting period (Annex 3) to refine the proposed agroforestry models and to gain the support and engagement of the local community. Discussions also included administration of farmer groups for the local communities and selection of liaison representatives. The Project also produced simplified diagrams of the four models of agroforestry being trialled for discussions with the communities (Annex 4). Many of the consultation sessions have taken place as informal discussions with head farmers and other farmers while out in the field, and when deciding on the best location for the farms and the demonstration plots (for on-farm trials). Great effort was also made to involve the women, especially because rubber is a crop traditionally planted and tapped by men (ref. HH survey report). Women were also often out working (e.g. fishing) during the day and were not accustomed to attending meetings held at night. The involvement of women in agroforestry was achieved through holding discussions during the day and through the selection of cash crops, mainly vegetables and fruits.

During the socialisation sessions, the PT REKI team showed a video clip (ICRAF production) was shown relating to agroforestry in Indonesia, followed by a discussion about the implementation plan in Harapan and its potential to increase incomes in the long-term. As many villagers are illiterate, this was a good method for raising awareness of agroforestry among local communities. These discussions were instrumental in establishing the location of the demonstration plots and gaining the trust of the local communities to collaborate with PT REKI. They have also been catalytic for the emergence of lead farmers who have been able to dovetail the activities relating to agroforestry. Other participatory sessions related to the implementation of agroforestry plans included micro-mapping for land use planning of the areas managed by the local communities (4 gatherings), defining the area of the demonstration plots (6 gatherings), clearing the demonstration plots (4 sessions), and planting in the SML demplot.

3. Develop and sign agreements with 500 families for the development of agroforestry systems on 500 ha

Another agreement was signed with the group in Kapas Tengah in August for an additional area of 60 ha involving 13 households (Annex 5). This agreement, like the six signed earlier, acknowledges the role of PT REKI as the licence holders for Hutan Harapan, the rights of the local communities to inhabit and manage the land, and serves as proof that the two have negotiated and agreed to collaborate to achieve the objectives of Hutan Harapan. Two directorates at the Ministry of Environment and Forestry, as well as local government agencies, facilitated the signing of this agreement at a ceremony in Jambi. So far, 321 families have agreed to collaborate with PT REKI for the management of 2,807ha within the concession.

4. Establish on-farm trials on 500 ha in focal area and train farmers including women and monitor throughout project

The Project has selected eight demonstration plots for the four agroforestry models using a split plot design and demarcated these within the collaboration zone, as a showcase for best practices for agroforestry (Annex 3). Local communities in villages neighbouring the demonstration plots have been involved in clearing the land and preparing it for planting. Women will mainly be in the selection and planting of cash crops between the rubber trees. The target for 2017/18 is to influence the planting of agroforestry in 92 ha in the collaboration zone (Annex 6) according to the models outlined in the standard operating procedures. A total of 43ha of land has been cleared and 23 ha planted under agroforestry and 15,600 rubber seedlings distributed to seven farmer groups (annex 6). Clearing and planting in the land managed by the local communities was also done through collaboration between the farmer groups and PT REKI. The on-farm trials have also included training on methods for diversifying the products from bamboo as one of the plants included in agroforestry.

5. Biodiversity monitoring plan in project focal areas

The biodiversity monitoring plan was produced and translated to Bahasa Indonesia with accompanying data sheets. These were reviewed with field teams during visits in April and September. The Environmental Research team at PT REKI were trained in the biodiversity monitoring methods in September. Monitoring is to take place with communities at the eight participatory experimental demplots. Planting work is expected to be completed by early 2018 and monitoring will commence immediately on the completion of the plots. The delayed establishment of the demplots has delayed monitoring. Monitoring of the wider areas of agroforestry is being implemented by the Community Partnerships team and farmers by monitoring the costs of establishing agroforestry systems and returns to assess profitability. The accrual of capital assets is being measured by assessing the number of trees planted along with their survival and growth; details are included in the biodiversity monitoring plan.

6. ERC policy forum workshop on livelihood development in ERCs

Project partners held a workshop in Bogor in September to share experiences in agroforestry and to inform the implementation of agroforestry at Harapan. Dr Rhett Harrison highlighted the role of agroforestry in ecosystem restoration while Dr Sonya Dewi, the country coordinator from ICRAF, gave an overview of the experiences in Indonesia. The workshop was also an opportunity to discuss and confirm plans for agroforestry with the experts. Plans are in place to complete the survey on the experiences of ERCs in agroforestry and to publish a paper next year.

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.

This Project was designed to complement the overall Danida Programme of work at Harapan, especially in the area of agroforestry. A delay in payments by Danida in April affected the ability of this Project to deliver on time and achieve the necessary progress especially in terms of planting in the demonstration plots. Work during this period focused on the involvement of local communities and gaining their trust and interest in getting involved in agroforestry. Payment from Danida has continued since and the Project has been able to proceed.

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/No

Formal change request submitted: Yes/No

Received confirmation of change acceptance Yes/No

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?

There are no issues relating to project management, monitoring or financial procedures to raise.

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/ work plan 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**