



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

<b>Project reference</b>	: 23-029
<b>Project title</b>	: Investing in agro-forestry options for forest restoration in Indonesia
<b>Country(ies)/territory(ies)</b>	: Indonesia
<b>Lead organisation</b>	: Burung Indonesia
<b>Partner(s)</b>	: Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB), Restorasi Ekosistem Indonesia (PT REKI), World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF), University of Bangor, University of Edinburgh
<b>Project leader</b>	: Mangarah Silalahi
<b>Report date and number (e.g., HRY3)</b>	: HRY3
<b>Project website/blog/social media etc.</b>	: <a href="http://www.hutanharapan.or.id">www.hutanharapan.or.id</a> and <a href="https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCyrDEXp6fjYIWDzPKqs39zA/videos">https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCyrDEXp6fjYIWDzPKqs39zA/videos</a>

**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).**

**2.2 Conduct stakeholder workshops in communities ensuring gender balance is considered in design, to refine proposed options and agree on an implementation plan**

*2.2.1 Participatory sessions with farmers to explain plan and seek acceptance to take part in agroforestry work:*

Staff of PT REKI have continued actively to hold stakeholder workshops and meetings with the 7 community groups involved, paying attention to the involvement of women to establish gender balance in the project. A total of 16 workshops and meetings were held during this reporting period, attended by 85 participants including 28 women (32.9%). The workshop and meetings discussed the adopted agroforestry models, preparation of land, how to design agroforestry according to the adopted model, making an agroforestry plan, identifying community needs (e.g. seedlings, fertilizers, herbicides). Planting in scrubs and/ or degraded areas will also be done using the agroforestry models. In areas planted with rubber and oil palm, communities will be encouraged to adopt agricultural practices by enrichment planting and planting of at least 100 seedlings from a list of selected tree species. An agroforestry plan has been agreed for the next year which will involve an area of about 80ha of scrub area in the collaboration zone allocated to the community to implement agroforestry using the simple model (i.e. the dominant tree will be rubber intercropped with food/ cash crops). In addition, enrichment planting will also take place in areas planted with rubber and oil palm trees. To ensure that the land is more productive, PT REKI have explored and got the commitment to support horticulture, fish pond, the rearing of cattle and goat breeding by the local community.

*2.2.2 Develop options for agroforestry in consultation with the local communities and finalise an implementation plan.*

PT REKI and Burung Indonesia staff also organised several meetings with the communities to develop a 10-Year Agroforestry Plan (2018-2028). The Plan would provide guidance and aim to

plant c.2,800 ha of agroforestry over the next 10 years to support community livelihood as well as the restoration objectives of the ERC licence.

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

*2.4.1 Take steps to start implementation of agroforestry with Batin Sembilan and Mitrazone, where agreements have been obtained.*

Agroforestry has been implemented with the Batin Sembilan communities in Simpang Macan Luar and Mitrazone (Sg Kalumpang). A total of 19.6 ha for Batin Sembilan community-managed land has been cleared and planted to date under the project.

*2.4.2 Negotiate agreements with other communities for agroforestry development.*

The Hutan Harapan Management Unit (HHMU/PT REKI) has signed eight land use agreements with eight farmer groups, including KTH farmer group, Lamban Jernang, Maju Bersamo, Tanding Group, Gelinding Group, Rompok Kapas, Berkah Jaya, Bungin Mandiri and Hijau Alam Lestari. Three of the eight agreements have been recognized by the Ministry of Environment and Forestry (MoEF), the others are still being processed. The recognition of MoEF allows for the land and forest to be managed by the farmer groups. The support of the local and central government for this effort in Hutan Harapan has been very high because Forest Partnership (i.e. *Kemitraan Kehutanan* in Indonesian) has been recognised as one of the Social Forestry programmes under the current Jokowi regime. The main point of the land use agreement is that the communities are obligated to develop agroforestry with trees, fruits and restoration plants. Copies of the land use agreements that have been recognized by Minister of Environment and Forestry will be shared in the annual report.

To further protect the remaining forest and stabilize Hutan Harapan' land use, PT REKI engaged with communities and stakeholders in four target groups through mediation/ negotiation with community groups in Simpang Macan Dalam, Iwan Simatupang, Sako Suban and Sei Jerat. There are plans to have land use agreements with them in the coming year. As noted in the SOP for agroforestry development, PT REKI will develop agroforestry with communities that have signed land use agreement.

Hutan Harapan Management Unit also received support from the government, NGOs, and Social Forestry Accelerated Team (TP2PS) both at the national and local level to reach an agreement. For example, in Simpang Macan Dalam (one of the Batin Sembilan Groups) and Iwan Simatupang Group, the mediation processes were facilitated by PRANA - a local NGO in Jambi. In Pangkalan Ranjau (i.e. Jupri's Group), the meeting process was facilitated by MoEF, the local government, CAPPa and Scale Up. In Sako Suban, the conflict resolution and agroforestry development plan was facilitated by HAKI - a local NGO in South Sumatra and the Musi Banyuasin Government.

It was through the negotiation and mediation process that PT REKI has signed agreements with eight groups covering 351 families and 2,900 ha. Of these, 143 families have yet to agree to sign the agreement as they have requested land certificates which PT REKI is not able to support as it does not have the authority to convert forest to non-forest status.

In order to support land use agreement and agroforestry implementation, Hutan Harapan and Burung Indonesia staff have been actively engaging and discussing with local governments (i.e. Musi Banyuasin, Batanghari and Sarolangun), the Provincial Government in South Sumatra and Jambi including KPH, central government (Ministry of Environment and Forestry/ MoEF) and civil societies (CAPPa, Mitra Aksi Foundation, WARSI, PRANA, and Hutan Kita Institute). There were 14 meetings with stakeholders organised by PT REKI/ Burung Indonesia and involved 426 participants, including 106 women.

The aim of the meeting with stakeholders was (1) to seek possible options for handling conflicts, and transform them into forest partnerships; (2) to get support to implement agroforestry that had been agreed in land use agreements (seedlings, social facilities etc.), and (3) to monitor the implementation of agroforestry.

## **2.5 Establish on-farm trials on 500 ha in focal area and train farmers including women and monitor throughout project**

### *2.5.1 Hold initial meeting re on-farm trials with farmers in focal areas.*

In developing agroforestry with the community in Hutan Harapan, PT REKI provided seedlings, water pumps, herbicides and technical assistance to help initiate farming according to the models proposed in the Standard Operating Procedure. To date, a total of 11,604 seedlings (i.e. 9,846 rubber seedlings, 1,284 fruit trees, 74 tree species, and 400 bamboo) were distributed to the communities. The agreement entailed the community preparing the land, planting and maintaining the seedlings and trees. The models of agroforestry were developed based on the agreement between PT REKI and the community, with most of the community choosing the simple model.

During this period, a total of 23.6 ha of the allocated 80 ha has been prepared for planting and subsequently planted. The remaining 56.4 ha will be prepared for planted and planted in the coming year, including the planting of specific trees for enrichment planting in areas planted with rubber and oil palm. The reporting period covered weather patterns that were not conducive for planting (April-September) as a result of the dry season, which made the area prone to forest fires, and thus having a high risk of seedling mortality. More rain is expected from October 2018 to February 2019 (i.e. the rainy season), which will allow PT REKI and the community to accelerate the planting trees for the next 6 months.

Agroforestry has also been enriched by providing fish, goat and cattle to community groups, supported by funds from Danida. For this year/ period, 20 families in two farmer groups in Kunangan Jaya 1 will receive one cow per family. The communities have requested for the additional support for animal husbandry and it has helped increase support for working with PT REKI.

### *2.5.2 Train farmers (including women) in specific areas of agroforestry.*

Six training sessions for farmers were held during the reporting period involving 79 farmers, including 61 women. Women have become the target for training in to enrich the experience of the communities with agroforestry and to help women increase their livelihoods. Three training sessions were held for the community to improve handicraft production to retain their heritage. The other training sessions targeted increasing the understanding of the community with regards to the economic value of fruit trees, including the cultivation of guava and citrus trees and their pests.

In addition to training sessions, PT REKI and Burung Indonesia also carried out a series of discussions on cow breeding, which involved 20 members of two farmer groups. These were with communities that had made good progress with planting and were prepared to diversify their income. We used the skills of a successful local cattle rancher as a resource person and he explained cow breeding techniques to 11 farmers. The discussions also helped finalize the Standard Operational Procedure for Cow Breeding as a guidance to the community to breed and care for the cattle. Burung Indonesia, PT REKI and the representatives of two farmer groups (Bungin Mandiri Farmer Group-Kunangan Jaya I (Narwanto group) and Berkah Jaya Farmer Group in Kunangan Jaya I) signed agreements on cow breeding on 21th August 2018. The cow breeding and business will be viewed as a good business for the migrant community as they have experience in cattle breeding. Batin Sembilan Groups will be supported once they pick up the skill of cow breeding from the migrant communities and learn the best practices.

### *2.5.3 Monitor on-farm trials during project:* Five of the eight demplots have been maintained by five farmer groups on a daily basis.

One demplot (in KTH Berkah Jaya- Kunangan Jaya 1) suffered from burning when 0.5 ha caught fire during the dry season in September. PT REKI has sent the seedling to re-plant the dead tree to recover the demplot. While the communities have continued to maintain the demplots, there was also a government contingent who visited the site in early November to monitor progress of the planting and adoption of agroforestry by the local community.

**3.2 ERC policy recommendations and lessons learnt developed and submitted by BI and FORDA to MoEF.**

Following up on the Agroforestry Workshop held in March 2018, Burung Indonesia submitted the recommendations to the Head of Forest Research and Development Centre, FORDAI-MoEF in April 2018. One of the recommendations was that agroforestry should be accepted in the ERC Policy as part of a strategy to resolve conflicts and increase income for the community. Agroforestry is also able to support restoration goals through increasing forest cover.

Following this letter, two discussions on agroforestry took place involving MoEF Director and staff, ERC holders, and the ERC Working group. The term 'Agroforestry' and its implementation in ERC has been considered in the Ministry regulation revision draft No P.64/2014 ERC. Notes of the two meetings discussed revisions of ERC Silviculture including Ecosystem Balance. At the same time, Burung Indonesia in cooperation with FORDA-MoEF, and ICRAF drafted a policy brief on "Agroforestry in the context of ERC". At the international level, Burung Indonesia and ICRAF have plans to produce a policy brief with the title "The Role of Agroforestry in Landscape Restoration" that will be published in an international journal.

The lessons learned from conflict resolution in Hutan Harapan was documented and shared with ERC licence holders and the Government through a Seminar on **Addressing Encroachment: Lessons Learnt from Ecosystem Restoration Concession in Indonesia** on 13 September 2018. The event was arranged and opened by the Danish Ambassador and attended by all ERC licence holders, the local and central government agencies with around 100 participants. Burung Indonesia was the key resource person for the seminar and presented their experience on how to transform conflict towards forest partnership and collaborative management and the lessons learned. In addition, Teguh Santika- a women from sei Kelumpnag was also as resource person to share their experience to protect forest and develop agroforestry.

**4.1 Project management:** Burung Indonesia and PT REKI have been carrying out the Monitoring and Evaluation of Darwin activities and their progress monthly. The Aim of the M & E is to see the progress against the work plan, address the challenges, and find solutions.

**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.**

The uptake of agroforestry among the Batin Sembilan community has been slower than the migrant community. Explanations have involved posters and participatory interactions as many in the indigenous community are illiterate. Unlike the migrant people in Kunangan Jaya I and 2 where the discussion and explanation has been easier and used presentations as most of them have experiences in agricultural practices. The difference in uptake and ability to understand the concepts have meant that Hutan Harapan staff have had to make more effort and take more time to explain in the socialization meetings.

Danish support for the Hutan Harapan Initiative (through DANIDA) comes to an end in Dec 2018. Negotiations are still ongoing for support from the German Government, with funds expected in Q1 of 2019. Delay in the acquisition of German support could affect the ability of the project to deliver all the outputs of the Darwin support. We are taking steps to ensure that we make maximum progress in the remaining months of the year with support from DANIDA. Hence it is critical that there is no further delay in the receipt of Darwin funds from Q4 of Y2.

**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?**

We have yet to receive funds for Q4 Year 2, following submission of the request in May 2018. It has caused the delay of several field activities as we are not able to pre-finance the activities for too much longer. We are hoping that the funds would be received within a month of submitting the financial report.

The Annual Report 2 Review (AR2R) requested that we provide an explanation for financial variance. We have are submitting a separate document to address the comments. Please refer to the document entitled 23-029 AR2R Comment on the Annual Report Review.

**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](mailto: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**