

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

Project reference	24-002
Project title	Cattle, water and wildlife: enhancing socio-ecological resilience in Laikipia
Country(ies)/territory(ies)	Kenya
Lead organisation	Fauna & Flora International (FFI)
Partner(s)	OI Pejeta Conservancy Laikipia Wildlife Forum
Project leader	Rob Small
Report date and number (e.g., HYR3)	HYR1
Project website/blog/social media etc.	www.fauna-flora.org

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).

Recruitment for the FFI Project Co-ordinator took place in Q2 with the successful candidate, Ann Komen, taking up her post at the end of September. Ann is now working on a daily basis with OI Pejeta Conservancy and Laikipia Wildlife Forum staff providing support for detailed activity planning and prioritisation. Documentation, reporting and M&E systems have been agreed between partners to facilitate adaptive management as necessary.

The project inception meeting was held on the 26th September in Nanyuki and brought together FFI, the project's implementation partners, relevant stakeholders (Water Resource User Associations, National Government agencies, County Government, Non-Governmental Organizations) and community representatives for areas that border the Mutara Conservation Area. The inception meeting included an overview of the project's aims, objectives and anticipated outputs. Opportunities for the project identified during the course of the meeting included alignment to the Laikipia County Integrated Development Plan (2018-2022)¹

Timetabled Y1 Q1&Q2 Activities:

Output 1: 8000ha of restored rangeland under active sustainable management that meets the grazing needs of community livestock and wildlife

1.1 Establish baseline population estimates of key indicator game species using 2015 HD aerial survey imagery (Y1 Q2-4): HD aerial dataset for 2015 survey acquired by project consultant; analysis of data now scheduled for Q3-Q4.

1.2 Assessment and identification of key locations for restoration activities through field surveys and GIS analysis (Y1 Q2-4): Assessment of existing ecological and GIS datasets for Mutara Conservation Area underway by FFI and OPC staff. Field surveys and spatial analysis scheduled for Y1Q3.

1.10 Development of Mutara Conservation Area Management Plan (Y1 Q2-4): Lapsed management plan for ADC Mutara, consultancy documents and other grey literature accessed obtained by FFI and OPC staff. Review and drafting of comprehensive management plan scheduled for Q3-4.

¹ <http://www.laikipia.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/What-you-need-to-know-about-the-CIDPs-1.pdf>

Output 2. Improved water availability for domestic use, livestock and wildlife in MCA and 75% of households in 6 focal community areas that is managed by representative local institutions.

2.1 Development of socio-economic monitoring guidance (approach, ethics & methods)

(Y1 Q1-2): Socio-economic monitoring guidance, including sections on the need for comprehensive engagement of communities, standard project operating procedures, gender and links to appropriate participatory rural assessment tools has been developed by FFI staff. This output has also greatly benefitted from the input of an intern who worked on the project in August and September on intermission from his PhD studies on conservation and cattle markets in Laikipia.

Note – Activities 2.1, 3.1 and 4.1 reflect the development of the same document that will inform delivery of activities for each respective output

2.2 Publication of socio-economic monitoring guidance (approach, ethics & methods)

(Y1 Q2): A draft of the socio-economic monitoring guidance was shared with OPC at the end of Q2. This output will be finalised prior to the training of project field staff and enumerators at the beginning of Q3. It is intended to initially be a live document, published and shared between project partners that is refined during the course of project delivery and made available more widely at the end of Y1.

Note – Activities 2.2, 3.2 and 4.2 reflect the development of the same document that will inform delivery of activities for each respective output.

2.5 Stakeholder dialogue and consultation meetings with WRUA members (with both women and men including leaders to promote positive attitudes towards women's participation in project activities)

A cluster approach (catchment level) for implementing water initiatives with WRUAs has been agreed on with project partners, drawing lessons from other WRUAs who have successfully used this approach. Following the inception meeting initial dialogue with WRUAs is scheduled for Q3 to give an overview of the project and form the catchment cluster. This will comprise 3 WRUAs - Suguroi and Mutara are to be engaged implementation of project activities and Pesi, which is further downstream, is to be involved in consultation meetings as initiatives upstream have potential to impact on this sub-catchment.

2.6 Capacity needs assessment for Mutara and Suguroi Water Resource Use Associations (WRUA)

FFI and WWF capacity assessment tools have been adapted to assess the capacity needs of the WRUAs and track change through the project cycle. The capacity needs assessment is scheduled for Q3.

2.13 Quarterly web and media updates on water management activities to broader Laikipia audience through MKEWP

Updates to the project have been published on the Laikipia Wildlife Forum website - <http://www.laikipia.org/important-updates-mount-kenya-ewaso-water-partnership-mkewp/>

Output 3: A community cattle to market system, that supports pastoralist livelihoods and reduces stocking densities in 4 focal community areas, is in place on MCA.

3.1 Development of socio-economic monitoring guidance (approach, ethics & methods)

(Y1 Q1-2) : See 2.1

3.2 Publication of socio-economic monitoring guidance (approach, ethics & methods)

(Y1 Q2): See 2.2

3.6 Develop awareness scheme for holistic management (wildlife-livestock integration and optimal stocking densities)

A draft for the awareness scheme is underway, that draws from past research work. It will be continually be reviewed and updated based on data collected from socio ecological surveys and further research by the project to integrate best practices in project implementation.

Output 4. Women and men in 2 target communities adopt a community-based fodder production system that supports the diversification of small-scale farmer livelihoods in at least 200 households.

4.1 Development of socio-economic monitoring guidance (approach, ethics & methods)

(Y1 Q1-2): See 2.1

4.2 Publication of socio-economic monitoring guidance (approach, ethics & methods)
(Y1 Q2): See 2.2

5. Vulnerable and endangered species are under effective protection on MCA

5.2 Biodiversity conservation education 1-day module developed
Biodiversity conservation awareness module draft in place with review and finalisation scheduled for Q3 before beginning community visits to OPC towards the end of Q3.

5.4 Monthly camera trapping of wildlife corridors to monitor wildlife movement between OPC and MCA (Y1 Q2 to Y4 Q4)
Camera traps at wildlife corridors were established prior to the start of the project. A comprehensive camera trap analysis is produced annually by OPC. Daily monitoring is conducted by rangers at the corridor using animal marks and monthly analysis reports are being compiled.

5.6 Expansion of wildlife ranger patrol units (90% locally recruited) (Y1 Q2-Q4): A total of twenty two rangers have been deployed by OPC with additional support from an anti-stock theft unit and the Kenya Police Reserve (KPR). All rangers and KPR have been locally recruited.

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 prolonged and uncertain election period in Kenya has slowed the pace of conducting some field-based activities but not to the extent of affecting overall delivery in Y1. There are currently no adverse security challenges in the project area and measures are in place to expedite activities prior to the end of the year. Thus no there are no expected changes on overall Y1 timetable of project activities or budget.

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.

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**