



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

Project reference	25-008
Project title	Integrating Natural Capital into Sustainable Development
Country(ies)/territory(ies)	Uganda
Lead organisation	UNEP-WCMC
Partner(s)	IIED, NEMA, NPA, UBoS, IDEEA Group
Project leader	<i>James Vause</i>
Report date and number (e.g., HYR3)	<i>HYR1</i>
Project website/blog/social media etc.	<i>N/A</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).

This report covers the three months period from grant acceptance in July 2018, to September 2018. Contractual agreements have been drawn up and put in place with the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) and IDEEA Group. The agreement with Uganda National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) has been drawn up, iterated, agreed, approved by the legal unit and awaits signature by NEMA's Executive Director. These agreements allow funds to be transferred and work to begin.

Output 1: Awareness of the value of biodiversity-related natural capital raised:

A draft context report (Output 1.1) has been produced. This report is based on the political economy analysis produced under the Connect project (a GEF-funded UNEP-WCMC project aiming to mainstream biodiversity information into the heart of government decision making; the project is now half way through, and Uganda is one of three participating countries) and some further desk research and consultation, thus already realising committed co-finance. This report details the current situation regarding the mainstreaming of biodiversity and natural capital into development and sectoral policies, as well as the state of play regarding the development and use of natural capital in Uganda. The report identifies key entry points and opportunities for natural capital accounting in policy and planning cycles. The report is a 'living document' and will be further developed throughout the project.

The context report will form a background document for an inception workshop (output 1.2), to be held in early December for two days. Stakeholders, identified by partners in the Ugandan government, will be convened from a range of ministries and sectors. The first day will focus primarily on the policy needs and entry points for Natural Capital Accounting (NCA), and will allow for the further development and validation of the context report and the thematic areas in which accounts will be developed. The second day will discuss project communications with a view to developing a communications plan and communications materials.

Three members of the Ugandan team (representing the National Planning Authority, National Environment Management Authority and Uganda Bureau of Statistics) will visit Cambridge for a planning meeting in October. This visit will be primarily funded using co-finance funds from the Connect 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.

The project experienced some delays in grant acceptance between WCMC and Defra. There have been some subsequent delays in approval and signature of the agreement with NEMA. These delays, combined with an extremely congested quarter for the Ugandan project team in particular, have led to the inception workshop being postponed from early November until mid-December. This postponement will allow the necessary lead time for a well organised workshop, and will also ensure that the optimum participants are available. This has some implications for work that is dependent on the workshop.

As a result of these delays, the Uganda team have not yet been able to start recruiting the Consultant to work on the project. However, it is anticipated that delays will be made up for by the end of the financial year.

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
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Formal change request submitted:	No
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Received confirmation of change acceptance	No
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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?

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**