

Darwin Initiative/Darwin Plus Projects Half Year Report (due 31st October 2021)

Project reference	26-011
Project title	Strengthening fisheries resource co-management in PiSiSi MPA, Simeulue Island
Country(ies)/territory(ies)	Indonesia
Lead organisation	Fauna & Flora International
Partner(s)	Aceh Marine Fisheries Agency (DKP) Panglima Laot / Sea Commander Syiah Kuala University
Project leader	<i>Teuku Youvan;</i>
Report date and number (e.g. HYR1)	<i>HYR3</i>
Project website/blog/social media	https://www.fauna-flora.org/

1. Outline progress over the last 6 months (April – Sept) against the agreed project implementation timetable (if your project has started less than 6 months ago, please report on the period since start up to end September).

Activity 1.7 Train and community support members to undertake SMART patrol activities, including both independently-led and collaborative patrols

FFI has facilitated the SMART patrol activities through community-based surveillance: Voluntary surveillance has been implemented by the community in 5 target LMMAs and 2 other LMMAs that we assist. In the meantime, 194 fishers have participated for the last five months (April – October). In this period, the fishers have conducted a total of 6,371 patrol trips. Patrols covered a total of ± 31,608.53 Ha (± 71.2 % from total area of PiSiSi MPA) (Figure 1). These results are reported to the supervisory authority in Simeulue (Appendix 1; Figure 2). On September 22 2021, Panglima Laot Sambay has also conducted one routine patrol, which had a duration of 6 hours and covered 1,558.03 Ha (3.51 %) of PiSiSi MPA's total area (Figure 3).

Activity 1.8 Facilitate the participation of government and enforcement agency personnel in LMMA co-management patrols which also involve communities

During period of April – October 2021, the collaborative patrol has been conducted, led by the fishery surveillance authority (PSDKP Aceh on behalf of national fisheries ministry) with involvement of local communities. The patrol was conducted on October 9, 2021 (Figure 4). The patrols had a duration of 1.5 hours and covered 364.17 Ha (0.82 %) of the total area of PiSiSi MPA (Figure 5).

Activity 2.4 Provide training in quality control, cold chain maintenance & financial management, and provide on-going mentoring to trainees

As a follow-up to the quality control, cold chain maintenance & financial management training that have been carried out in Year 2, FFI's Aceh programme continues to provide assistance for market actors through on-going mentoring. During July – September 2021, the total participants in on-going mentoring was 73 people consisting of 12 village fish buyers (1 collector), 52 fishers and 9 enabling environment actors in the villages (e.g. Panglima Laot and village government), with 29.5% representation of women amongst them (Appendix 2; Figure 6).

Activity 2.6 Hold an annual progress evaluation workshop

The annual progress evaluation workshop was held on September 14, 2021 with involvement of market actors, enabling environment actors and input service providers (Appendix 3; Figure 7). The workshop aimed to monitor the progress of market action-plans that have been previously created in 7 LMMAs. As a result of the workshop, the market actors have evaluated and adjusted

their plan for 2021-2023 with measures such as; the fishers will increase capacity in the post-catch handling practice; Collector level 1 (village fish buyers) will facilitate the access of capital to fishers; Collector level 2 (fish buyers in Sinabang, the main town on Simeulue) will disseminate updated price of octopus and groupers; DKP (provincial fisheries agency) will facilitate training such as: post-harvest handling trainings; collecting data of octopus and grouper products and diversification of octopus and grouper commodity trainings; **LPMUKP** (a fisheries business unit within the national marine ministry) will provide capital access assistance for small scale fisheries enterprises, through LPMUKP field staff who facilitate fisher access to business loans.

Activity 3.1 Undertake coral reef fish assemblage surveys in new LMMA areas.

During this reporting period, a further survey of coral reefs in PiSiSi MPA has been completed, and the data is currently being analysed to compare against the project baselines (Figure 8). Analysis results will be shared in the Year 3 annual report.

Activity 3.2 Upload (annually) data to the ‘PiSiSi Atlas of Coastal Resources’ online database

In September 20 2021, the MPA management body has facilitated the first meeting for preparation of Aceh MPA profiles (including PiSiSi MPA) and outline of the “PiSiSi Atlas” database. The database will be shown in **Aceh Marine and Fisheries Agency homepage** (Appendix 4; Figure 9).

Activity 0.1 Monitor fisheries catch data through surveys of fish landing sites and fish traders in LMMA communities

Monitoring of fish catches is carried out through fish landing surveys and recording of fish trade. The fish landing survey was conducted during the east monsoon period (August – November, 2020) and the west monsoon period (February – May, 2021). From the 742 trips surveyed, it was found that catch information consisted of: 132 fish and non-fish species, with the highest total catch recorded in May 2021 with a weight of 1422 kg/161 trips, and the lowest catch was in February 2021 with a weight of 273 kg/30 trips. The calculation results of Catch per Unit Effort (CPUE) based on the month period show that the highest CPUE value is in May 2021 with a value of 24.01 kg/trip (Appendix 5). Village fish traders have developed improved recording of fish production by adding the variable “number of individuals/types of fish” with following results for economically important species: Production of *Plectropomus leopardus* (Local name: Janang) is 1,302.5 kg, with an average weight of 1.10 kg/Ind; *Variola sp.* (Local name: Sawai) reached 1,285.69 kg, with an average weight of 0.89 kg/Ind; Octopus sp. is 9,975.59 kg, with an average weight of 0.91 kg/Ind (Appendix 6).

2a. Give details of any notable problems or unexpected developments/lessons learnt that the project has encountered over the last 6 months (for COVID-19 specific delays/problems, please use 2b). Explain what impact these could have on the project and whether the changes will affect the budget and timetable of project activities.

n/a

2b. Please outline any specific issues which your project has encountered as a result of COVID-19. Where you have adapted your project activities in response to the pandemic, please briefly outline how you have done so here. Explain what residual impact there may be on your project and whether the changes will affect the budget and timetable of project activities.

Output-1.

Activity 1.1 Conduct Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices (KAP) surveys in target communities at project start and end project. Since the original KAP surveys at project start, the activity still cannot be continued due to Covid-19 restrictions, so far FFI has been developing the training packages to be delivered to 10 schools and 5 villages as project beneficiaries. However, until this reporting time the educational sessions can only be implemented virtually and the communal meeting is only allowed with limited access and numbers of people.

Output-2

Activity 2.3 Organise and support exposure visits for fishers and traders to mainland seafood markets. This activity still cannot be implemented due to Covid-19. The initial plan of the project is to bring the fishers and collector level 1 to Medan (North Sumatra) for market learning, improved supply chain connections and knowledge exchange. However until now the

airport in Simeulue still inactive, and at the time of writing there is no schedule for resumption of flights.

Activity 2.4 Provide training in quality control, cold chain maintenance & financial management, and provide on-going mentoring to trainees. The 1st virtual quality control training meeting was implemented on March 30, 2021 with the resource specialist from Medan. For the 2nd quality control training, FFI and fishers expects to implement it with direct meeting for ensuring the knowledge acceptance from the local fishers. However, the air transportation still disconnected between Medan and Simeulue, so in-person training has not yet been held.

2c. Have any of these issues been discussed with LTS International and if so, have changes been made to the original agreement?

Two change requests were submitted and approved during Year 2, but none have yet been submitted during Year 3. However, due to the continued challenges during this Half Year reporting period, and the associated underspend (see section 3a). submission of a further change request is planned by the end of 2021.

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. Please DO NOT send these in the same email as your report.

4. Are there any other issues you wish to raise relating to the project or to Darwin's management, monitoring, or financial procedures?

N/A

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/workplan can be discussed in this report but **should also** be raised with LTS International through a Change Request. **Please DO NOT send these in the same email.**

Please send your **completed report by email** to 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: 25-001 Darwin Half Year Report**