

Darwin Initiative/Darwin Plus Projects Half Year Report (due 31st October 2020)

Project reference	27-017
Project title	Community-led approaches to reforestation benefitting chimpanzees and livelihoods in Uganda
Country(ies)/territory(ies)	Uganda
Lead organisation	Fauna & Flora International
Partner(s)	3 Private Forest Owner Associations (PFOAs), Jane Goodall Institute (JGI), Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA), National Forestry Authority (NFA)
Project leader	Nicolas Tubbs
Report date and number (e.g. HYR3)	1 st July 2020-31 st October 2020 HYR1
Project website/blog/social media	www.fauna-flora.org https://www.fauna-flora.org/countries/uganda

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).

During this initial stage of the project, which started on 1 July 2020, the focus of the project team has been on inception, baseline design and project awareness. During this period, the Covid19 pandemic has greatly impacted the work and restrictions in place have affected implementation. Despite this, the project team has been able to engage with all stakeholders, with a particular focus on Private Forest Owners Associations (PFOAs), partners and local authorities who have all reiterated their support and commitment to this project. Partners (JGI, UWA and NFA) have all assigned project contact persons to FFI to ease implementation. (**Annex 1a & b** – Meeting minutes between JGI and FFI on project and UWA letter assigning the project focal persons)

Two radio talk shows to introduce the project were conducted, providing opportunity to showcase and discuss the ecology of Chimpanzees, FFI and JGI's work in Uganda and elsewhere, and the need to reforest riverine habitats to the wider community of Hoima, Masindi and Kikuube districts and beyond. (**Annex 2- Radio talk show Report**)

The project team has drawn upon a broad range of expertise across FFI and partners in developing the household survey which will be critical in setting the baseline for the project, especially when it comes to agroforestry/agricultural work, but also the value chain/business development components of the project. The survey has now been entered in Arc survey 123 and will be rolled out using Smart phones in the first week of November 2020.

Furthermore, the recruitment for the two local field based positions (Agroforestry extension and Agribusiness officers) is well underway. Job descriptions and Terms of Reference were developed for each role, and vacancies advertised widely. We received several hundred applications across both of these positions and interviews will be conducted in the last week of October 2020.

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.

None to date – noting that the project only launched 3 months ago.

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.

Community meetings were under a series of restrictions due to the Covid19 pandemic. None the less, the project team managed to meet and engage communities by holding smaller meetings in a series of strategic locations so to comply with any movement restrictions. Field engagement has not been as extensive as we would have anticipated for the same reasons, but only quite minor change compared to what was planned considering the project area was also affected by heavy rains during this period, which we had anticipated. It will be outweighed by the field engagement in the months to come. We don't foresee this to have any long term impact on the project's implementation.

2c. 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

Formal change request submitted: No

Received confirmation of change acceptance 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. 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?

No

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**