



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

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| Project reference | 28-014 |
| Project title | Gibbon biodiversity conservation through coffee-based agroforestry |
| Country(ies)/territory(ies) | Myanmar |
| Lead organisation | Fauna & Flora International (FFI) |
| Partner(s) | Gibbon Coffee Association (GCA) Myanmar Forest Department (MFD) Genius Coffee |
| Project leader | Ngwe Lwin |
| Report date and number (e.g. HYR1) | 31. 10. 2021 (HYR1) |
| Project website/blog/social media | None |

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).

Output 1: Technical standards for gibbon/wildlife-friendly coffee which meet the management goals of the proposed Mann Wildlife Sanctuary (to reduce deforestation, improve forest connectivity and secure resource use rights for buffer-zone communities).

- Initial meeting was organized with FFI team and Genius coffee to discuss the procedure for the development of technical standard for gibbon/wildlife-friendly coffee and plan for communication with Wildlife Friendly Network. In addition, initial meeting with Myanmar Organic Grower and Producer Association (MOGPA) was also conducted together Genius coffee for development of training-of-trainers (ToT) scheme for coffee production methods.

Output 2: The GCA is registered as a legal entity with robust internal systems, financing plans and policies, and members have the skills and knowledge to fully implement technical standards to achieve improved and sustainable agricultural practices.

- Project inception meeting with the GCA (17 management committee members) was conducted in September 2021 to discuss project implementation plan, training schedules/plans and procedure for the GCA registration at township authority.

Output 3: Zonation and management of Mann wildlife sanctuary, and village land-use plans in the surrounding landscape, are based on biodiversity science and community consultation, to ensure effective protected area management and habitat connectivity within the wider Mann river watershed.

- Mapping of existing agroforestry area of 11 villages was completed in September 2021 for the village land use planning and agroforestry design.
- Forest cover of the project area assessment through remote sensing was conducted as a based-line information for monitoring to verify reduced deforestation of primary forest and improved agroforestry cover and forest/agroforest connectivity.

Output 4: Local growers and harvesters have improved technical skills, resources and capacity to access premium markets and improved value chains, to secure a reliable income source, contributing to more sustainable and resilient livelihoods.

- No activity for this output during the reporting period.

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.

- We were able to undertake only few activities during the reporting period because of the late notification of the project offer.
- Change of the project leader and team members as below list because they left from FFI.
Project Leader: Mark Grindley to Ngwe Lwin
Senior Conservation Biologist: Ngwe Lwin to (no assign yet)
Coordinator / Value Chain Expert: Myat Ko Ko Oo to Kyaw Kyaw Naing
The change request for the project team will be submitted soon.

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.

- Within September 2021, the project team had no issues with the implementation of project activities because we had only field work and meeting with small number of participants. However, there can be potential issues of meeting and training with large number of participants in the villages. We are planning to organize those activities with small number of participants and repeat them to meet the targeted number of people. Therefore, expenditure can be increased and more time will be required to complete those activities. If it is required to change for budget and timetable, we are going to submit the change request before the annual report.

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?

None

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**