

## Biodiversity Challenge Funds Projects

### Darwin Initiative, Illegal Wildlife Trade Challenge Fund, and Darwin Plus Half Year Report

*Note: If there is any confidential information within the report that you do not wish to be shared on our website, please ensure you clearly highlight this.*

**Submission Deadline: 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022**

<b>Project reference</b>	<a href="#">DIR28S2\1038 29-023</a>
<b>Project title</b>	Community-based conservation of snow leopard and its habitat in Pakistan
<b>Country(ies)/territory(ies)</b>	Pakistan
<b>Lead partner</b>	Snow Leopard Foundation
<b>Partner(s)</b>	Snow Leopard Trust
<b>Project leader</b>	<i>Snow Leopard Foundation</i>
<b>Report date and number (e.g. HYR1)</b>	<i>30 October 2022, SLFHYP 1</i>
<b>Project website/blog/social media</b>	<a href="http://www.slf.org.pk">www.slf.org.pk</a>

#### **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).**

Sr. No.	Activities planned as per Project Implementation Timetable	Progress from 1 June 2022 to 30 September 2022
1.1	Attend already established VCDO/CBO meetings, provide guidance for community mobilization and gender empowerment	Attended 22 meetings of established VCDOs/CBOs in 13 project sites and provided guidance for community mobilization and gender empowerment during the reporting period.
1.2	Establish new VCDOs and CBOs as per project requirements and attend meetings to provide guidance for community mobilization and gender empowerment	Initiated the process of establishing Women CBOs in two Snow Leopard Enterprises (SLE) sites. Community learning sessions were held and baseline surveys were initiated.
1.3	Identify and procure vaccines as per vaccination protocol and medicine for ectoparasites as per feedback from the GB Livestock Department.	Procured <i>Black Quarter</i> , <i>Haemorrhagic septicemia</i> , and <i>Enterotoxaemia</i> vaccines from VRI Peshawar in consultation with the Livestock Department, GB.
1.4	Vaccinate 50,000 cattle/ yak and 100,000 goat/sheep for Black Quarter, Enterotoxaemia, Foot and Mouth or other necessary vaccines recommended by the Livestock Department and protection of animals against ectoparasites like Mange.	Launched spring vaccination drive in the project sites in collaboration with the local CBOs and livestock department. Vaccinated 24,869 cattle/ yak and 68,850 goat/ sheep for Black Quarter, Haemorrhagic septicaemia and Enterotoxaemia vaccines as recommended by the Livestock Department, GB. 53 Ecosystem Health Workers (EHWs) participated in the vaccination campaigns in their respective valleys.
1.5	Monitor, collect, and compile data.	The SLF, Gilgit office monitored the vaccination drive in coordination with the CBO officials. Initial analysis of the data revealed that a total of 93,719 livestock

		including cattle (23%), yak (4%), and sheep and goats (73%) were vaccinated.
1.6	Approve selected sites, prepare feasibility and cost estimates for the construction of 2 predator-proof corrals	Selected Chipurson and Darkut valleys for the construction of two predator-proof corrals. Prepared feasibility and cost estimates of the corrals.
1.7	Sign agreements with the VCDOs/CBOs for the construction of Predator-proof corrals	Agreements for the construction of two predator-proof corrals were drafted and discussed with the VCDOs. Finalized and signed agreements with the communities.
1.8	Sign agreements with the VCDOs/CBOs for 4 livestock insurance schemes (LISs)	Agreements for three livestock insurance schemes (LISs) were drafted and discussed with the communities of Chipursan, Khyber, Ghulkin, and Qurumbar. Agreements were finalized and signed and seed grants were transferred.
1.9	Monitor collection of community share by the VCDOs/CBOs for LISs	The VCDOs augmented the LIS funds with a cumulative community share of PKR 810,000 in Chipursan, Khyber and Qurumbar valleys.
1.10	Form committees for the provision of compensations to community members for livestock loss due to predators	Established four committees in the LIS sites to compile, verify and recommend payment to predation-affected households using the LIS funds in the subsequent year.
1.11	Develop and provide selection criteria for different trainings of men and women community members of VCDOs/CBOs to identify the relevant community members	Developed and provided selection criteria to VCDOs/CBOs for the following training; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Financial management and record</li> <li>- keeping Snow Leopard Enterprises</li> </ul>
1.12	Sign agreements for SLE with VCDOs/CBOs	SLE agreements with Ghulkin and Khyber communities were drafted and shared with the CBOs for review and input.
1.13	Provide training to women for SLE	Developed formats and started SLE baseline data collection from the Ghulkin and Khyber valleys focusing on women folk. Data collected is being analyzed and training will be started by the end of November 2022.
2.1	Monitor poaching of snow leopards, their prey, and predation on livestock in collaboration with VCDOs/CBOs and the GB Wildlife Department.	The poaching of snow leopards and their wild prey was monitored in collaboration with the VCDOs/CBOs and GB Wildlife Department. No poaching incidence was reported from the project sites during the reporting period. Monitoring of livestock predation on livestock revealed that 34 animals mostly sheep and goats were reportedly killed by snow leopards in the project sites.
3.1	Make arrangements for a 2-days training workshop for 20 community activists (at least 30% women) in financial management and record keeping	Selection of the participants was initiated for a 2-days training workshop in financial management and record keeping. Training is planned for November 2022.
3.2	Engage 20 community conservation champions (at least 30% women) in dialogue with communities	Engaged 13 community conservation champions (8% women) in dialogue with communities in the project sites.
3.3	Establish Nature clubs in 13 valleys	Four student nature clubs were established in the project sites.

3.4	Initiate arrangement of one day workshop for 28 men members of CBO, 8 members of academia (4 men & 4 women), and 22 Wildlife Department staff in Wildlife Survey Techniques	The selection of participants has been initiated. A workshop will be arranged in the first week of December 2022, at the onset of the rut season surveys of wild ungulates.
3.5	Initiate the development of one brochure on conservation-related topics	Drafted a brochure on the Khunjerab National Park.
4.1	Provide relevant equipment/materials and conduct ungulate surveys through trained persons	Relevant equipment/materials have been arranged and ungulate surveys are planned in December 2022.
4.2	Provide relevant materials for collecting genetic samples of wildlife during surveys through trained persons	Stickers, bottles, and silica gel were arranged for the collection of genetic samples of wildlife to be conducted in December 2022.

**2. Give details of any notable problems or unexpected developments/lessons learned 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.**

Our project started on June 01, 2022, so relatively at the nascent stage. We are pleased to report that the project is on track and accomplished the planned targets. The recent flash floods and GLOF hit the project sites as much as other parts of the country and disrupted communication. However, the project team made efforts to ensure that the situation created should not hamper project deliverables. One of the team members i.e. a woman social organizer could not work on the project and was replaced.

**3. Have any of these issues been discussed with NIRAS-LTS International and if so, have changes been made to the original agreement?**

Discussed with NIRAS-LTS:	No
Formal Change Request submitted:	No (Changes in the original project were not required because of flood situation or change of a staff member)
Received confirmation of change acceptance	No
Change request reference if known:	

**4a. 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: £

**4b. 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 re-budget Change Request as soon as possible. There is no guarantee that Defra will agree a re-budget 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.**

**5. Are there any other issues you wish to raise relating to the project or to BCF management, monitoring, or financial procedures?**

No

**If you are a new project and you received feedback comments that requested a response (including the submission of your risk register), or if your Annual Report Review asked you to provide a response 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 NIRAS-LTS International through a Change Request. **Please DO NOT send these in the same email.****

Please send your **completed report by email** to [BCF-Reports@niras.com](mailto:BCF-Reports@niras.com). The report should be between 2-3 pages maximum. **Please state your project reference number, followed by the specific fund in the header of your email message e.g. Subject: 29-001 Darwin Initiative Half Year Report**