

## 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 2023**

<b>Project reference</b>	30-010
<b>Project title</b>	Securing Spermonde's seascape through community-based coral reef fisheries management
<b>Country(ies)/territory(ies)</b>	Indonesia
<b>Lead partner</b>	Fauna & Flora Indonesia Programme
<b>Partner(s)</b>	Regional Natural Resources Conservation Agency of South Sulawesi (BBKSDA), Maros Pangkep Geopark Management Body, National Marine Protected Areas Agency (BKKPN)
<b>Project leader</b>	<i>Subhan Usman</i>
<b>Report date and number (e.g. HYR1)</b>	<i>31 October 2023, HYR1</i>
<b>Project website/blog/social media</b>	-

**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:** By EOP, the Ecosystem Approach for Fisheries Management (EAFM) is being implemented by two fishing communities with support from MPA/Geopark managers

*Activity 1.1 Conduct baseline EAFM assessment (including fish resources, habitats and ecosystems, fishing techniques, and economic, social, institutional factors)*

In carrying out the EAFM assessment in the first half year, we achieved outputs as follows: Prepared a Term of Reference document for EAFM assessment which contains information on methods, scope of work and contract deadlines; contract of work with the EAFM Study Centre of Hasanuddin University in South Sulawesi. We discussed and prepared proposal to plan the methods and timeline. The assessment is ongoing and will be concluded in December 2024 in seven islands in the Spermonde waters. This is to better understand the full context within the Spermonde archipelago, better representation of island characteristics and eventually give greater impact.

*Activity 1.2 Conduct gaps assessment to identify gaps and priority interventions for sustainable fisheries management (fishing practices, market measures and MPA management actions) in 2 fishing communities*

This assessment is ongoing and will be concluded in February 2024.

*Activity 1.3 Conduct training needs assessment for both women and men in two communities*

This activity is on progress and will be concluded in February 2024.

*Activity 1.5 Conduct a series of workshops/meetings to strengthen inter-stakeholder dialogue and improve MPA/Geopark management*

We have conducted a series of meetings to strengthen inter-stakeholder dialogue to improve Geopark Management. The total number of participants involved throughout the meeting series was 158 people (73% men, 27% women) from 16 different institutions or groups. A series of meetings have been held including meetings with: A series of meetings have been held including meetings with Regional Natural Resources Conservation Agency (BKSDA) of South Sulawesi on 6th June 2023, Maros Pangkep Geopark Management Agency on 13th June 2023, Department of Marine Affairs and Fisheries of South Sulawesi (DKP) on 14th June 2023, National Marine Protected Areas Agency of Kupang for Kapoposang MPA and the Surrounding Waters (BKKPN) on 15th June 2023, and audience with the regional government of Pangkep District on 19 September 2023. They expressed their approval to our project and to keep involving stakeholders, especially the geopark managers, in implementing our project.

**Output 2:** By EOP, two communities are actively co-managing their fisheries resources through monitoring and surveillance patrols

*Activity 2.1 Facilitate the establishment and strengthening of fisher groups*

As part of the establishment and strengthening of fisher groups we recently recruited two community development officers who will identify actors and potential fisher groups on our two target islands. They are currently running an in-depth field survey to map actors involved in small-scale fisheries in the area as well as their roles and influence. Our community development officers received specialised training from experts about the establishment of and strengthening fisher groups, training on community-based fisheries management, conduct fisheries market chain and gap assessment using Participatory Market System Development (PMSD) approach, and facilitate training to strengthen fisheries market and livelihood.

Based on preliminary information from the Department of Marine Affairs and Fisheries of South Sulawesi, there are a community surveillance group (*kelompok masyarakat pengawas-pokmaswas*), a youth interest group in marine environment who are against destructive fishing called “Pacarita”, and a community group for social welfare called “Kompak” in the area. We see an opportunity to involve them in monitoring or surveillance activities.

*Activity 2.5 Facilitate a series of training sessions for community-based fisheries management in monitoring surveillance standard/protocols, fisheries management, fish landing monitoring, SMART patrol.*

We will start doing this activity after concluding the training needs assessment that will be done in January 2024 (Year 1 Q4).

**Output 3:** Fisheries livelihoods in two coastal communities are more secure and sustainable through implementation of Participatory Market Systems Development

*Activity 3.1 Conduct market linkages and gaps assessment using Participatory Market System Development (PMSD) market mapping approach*

Participatory Market Systems Development (PMSD) assessment is partly included in the EAFM assessment that will be concluded in January 2024. Further PMSD assessment will be conducted after then. However, a series of meetings and preparations with a partner such as the Department of Marine Affairs and Fisheries of South Sulawesi were held to assess market linkages and gaps in our target area. We also figured an opportunity to integrate our project with the National Marine Protected Areas Agency’s workplan in 2023.

3.2 Facilitating the development of action plans by priority stakeholder groups to improve commodity/product quality and meet market standards from two communities, including gender-disaggregated measures - Activity for Year 1 Q4.

*Activity 3.3 Facilitate monitoring and evaluation of stakeholder action plan implementation* - This activity will be shifted to Year 1 Q3/Q4.

**Output 4:** By 2026, the management and zoning plan of the Geopark for the Spermonde Karst island include actions to mitigate land-based impacts on marine ecosystems

*Activity 4.1 Facilitate stakeholder workshops and scientific computer-based modelling to develop models of land-based impacts on marine environment.*

Initial preparation for this activity is carried out by having discussions with our key stakeholders. Some brainstorming has been done to influence key stakeholders of the idea. We encouraged them to step into initial phase of drafting a roadmap for integrated management of Maros Pangkep Geopark.

**2. 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.**

1. Our difficulties on having key field staffs which will be working on the remote area in Spermonde. The recruitment process unfortunately took longer time (on selecting and hiring) than our usual process.
2. Unpredicted weather like thunderstorm which happened frequently during November 2022 until January 2023 period, also impacted our delay in assessing the entire Spermonde area.
3. To align with these adjustments, we kindly propose a rescheduling of the timeline to the next year, which we will be submitting via a change request shortly.

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

Discussed with NIRAS:  Yes/No

Formal Change Request submitted:  Yes/No

Received confirmation of change acceptance  Yes/No

Change request reference if known: -

**4a. Please confirm your actual spend in this financial year to date (i.e., from 1 April 2023 – 30 September 2023)**

Actual spend:

**4b. Do you currently expect to have any significant (e.g., more than £5,000) underspend in your budget for this financial year (ending 31 March 2024)?**

Yes  ~~No~~  Estimated underspend:

**4c. 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.**

**NB: if you expect an underspend, do not claim anything more than you expect to spend this financial year.**

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

**If you are a new project and you received feedback comments that requested a response, 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.**

**All new projects (excluding Darwin Plus Fellowships and IWT Challenge Fund Evidence projects) should submit their Risk Register with this report if they have not already done so.**

**Please note: Any planned modifications to your project schedule/workplan can be discussed in this report but **should also** be raised with NIRAS 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**