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: 31ˢᵗ October 2022

Project reference	DARNV009
Project title	Developing and testing a sustainability assessment framework for wildlife use
Country(ies)/territory(ies)	Tanzania, South Africa, Indonesia
Lead partner	IIED
Partner(s)	TRAFFIC, EPIC Biodiversity, Endangered Wildlife Trust
Project leader	Dilys Roe
Report date and number (e.g. HYR1)	31 October 2022 – HYR1
Project website/blog/social media	In development

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).

This project started in June 2022, so this report covers the period June to Sept (4 months).

Planned activities in this period were to:

1) Identify relevant experts to join our Multidisciplinary Expert Group and

2) Conduct a literature review to identify relevant existing frameworks that address one of more of our 5 sustainability dimensions

To address these, we held an inception meeting with the project partners in June. At this meeting we reviewed the workplan, set up a shared folder in order to deposit relevant literature that each partner was aware; and shared ideas on names and contacts of potential members of the expert group.

After a further round of discussion on expert group members we are now just about to send out invitations to join.

We have also conducted a literature review, and are about to convene a second team meeting to review findings to date, identify gaps and start to pull together the first draft framework.

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.
No notable problems to report

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: Yes/No   N/A
Formal Change Request submitted: Yes/No
Received confirmation of change acceptance   Yes/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?
Nothing to raise at this stage

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 <u>planned</u> 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. The report should be between 2-3 pages maximum. **<u>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</u>**