

Darwin Initiative for the Survival of Species

Half Year Report (due 31 October each year)

Project Ref. No.	EIDPO7 (Follow up to 162/11/003)
Project Title	Ensuring Legacy and Conservation impact within Kenya's Biodiversity monitoring network
Country(ies)	Kenya
UK Organisation	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB)
Collaborator(s)	Nature Kenya, National Museums of Kenya-Department of Ornithology, Forest Department, Kenya Wildlife Service, National Environment Management Authority
Report date	<i>April to September 2006</i>
Report No. (HYR 1/2/3/4)	2
Project website	www.naturekenya.org www.rspb.org.uk

1. Outline progress over the last 6 months (April – September) against the agreed baseline timetable for the project (if your project has started less than 6 months ago, please report on the period since start up).

- The Training of Trainers course took place at Naivasha in April 2006 (24th-28th) with 23 participants representing KWS, Nature Kenya, Forest Department and NEMA. The training has been very useful to the participants who have been involved in making presentations about the project and other biodiversity conservation initiatives to the community and fellow officers in their respective organisations.
- 2000 copies of the Kenya IBA Status and Trends 2005 report were printed in May 2006 and launched (just outside this period) on 6th October 2006. The Chief Conservator of Forests was the chief Guest at the launch attended by close to 50 guests representing government institutions (Forest Department, Kenya Wildlife Service, National Environment Management Authority), embassies, NGOs and donor community.
- Retrieval of 2006 basic monitoring forms continued being received through focal points at the key institutions. The team continued to carry out preliminary data analysis and data input for Kinangop, Kikuyu escarpment, Kakamega and Lake Victoria (Dung) Swamp sites. Feedback was given to Kikuyu and Lake Victoria (Dunga Papyrus) swamp.
- A new Site Support Group (SSG) was established at Cherengani and a training held between 23th and 25th August 2006 to strengthen the group, train them in monitoring activities and create awareness on the importance of Cherengani as an IBA. The new group at Busia is also developing.
- A management plan for reserves at Kinangop Plateau was drafted with the assistance of technical experts from the RSPB in April 2006. Friends of Kinangop discussed the draft Kinangop action plan and made suggestions on the management of the Nature Reserves and areas that the community can contribute. New comments on the Site Action Plans for Lake Victoria (Dunga) Swamp and Mukurweini Valley were received and incorporated into the plans.

- Samson Njehia of Forest Department and Simon Musila of Ornithology Department held a stakeholders meeting and training and advisory visits on the coast in May 2006. Data collection and training were undertaken in Kakamega in June 2006.
- Nature Kenya supported Waterfowl census for the wet season that took place in July 2006. A total of 100 volunteers were involved in the counts which covered six sites. Out of the six sites, four are Ramsar sites. A total of 561,632 waterbirds of 71 species and 19 families were counted at these sites.
- Enock Kanyanya attended the first Kenya Forestry Society professional conference where he presented a paper on the IBA monitoring in Kenya. He also attended the African Partnership of BirdLife meeting in Addis Ababa where he presented a paper on the project and a meeting organized by Birdlife Africa Secretariat in Nairobi where he shared the IBA monitoring experience with representatives from other African countries who were developing a project for GEF support.
- He also attended a meeting called by Forest Department to discuss forest monitoring and data exchange. Forest Department is in the process of developing monitoring guidelines for forest areas where participatory forest management is taking place. KWS is also formulating a habitat monitoring programme for all parks in Kenya. It was agreed that it was necessary that Nature Kenya, Forest Department and Kenya Wildlife Service work together to hold a national workshop to discuss data and data sharing in Kenya.
- Alex Ngari of Nature Kenya attended training on information exchange and sharing mechanisms from 29th May to 3rd June 2006. This was organized and delivered by NEMA and covered database management and web based data management. The main purpose of the training was to facilitate exchange and sharing of information among CBD focal institutions (government and Non Government).
- An Advisory meeting was held on 27th June 2006. The meeting advised the project implementation committee to use the national monitoring subcommittee more, discussed annual status report production and recommended that the next report could cover part of 2007 and therefore be called 2006/7. Site accounts should be summarized and sent to relevant sites to enable quick action. The meeting critically looked at the trainings undertaken and advised the PIT to undertake an analysis of the effect of the training in order to make best use of remaining opportunities and resources.

2. Give details of any notable problems or unexpected developments 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.

Maurice Ogoma left on 25th July 2006 for masters' degree in Tropical Aquatic Ecology at the University of Bremen, Germany. He was promptly replaced by Ireene Madindou who was a research intern at the Ornithology Department. She has a degree in Zoology from the University of Eastern Africa-Baraton. Fred Barasa replaced Simon Musila who is now the National Water Bird coordinator based at Ornithology Department and also undertaking a masters. Fred has a Master of Science degree in Conservation Biology. Although the turnover of Fellows continues to be high prompt replacement has minimised disruption and Musila is still available for advice.

The focal point at KWS Mr Erastus Kanga left for Netherlands for his PhD programme but was not replaced. Although he is back in Kenya, during his absence activities with KWS slowed down. We have not received forms from NEMA so far. Earlier analysis established that the

forms had not reached the field. More forms were supplied to the focal point who said he send them to the field. The focal point Parkinson Ndonge, is following up the issue. We still need to work more with the institutions to broaden support for the project so that we are less dependent on individuals.

Have any of these issues been discussed with the Darwin Secretariat and if so, have changes been made to the original agreement?

No

We received a helpful response to our previous annual report and were requested to deal with the issues raised in our next annual report.

Discussed with the DI Secretariat: no/yes, in..... (month/yr)

Changes to the project schedule/work plan: no/yes, in.....(month/yr)

3. 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 or budget should not be discussed in this report but raised with the Darwin Secretariat directly.

Please send your **completed form by 31 October each year per email** to Stefanie Halfmann, Darwin Initiative M&E Programme, stefanie.halfmann@ed.ac.uk. The report should be between 1-2 pages maximum. **Please state your project reference number in the header of your email message.**