



Darwin Initiative: Half Year Report

(due 31 October 2014)

Project Ref No	EIDPO044
Project Title	Harnessing livelihood benefits from a payment for environmental services scheme
Country(ies)	Uganda
Lead Organisation	Chimpanzee Sanctuary & Wildlife Conservation Trust
Collaborator(s)	International Institute of Environment and Development
Project Leader	<i>Lilly Ajarova</i>
Report date and number (eg HYR3)	<i>HYR2</i>
Project website	http://ngambaisland.com/?page_id=546 and http://www.iied.org/paying-local-communities-for-ecosystem-services-chimpanzee-conservation-corridor

1. Outline progress over the last 6 months (April – Sept) 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 to end September).

Summary

In this reporting period, woodlot and bee keeping trainings for Project participants were held, facilitated by Nature Harness Initiative (NAHI) and Malaika Honey respectively. A bee keeping training was conducted and a simple manual guide developed to guide forest owners to implement the enterprise. Community Based Tourism Initiative (COBATI) and Kombi Nation Tours Limited visited the project site to assess available facilities and potential products for community ecotourism development. Trainings in woodlot establishment and subsequent seedling distribution were done between April and September 2014. Partnership with the National Forestry Authority enabled us to leverage additional support for tree seedlings for woodlot establishment. We describe progress per planned activity below.

Activity 1.2 Under this activity, two main actions were undertaken; 1). We established a woodlot demonstration in addition to already existing sites identified in the previous year. At the time of writing the report, planting of trees and laying out the nursery were on-going. Itohya forest that is under the sustainable governance by the Technical College was identified and is a site for demonstration to the local populace on how to sustainably manage a forest. 2). We assessed requirements for community based tourism by working with COBATI and Kombi Nation Tours and a package for this sustainable enterprise is under development. As far as bee keeping is concerned, we identified an established Apiary which also acted as our training site.

Activity 1.3 and 1.4 NAHI facilitated training of 133 forest owners in tree nursery management and woodlot and fruit lot enterprise establishment and management between 15th April and 7th May 2014. In addition, 33 forest owners were trained by Malaika Honey in the bee keeping enterprise from 23rd-25th July 2014. The forest owners were trained at the already present local sites suitable for demonstration purposes. Forest Owners who are to establish the Bee keeping were trained at the home of a lead bee farmer in the region. The woodlot/fruit lot training was held at four different training sites at forest owners' convenience.

Activity 1.5 To facilitate replication of the livelihood enterprises, the project delivered 18,700 seedlings for woodlot establishment for a total area of 26 acres in three sub counties. However not

all private forest owners in the three sub counties received seedlings as a few were not ready to plant in August-September planting season. It was agreed that these would plant in March 2015. We further are looking at expanding the beekeeping to more forest owners and we see an opportunity to partner with Post Bank Uganda Limited to allow for sustainable financing through credit access. Discussion on this is ongoing and is expected to be completed in next quarter.

Activity 1.6 The field staff and community based monitors have continued visiting, advising and reminding forest owners of the techniques on the establishment and management practices that support enterprise administration. The guides and manuals were developed for bee keeping, tree nursery and woodlot establishments.

Activity 1.7 A partners' breakfast meeting was organized on 11th September 2014 at Sheraton Kampala Hotel targeting corporate to interest them to contribute/buy ecosystem services. As a result three companies have expressed interest in the payment for ecosystem services scheme and forest conservation and restoration. These include Tullow Oil Pty, Roofings Limited and Uganda Breweries Limited. At the request of Tullow Oil Pty, the Chimpanzee Trust has already submitted a concept note in this regard. Follow ups are to be made with the others.

Activity 2.1 The results of the GEF project and its co-financing from this project were shared with key partners and stakeholders on 28th and 29th August 2014. The participants were drawn from public and private sector. The field staffs have continually attended technical planning meetings at sub county and district level, influencing policy decisions made at that level and to lobby the district to include PES into their work plan and budgets.

Activity 2.2 Although further follow up was made with the Clerk to the Parliamentary Committee on Natural Resources and later with the Public Relations Manager of parliament, it was noted that members were not available given busy government budgeting and approval cycle between April-September 2014. This will be pursued in the remaining period of the project.

Activity 2.3 Ms. Maryanne Grieg Gran retired from IIED in May 2014 and a new contact was established with Ms. Ina Porras based at IIED in Edinburgh. Much of her time during this reporting period has been devoted to desk review to understand the project since its inception. Ms Porras couldn't join the partners meeting held in August 2014 given that she had another trip in Costa Rica at the same time. However, she provided in-put on a number of aspects including on the bee keeping guidance.

Activity 2.4 Chimpanzee Trust published an article in local Ugandan press, the *New Vision* on May 22, 2014 a day designated as International Day for Biodiversity. The article provided information on the strategies that the Trust is implementing to conserve the remaining private forests in western Uganda.

Chimpanzee Trust has continued to invite journalists/media houses to Chimpanzee Trust events and activities including at the Technical Steering Committee meeting of the PES scheme.

Preparations were made for participation in the Conference of Party 12 of Convention on Biological Diversity in South Korea. The Project Manager will attend the COP12 Conference 8th to 18th October 2014, where he will advocate for the PES scheme a strategy for sustainable forest governance.

Activity 3.2 The tool developed to monitor social impacts was discussed with NAHI on 15th August 2014 in preparation for a follow-up survey initially scheduled for September 2014. However, the field work didn't take place mainly because of 2 reasons; 1). The project prioritized woodlot establishment since September was the planting season. 2). Mr. Namanya Beria who was taking lead at NAHI moved on to a different job leaving a gap at NAHI. This activity will be undertaken in the following quarter in order to assess progress towards identified targets using indicators

identified during the social-impact monitoring training conducted in February 2014.

Activity 3.3 The community based monitors continue to collect biodiversity data using the biodiversity monitoring tools developed in the main project. A bi-annual habitat monitoring report was produced in June 2014 which shows increased threat to the tree species that the chimpanzees nest on.

Activity 3.4 As reported in the previous report, this activity will be conducted in last quarter after all the data is consolidated in partnership with NBDB.

Activity 3.5 The project team was consulted to train other identified community members to play a role as community monitors under the Murchison Semliki Landscape under the REDD+ initiative being guided by Wildlife Conservation Society. The Conservation Officer, who is also the field officer under this project, was part of this training team. In addition, the Project Manager made presentations that reflected the important role of community monitoring such as during the stakeholders workshop results dissemination in August 2014, and two consultative meetings with pre-REDD+ pilots being developed by IITA and IUCN respectively. These consultative meetings were held in August and September 2014. In all of the above mentioned forums, the role of community monitors was emphasized.

2a. 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.

2b. Have any of these issues been discussed with LTS International and if so, have changes been made to the original agreement?

Discussed with LTS: Yes/No

Formal change request submitted: Yes/No

Received confirmation of change acceptance Yes/No

3a. Do you currently expect to have any significant (eg 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 as it is unlikely that any requests to carry forward funds will be approved this year. 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 and would like to talk to someone about the options available this year, please indicate below when you think you might be in a position to do this and what the reasons might be:

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 send your **completed report by email** to Eilidh Young at 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 eg Subject: 20-035 Darwin Half Year Report**