

# Darwin Initiative: Half Year Report

(due 31 October 2007)

<b>Project Ref. No.</b>	14 - 033
<b>Project Title</b>	Darwin Training Programmes for Integrated Protected Area Management: Ghana
<b>Country(ies)</b>	Ghana
<b>UK Organisation</b>	Living Earth Foundation LEF
<b>Collaborator(s)</b>	Living Earth Foundation Ghana (LEFG)
<b>Project Leader</b>	<i>Javier Alvarez (LEF) and Afia Asamoah (LEFG)</i>
<b>Report date</b>	<i>31 October 2007</i>
<b>Report No. (HYR 1/2/3/4)</b>	<i>HY2</i>
<b>Project website</b>	<i><a href="http://www.livingearth.org.uk/africaprogrammes/ghana/darwintraining.html">http://www.livingearth.org.uk/africaprogrammes/ghana/darwintraining.html</a></i>

**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).**

## **Training of Trainers (ToT) and Direct Training:**

The Training Team (TT), integrated by the Wildlife Division and LEFG, has met several times in Accra from April to October with the objective of designing the training structure and defining final details for the modules content.

Training Modules are finished and they have been used in the ToT sessions conducted in October in Kumasi (Ghana). A National Programme was structured by the TT in order to meet the training objectives for staff from WD and other related public agencies. Additionally, representatives from 10 NGOs working on relevant projects related to the process of developing CREMAs, will be invited to attend the training sessions for Government staff. This will enrich the training interactions.

Formal agreements from the Government for staff time allocation for attending the training courses has been completed.

The National Training Programme will start on the 19 November 2007 in Bonsu (Ghana). After the first set of staff training there will be a new ToT session to review and analyse the experience and make the necessary adaptations. Please find attached a copy of the staff training Workshops Structure.

The Training Adviser (from the UK) has spent two and a half weeks in Ghana over the last 3 months.

## **Training Workshops for Communities:**

A Local Programme was designed by the TT to meet the project objective of training communities. The selected communities are linked to 4 ecological zones: Savannah – local community: Mole, Transitional zone – local community Digya, Forests – local community: Ankasa and Coastal belt – local community: Bonsu (with the objective of addressing the specific realities and challenges for the establishment of CREMAs in different ecosystems). Please find attached a letter from the Executive Director with the WD suggestion of the use of

their ecosystem approach to the project and also the mention of the involvement of new Government stakeholders into the training plans. A programme for delivering 12 courses with approximately 30 community members each has been designed. Courses will be delivered from January to May (we have requested a six month extension to the project end date.)

### **Preparation of Handbook:**

The training handbook with the modules has been completed. Working copies will be printed for the training sessions in November where it will be piloted. The final handbooks will be printed after they have been reviewed at the end of November.

## **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.**

### **Delays**

During May 2007 Afia Asamoia (the Training Manager and local project leader) fell ill – the process included emergency surgery and a long recovery period until July 2007. This situation unfortunately caused severe delays to the project implementation due to the small size of LEFG and the key role of Afia in the project.

The training activities for staff will be implemented from November 2007 to January 2008. The communities workshops will also be later than initially planned (as mentioned earlier)

### **Output 6**

We propose to review Output 6: “*The establishment of 4 CREMAs enhanced and facilitated by newly trained WD staff and aware communities.*” The process of establishing new CREMAs depends on the political decision of the Government. During recent months, through discussions with the WD we have found that they are not intending to start establishing new CREMAs at present and are focussing on their capacity building for dealing with existing CREMAs. Therefore changes in external factors have caused LEF to modify this output of the project and contribute to this capacity building process instead and therefore to the future capacity of the Government in promoting new CREMAs.

The attached letter from WD shows their interest using their ecosystem approach in order to build capacity for the different realities of the country.

It is important to mention that the Executive Director whom originally endorsed the project in 2005 has retired and was replaced early this year.

### **Stakeholders**

The TT has involved new stakeholders into the training process: Forestry Services Division (FSD), the Resource Management Resource Centre (RMSC) of the Forestry Commission and the Animal and Crop Services Department of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MOFA). These new public institutions involved in the project will expand the capacity building process of this project and the outcomes, considering that the establishment of CREMAs requires Government endorsement.

### **Dissemination**

The incorporation of additional Government departments into the training sessions as well as NGOs into the training public – both actions decided by the local TT - will help with the dissemination of the training materials and of learning outcomes.

Additionally, a specific meeting involving members of LEFG and LEFUK addressing the need of

a dissemination strategy will be held in Accra in December 2007.

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

Yes. Specifically regarding the need to review Output 6 and the need to extending the project end date.

**Discussed with the DI Secretariat ...yes, in..... (September 2007)**

**Changes to the project schedule/workplan: yes. We've proposed a project extension of 6 months. (September 2007)**

**3. Are there any other issues you wish to raise relating to the project or to Darwin's management, monitoring, or financial procedures?**

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.

[Responses are included en section 2 of this report.](#)

**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 email** to Eilidh Young, Darwin Initiative M&E Programme at [Darwin-Projects@ectf-ed.org.uk](mailto:Darwin-Projects@ectf-ed.org.uk) . The report should be between 1-2 pages maximum. **Please state your project reference number in the header of your email message eg Subject: 14-075 Darwin Half Year Report**