



Darwin Initiative Annual Report 2005/2006

**Darwin Training Programmes for Integrated Protected Area
Management: Ghana**

Living Earth Foundation

Number of Pages: 11

Annex 1: Training Needs Assessment - Paper
Annex 2: Preparatory Workshop at Accra - Picture

Darwin Initiative

Annual Report

1. Darwin Project Information

Project Ref. Number	14 - 033
Project Title	Darwin Training Programmes for Integrated Protected Area Management: Ghana
Country(ies)	Ghana
UK Contractor	Living Earth Foundation
Partner Organisation(s)	Living Earth Foundation Ghana
Darwin Grant Value	£180,542
Start/End dates	October 2005 to March 2008
Reporting period	1 st October 2005 to 31 st Mar 2006 (annual report number 1)
Project website	www.livingearth.org.uk
Author(s), date	Javier Alvarez / Ismail Lansah, 25 April

2. Project Background

The location of the project is Ghana. The local Wildlife Division has developed a Collaborative Wildlife Management Policy, which gives a more practical meaning to the 1994 Forest and Wildlife Policy. One of the eight 'Objectives and Strategies' of the Wildlife Division is to 'foster closer collaboration with communities close to Protected Areas through the promotion of community resource management areas (CREMA)'. Because it transfers power over resources, the CREMA process is fraught with potential misunderstandings and tension on both sides and can only succeed if the implementing agency has well-trained and motivated staff at its disposal.

The project meets the pressing need to develop the community liaison function of the WD around protected areas so that mutual trust can be established. It will also promote closer collaboration between the WD's protection and community liaison functions. To date no external funding has been available to support this capacity development.

3. Project Purpose and Outputs

Project purpose:

To build the capacity of Wildlife Division, Ghana to deliver effective training programmes to improve community liaison and biodiversity protection through promoting the establishment of Community Resource Management Areas around Ghana's protected areas.

Outputs:

- ❖ *Structured training programme consisting of three progressive one-week courses developed.*
- ❖ *Training courses delivered to WD field staff in 4 protected areas.*
- ❖ *Community training programme delivered.*
- ❖ *Training course book published.*
- ❖ *Community liaison WD staff handbook published.*
- ❖ *The establishment of 4 CREMAs enhanced and facilitated by newly trained WD staff and aware communities.*
- ❖ *Evaluation report published*

No outputs changed.

4. Progress

The Wildlife Division (WD) is the institution responsible for the legal framework of Community Resource Management Areas (CREMA) in Ghana; it provides training personnel and field staff and is responsible for ensuring sustainability of project outputs. Living Earth has a successful working relationship with the Wildlife Division focussed on the Ankasa Forest Exploration Base. Throughout the EU-funded 'Protected Areas Development Programme' (PADP – 1996-2000), Living Earth Foundation (UK) provided regular technical assistance and worked with Wildlife Division to provide conservation education and community liaison expertise. An aspect of this work included the development and promotion of the CREMA concept at the community level and development of the Ankasa Exploration Base (Western region), an experiential learning centre located several kilometres inside the protected area of the Ankasa Resource Reserve. The need for 'Darwin Training Programmes' has been identified as a result of these collaborations and both the WD and LEG have been instrumental in developing project details.

The Project has been set-up. One Training Needs Assessment paper has been produced as part of the analysis process. Course development workshops have been held in Accra and Takoradi involving WD staff and local community leaders. Collection of information and know how for preparation of training modules (and continuous revision) started in February 2006.

The project's achievement in this stage have been related to the set up of the project and mainly regarding the building up of a working network for the implementation of the project involving WD directors and staff and other NGOs and local leaders.

- ❖ The Wildlife Division (WD) has shown a wide political commitment for the success of this project and its continuity. WD has offered meeting facilities for hosting one of the Development Workshops and other working meetings.

- ❖ The Training Need Assessment document prepared during this stage of the project provides valuable information on the opportunities and challenges for implementing CREMA and will be offered for other public and private institutions working on this subject. Two main methods were used to gather information for this report. The first was a desk review of documentation of the CREMA concept and the second was discussions and interviews with middle level managers and technicians of WD and NGO members who are involved with collaborative resource management.
- ❖ Preparation Workshops and working meetings. Senior representatives from the WD – led by its executive director B.Y. Ofori-Frimpong – attended to a preparatory workshop, organized by LEF, held at the WD headquarters to define details for the training courses implementation.
- ❖ Presentation meetings with several local stakeholders in order to identify potential partners and boost local synergy has been organized between February and April 2006 (please find more details on the institutions contacted in the partnerships section)

In order to promote a full involvement of the different Wildlife Division bodies, and to strengthen the partnership building process, we have developed a wider range of preparation meetings with DW leaders and staff. Additionally a key focal point within WD, Andrew Agyare (member of the directors team of the WD), has been identified to coordinate project implementation.

Timetable for 2006/2007

Activity	Timing
Monitoring and evaluation as above	<i>Continuous</i>
Direct training and ToT for WD staff	<i>Month 7 to 30</i>
Preparation of Training Course Book	<i>Month 7 to 13</i>
Training workshops for communities	<i>Month 13 to 30</i>
Publication of Training Course Book	<i>Month 15</i>
Preparation of Community Liaison Guide	<i>Month 7 to 17</i>
Publication of Community Liaison Guide	<i>Month 18</i>

5. Actions taken in response to previous reviews (if applicable)

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6. Partnerships

The Wildlife Division (Forestry Commission of the Ghana Government) is actively involved as the main local partner of the project. They are providing staff time, logistic infrastructure and meeting facilities. However the partnership development for the project has been taking more time than planned because the difficulties for coordination timing for meetings and workshops with the small team of directors of WD (usually the WD members expend a considerable part of their working times in the interior of the country and they manage informal agendas)

The British Council Accra has provided meeting facilities and network contacts to present the project to local young leaders linked with British Government scholarships.

During this first part of the project we established contact and provided information about the project (by face to face meetings) with the follow companies and institutions: Chamber of Mines (Ghana), The British Council Accra, British High Commission, Australia High Commission, UNDP Global Compact, The National Group on Forest Certification, Friends of the Earth Ghana, Conservation International Ghana, Wildlife Society Ghana, Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF), Newmont, Shell, Standard Chartered Bank, Birdlife West African Programme, Environmental Foundation for Africa, Global Conservation Fund and Centre for Intercultural Learning & Talent Development.

We are following up the discussions for arranging specific initiatives to be developed between these institutions and some of the project actions.

7. Impact and Sustainability

This initial stage has focused on setting up a working relationship between the WD and Living Earth Foundation Ghana (including definitions on implementation roles). As a consequence the public profile of the project to date is low. However, as was stated above there were several links and presentation meetings with important stakeholders in the field of biodiversity conservation in Ghana. After the beginning of the training activities, more diffusion actions will be taken to increase the interest for biodiversity at public levels.

At this stage of the project, we are attempting to assure the sustainability of the outcomes of the project by focussing on developing strong institutional ownership within WD. We will continue to pay close attention to the exit strategy.

8. Outputs, Outcomes and Dissemination

There are no significant differences between the actual outputs and those agreed in the initial Project Implementation Timetable.

The institutional networking with 17 key stakeholders (linked to biodiversity and capacity building processes in Ghana) and the spread of the project information to more than 20 British Council scholars are additional outputs achieved in this period (details in the Partnerships section).

Dissemination activities corresponding to the first stage of the project were focussed on the stakeholders mentioned in the Partnership section.

The majority of project outputs stated in section 21, will be met from April 2006.

Table 1. Project Outputs (According to Standard Output Measures)

Code No.	Description	Year 1 Total	Year 2 Total	Year 3 Total	Year 4 Total	TOTAL
8	Work to include course development and training, partnership development and project management. Visits of Javier Alvarez and Kat May from Living Earth Foundation	4				4
23	Match funding for the project from Living Earth Foundation's resources	£9,050				£9,050

Table 2: Publications

No publications planned for this report period.

Type *	Detail	Publishers	Available from	Cost £
(e.g. journals, manual, CDs)	(title, author, year)	(name, city)	(e.g. contact address, website)	

9. Project Expenditure

Table 3: Project expenditure during the reporting period (Defra Financial Year 01 April to 31 March)

Note: The amounts include Darwin funding and other funding

10. Monitoring, Evaluation and Lessons

The main actions this year, related to the establishment of the working network between WD and Living Earth Ghana LEG, was monitored through the quantity and quality (in terms of the consensus agreed) of the meetings between the LEG's programme coordinator and the counterparts at the WD.

The Training Need Assessment paper is a concrete output emerging from the working meetings and course development workshops. Its qualitative value is measure through its contribution to the definition of the content of the project's training modules.

At this early stage of the project no specific lessons have emerged.

11. OPTIONAL: Outstanding achievements of your project during the reporting period (300-400 words maximum)

We'll share our learning after the first 12 months of implementation of the project, when lessons on the training actions are available.

■ **I agree for ECTF and the Darwin Secretariat to publish the content of this section**

In this section you have the chance to let us know about outstanding achievements of your project over the year that you consider worth highlighting to ECTF and the Darwin Secretariat. This could relate to achievements already mentioned in this report, on which you would like to expand further, or achievements that were in addition to the ones planned and deserve particular attention e.g. in terms of best practice. The idea is to use this section for various promotion and dissemination purposes, including e.g. publication in the Defra Annual Report, Darwin promotion material, or on the Darwin website. As we will not be able to ask projects on an individual basis for their consent to publish the content of this section, please note the above agreement clause.

Annex 1 Report of progress and achievements against Logical Framework for Financial Year: 2005/2006

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2005-Mar 2006	Actions required/planned for next period
<p>Goal: To draw on expertise relevant to biodiversity from within the United Kingdom to work with local partners in countries rich in biodiversity but poor in resources to achieve</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The conservation of biological diversity, • The sustainable use of its components, and • The fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilisation of genetic resources 			
<p>Purpose <i>(insert original project purpose statement)</i></p> <p>To build the capacity of Wildlife Division, Ghana to deliver effective training programmes to improve community liaison and biodiversity protection through promoting the establishment of Community Resource Management Areas around Ghana's protected areas.</p>	<p><i>(insert original purpose level indicators)</i></p> <p>Community relations around 4 protected areas improved to the extent that WD Community Liaison staff can facilitate Community Resource Management Areas (CREMAs) with the full support and involvement of communities.</p>	<p><i>(report impacts and achievements resulting from the project against purpose indicators – if any)</i></p> <p>This period was focussed in the partnership building for the project implementation.</p>	<p><i>(report any lessons learned resulting from the project & highlight key actions planning for next period)</i></p> <p>The actions planned for the next period include: Monitoring and evaluation; Direct training and ToT for WD staff; Preparation of Training Course Book; Training workshops for communities; Publication of Training Course Book; Preparation of Community Liaison Guide and Publication of Community Liaison Guide</p>
<p>Outputs</p>			
<p><i>(insert original outputs – one per line)</i></p>	<p><i>(insert original output level indicators)</i></p>	<p><i>(report completed activities and outcomes that contribute toward</i></p>	<p><i>(report any lessons learned resulting from the project & highlight</i></p>

		<i>outputs and indicators)</i>	<i>key actions planning for next period)</i>
<i>Structured training programme consisting of three progressive one-week courses developed.</i>	<i>3 modules written up & submitted to WD senior management.</i>	The modules are being prepared based in the inputs of the Training Need Assessment paper and of the working meetings with the team of the WD. This work includes a continuous revision of the content and methodologies in order to adapt the training to the local circumstances.	The preparation of training course book will be completed according to the timeline of the project milestones.
<i>Training courses delivered to WD field staff in 4 protected areas. (*)</i>	<i>60 training days delivered to 80 WD field staff.</i>	For the next period	<i>Direct training and ToT for WD staff; Preparation of Training Course Book; Training workshops for communities; Publication of Training Course Book; Preparation of Community Liaison Guide and Publication of Community Liaison Guide</i>
<i>Community training programme delivered. (*)</i>	<i>48 training days delivered to 320 community members,</i>	For the next period	<i>Direct training and ToT for WD staff; Preparation of Training Course Book; Training workshops for communities; Publication of Training Course Book; Preparation of Community Liaison Guide and Publication of Community Liaison Guide</i>
<i>Training course book published. (*)</i>	<i>1,000 WD training course books published & adopted by WD training</i>	For the next period	<i>Publication of Training Course Book</i>

	<i>unit.</i>		
<i>Community liaison WD staff handbook published. (*)</i>	<i>1,000 handbooks explaining & popularising CREMAs published and distributed through WD.</i>	For the next period	<i>Preparation of Community Liaison Guide and Publication of Community Liaison Guide</i>
<i>The establishment of 4 CREMAs enhanced and facilitated by newly trained WD staff and aware communities.</i>	<i>4 CREMAs registered with Wildlife Division</i>	For the follow period	Identification of the areas
<i>Evaluation report published</i>	<i>Report on experience written up and submitted for publication</i>	For the follow period	

Note: Please do NOT expand rows to include activities since their completion and outcomes should be reported under the column on progress and achievements at output and purpose levels.