# **Darwin Initiative**

Half Year Report: April — September 2008



Project Ref. No. 14-035

Project Title Strengthening pro-poor wetland conservation using integrated biodiversity

and livelihood assessment

Countries Cambodia and Tanzania

UK OrganisationIUCN – The International Union for Conservation of NatureCollaborator(s)Overseas Development Group (University of East Anglia), UK

IUCN Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office, Kenya

IUCN Cambodia Country Office IUCN Tanzania Country Office

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Report No. HYR 3

**Project website** (currently being re-developed)

# 1. Outline progress over the last 6 months (April – September) against the agreed baseline timetable for the project

The following scheduled project activities were addressed over this HYR reporting period;

#### Technical reports produced for Cambodia and Tanzania

The technical report for the Mtanza-Msona case study assessment in Tanzania was distributed during the Local Awareness Workshop#2 on 8/9 September. Copies were distrubuted to the Rufiji District environmental, the Mtanza-Msona, the University of Sokoine, Tanzania Forest Conservation Group libraries, and to the Selous Game Reserve management offices. One copy was given to 5 Rufiji District villages represented at the Local Awareness Workshop. The Stung Treng technical report will be distributed at the National Awareness Workshop#2 being held in Phnom Penh in November. Production of the Cambodia report was delayed due to ongoing feedback with the project consultants.

# National Policy Briefs #2 in Cambodia and Tanzania

In Tanzania the PB#2 is being based on the Toolkit and will document the efforts to further adapt the Toolkit to the Tanzanian legislative and planning process. The Cambdodian PB#2 has been produced for distribution at the National awareness workshop#2 in Phnom Penh in November 2008.

#### Local Language Summaries #2 in Cambodia and Tanzania

In Tanzania, the LLS#2 is being produced as a summary of the technical report for use by the Mtanza-Msona community, with key points from the technical report and explaining the IWA concept and process in simplified terms, and suggesting ways that the information can be used specifically for local planning. It will be distributed by the end of November. The LLS#2 for Cambodia will be published by the end of November, following the National Awareness Workshop.

#### Local Language Press Release #2 in Cambodia and Tanzania

The Local Language Press Release#2 for both Tanzania and Cambodia will be based on the outcomes of the National Awareness Workshop#2, and will be distributed by the end of November.

## National Press Release #2 in Cambodia and Tanzania

This will be produced in Tanzania based on the Toolkit, as well as work towards a nationally adapted version for release at the end of November. The National Press Release#2 for Cambodia is also expected by the end of November, and will be based on the success of the integrated assessment at Stung Treng in influencing the management planning process there, as well as potential follow-up work in Cambodia.

## Local Awareness Workshops #2 in Cambodia and Tanzania

The integrated wetland assessment concept and process, and the Mtanza-Msona assessment outputs were presented to the technical department heads of the Rufiji District Council and the District Executive Director, and to representatives of 8 villages including Mtanza-Msona along with field officers from Eastern Division of the Selous Game Reserve at the Local awareness workshop#2 held in September.

The Local Awareness Workshop in Cambodia is being merged with the National Awareness Workshop, as there is no longer a project office in the provincial capital, Stung Treng; key members of the provincial government, as well as a representative of the Ramsar Authority will attend the workshop.

### National awareness workshops #2 in Cambodia and Tanzania

The Second National Awareness Workshop in Cambodia is to be held in early November, with a focus on a discussion of the impact of the integrated assessment in influencing management planning process for the Ramsar site, and on further IWA work in the country. In Tanzania, the event is taking place in several interrelated parts, which focus on both general awareness-raising, and on developing and facilitating the broader implementation of the integrated assessment Toolkit adapted to Tanzania. A small, intensive three-day workshop was held the week of 18 August 2008, with representatives from IUCN Tanzania, IUCN Cambridge, and two representatives from the Tanzanian Government Wildlife Division (Wetlands Unit). The workshop reviewed the IWA draft Toolkit, the Mtanza-Msona technical report, and several national guidelines for decentralized natural resource management to make progress towards an integrated wetlands assessment toolkit adapted to the Tanzanian context; on 29 October, the IWA concept and key outcomes will be presented at a meeting of the Informational Discussion Group on Environment, an informal, periodic meeting of high level representatives from governmental and non-governmental environmental organizations in Tanzania; presentation on the IWA process and related toolkit at the Annual Darwin Initiative meeting, to be held in Arusha, Tanzania; and, ongoing discussions with the National Wetlands Working Group and the Wetlands Unit on tool adaptation.

### Final toolkit produced

Following the granting of a 3 month no-cost extension by DI, the expected publication date of the Toolkit is mid-December 2008. Toolkit development is being led by project partner Dr. Oliver Springate-Baginski from DEV/ODG.

#### ■ Peer reviewed article produced

To be produced by project partner ODG, this is expected in mid-December.

# 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.

Project members Dr. Channa Bambaradeniya (IUCN Economics and Livelihoods Group, Sri Lanka) and Lucy Emerton (IUCN Global Economics and Environment Group) both left IUCN over this period. As the project elements for which they were primarily responsible (the 2 case study assessments) were essentially completed, it was not thought necessary to identify replacements. This has resulted in a small degree of additional workload for IUCN Cambridge and IUCN Cambodia offices coordinating the production of the technical reports.

A 3 month no-cost extension was granted by DI to allow the completion of final project activities. This was made necessary by cumulative small delays in project outputs, and by the reassignment of IUCN staff to prepare for and participate in IUCN's World Conservation Congress (WCC). Two successful presentations were held at the WCC promoting the Darwin project and, in particular, the Toolkit

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

The contract extension was discussed with the Darwin Secretariat who granted the application. The departure of Drs Emerton and Bambaradeniya have not been discussed with the secretariat as their roles in the project were essentially completed and there has been no substantial impact to the project and it's deliverables.

Discussed with the DI Secretariat: yes, in September 2008 (month/yr)

Changes to the project schedule/workplan: yes, in September 2008

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

The continuing restructuring of the IUCN Eastern and Southern Africa regional offices (both have now merged), the scaling down of the Tanzania country office, and the untimely death of a key person in the Tanzania Wetlands Division has somewhat constrained efforts to ensure future wider uptake of the Toolkit for assessment of Tanzania's wetlands. However, we are still hopeful that the Wetland Division will convene a meeting to discuss this possibility before the year end.

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 <u>planned</u> modifications to your project schedule/workplan or budget should <u>not</u> 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 <u>Darwin-Projects@ectf-ed.org.uk</u>. The report should be between 1-2 pages maximum. <u>Please state your project reference number in the header of your email message eg Subject: 14-075 Darwin Half Year Report</u>