

Darwin Initiative: Half Year Report

(due 31 October 2011)

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| Project Ref No | 17-006 |
| Project Title | Bushmeat hunting in Madagascar: linking science, policy and local livelihoods |
| Country(ies) | Madagascar |
| UK Organisation | Bangor University |
| Collaborator(s) | Madagasikara Voakajy |
| Project Leader | Dr Julia Jones |
| Report date | 31 st October 2011 |
| Report No. (HYR 1/2/3/4) | HYR3 |
| Project website | http://www.madagasikara-voakajy.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=16%3Aeducation-initiatives-for-bat-conservation&catid=39%3Aprojects&Itemid=61&lang=en-GB |

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).

Field Data Collection-following disturbing revelations earlier in the project on the extent of hunting of illegal species we have been applying methods developed to improve our understanding of the problem

- We assessed the consumption of bushmeat and peoples' knowledge of wildlife laws in forested areas managed by a mining company and a comparison area. In total we completed 483 household interviews and 313 interviews with mine staff (using specialist methods for asking sensitive questions developed earlier in the project). NB this work was co-funded by the mine.
- We assessed the consumption of seven species, including the Critically Endangered lemur *Haplemur alaotrensis*, in Lake Alaotra in collaboration with the Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust. A total of 682 interviews were completed.
- We assessed the hunting pressure on the Madagascar flying fox, and six other endemic species, in forests subject to different levels of conservation. Interviews were conducted in 342 households.
- We completed a hunting survey, focussing on lemur traps, in the provisional new protected area of Ambatofotsy.
- We organised meetings with Madagascar National Parks and Conservation International to present our results and community feedback from our field studies at Analamazaoatra and Lakato respectively.

Analyses, Report Writing

- We submitted two publications to scientific journals (Animal Conservation, Biological Conservation) based on the primary results obtained in YR 1 and Y2. Our paper 'Analysis of patterns of bushmeat consumption reveals extensive exploitation of protected species in eastern Madagascar' was accepted for publication in PLOS ONE
- Our review on the legal framework of hunting in Madagascar was published in Madagascar Conservation and Development.
- We produced a poster for the Menabe Region featuring tenrecs. It is part of a campaign to inform people about best practice hunting techniques which are also featured in thrice-monthly on radio broadcasts in the region.

Blood Sampling & Screening of Flying Foxes

- We collected 28 samples of *Pteropus rufus* and 11 of *Eidolon dupreanum* from Menabe in June 2011.

Estimated carryforward request: £

4. 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 LTS International directly.

Please send your **completed form by email** to Eilidh Young at Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.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: 17-075 Darwin Half Year Report**