

# Darwin Initiative: Half Year Report

(due 31 October 2012)

<b>Project Ref No</b>	19-014
<b>Project Title</b>	Implementing CITES in Madagascar
<b>Country(ies)</b>	Madagascar
<b>UK Organisation</b>	Durrell Institute of Conservation and Ecology
<b>Collaborator(s)</b>	
<b>Project Leader</b>	Richard Griffiths
<b>Report date</b>	31 October 2012
<b>Report No. (HYR 1/2/3/4)</b>	HYR1
<b>Project website</b>	<a href="http://www.madagasikara-voakajy.org/index.php?option=com_content&amp;view=article&amp;id=34%3Aachameleons&amp;catid=39%3Aprojects&amp;Itemid=61&amp;lang=en-GB">http://www.madagasikara-voakajy.org/index.php?option=com_content&amp;view=article&amp;id=34%3Aachameleons&amp;catid=39%3Aprojects&amp;Itemid=61&amp;lang=en-GB</a>

## 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).

The first six months of the project have largely proceeded according to the original timetable. Where slippage has occurred, it is only minor.

The project was presented to the partners (national CITES authorities and government) to outline the overall objectives and timetables.

Significant achievements included the selection and successful installation of Dr. Zafimahery Rakotomalala, the representative of the Scientific Authority, at DICE to begin his MSc course in Conservation and International Wildlife Trade at DICE.

Meetings were held with the national CITES authorities in the run-up to the 62<sup>nd</sup> Standing Committee. The CITES Management Authority attended the meeting in July and witnessed the committee's approval of the recommendations made by the 26<sup>th</sup> Animals Committee regarding Madagascar's frogs and lizards. Significantly, this included the resumption of trade in *Furcifer campani* following the 1994 suspension.

Activities 1.1 and 1.2 were completed during the reporting period and provide a sound foundation from which to further improve the use of scientific information in decision making. In particular, the adoption of a procedure to make risk assessments and conduct non-detriment findings will be the basis for future project activities.

Activities 2.1 and 2.2 were completed on time and included an analysis of trade data provided by the Ministry of Environment and Forests on export of reptile species that are not listed on CITES appendices. Linked to this, Madagasikara Voakajy (MV) participated in a meeting with WWF and the national CITES authorities to discuss preparations for CITES CoP16.

Activity 3.1 has started and negotiations are underway with a Malagasy expert to produce the *Uroplatus* identification guide.

Activity 3.9 was also completed, and 16 people (10 more than the target), representing the national Management Authority, Scientific Authority for Animals and species experts (June, 27<sup>th</sup> and July, 19<sup>th</sup>) completed the CITES Virtual College (on line course). Malagasy students from the DESS course have yet to be selected and we have not therefore completed Activity 3.13.

Preliminary discussions about Activities 4.1 and 4.2 have taken place with the CITES

Management Authority in preparation for meetings scheduled for November when workshops will be held with collectors and communities in two sites.

As part of the initiative to introduce the project to its community partners, MV has identified four womens' groups who are eager to receive the handicraft training. This has been endorsed by the community groups and local government representatives.

**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.**

There were no notable problems during this period.

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

Not applicable.

**Discussed with LTS:**                      no/yes, in..... (month/yr)

**Formal change request submitted:**    no/yes, in.....(month/yr)

**Received confirmation of change acceptance**                      no/yes in.....(month/yr)

**3. Do you expect to have any significant (eg more than £5,000) underspend in your budget for this year?**

Yes                No   

**If yes, and you wish to request a carryforward of funds, this should be done as soon as possible. It would help Defra manage Darwin funds more efficiently if you could give an indication of how much you expect this request might be for.**

**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](mailto: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**