

Darwin Initiative: Half Year Report

(due 31 October 2010)

Project Ref No	20-007
Project Title	Developing a pro-poor, sustainable bushmeat harvesting model in Cameroon
Country(ies)	Cameroon
UK Organisation	Bristol Conservation and Science Foundation
Collaborator(s)	Living Earth Foundation, University of Bristol, Fondation Camerounaise de la Terre Vivante
Project Leader	<i>Neil Maddison</i>
Report date	<i>30th October 2013</i>
Report No. (HYR 1/2/3/4)	<i>HYR 1</i>
Project website	<i>http://livingearth.org.uk/projects/developing-a-pro-poor-sustainable-bushmeat-harvesting-model-in-cameroon/</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).

The project started in May 2013. Key activities and achievements include:

Recruitment of project team in-country (Field Officer and Project Manager): Due to the research commitments of the most qualified candidate, the Project Manager did not take up the post until end June 2013.

Project partners planning meeting in Yaoundé, July 2013: During a week-long project workshop in Yaoundé, the LEF project manager provided an induction to the consortium's work in the target area to the new staff; the team carried out collaborative stakeholder and issue analysis and devised a work-plan for the first year.

Securing formal government support: A new Conservator of the DBR had been appointed between the time of writing the proposal and securing the contract. FCTV's Director and Project Manager have been working closely with the new Conservator and he has given his formal support to the project. Additionally the Ministry of Scientific Research and Innovation has formally recognised the project as a research project of national importance.

Wider stakeholder engagement: Drawing upon good practice, international experience and ensuring that lessons learned from the project are widely disseminated and able to inform the work of practitioners in the field, the project partners have been working to establish a virtual (and physical) Community of Practice. Organisations consulted, and who have expressed interest in providing advice to the project include Zoological Society of London, Antwerp Zoo, Extreme Citizen Science (ExCiteS) Research Group of University College of London, UCLA Centre for Tropical Research and TRAFFIC's SYVBAC Programme (Central African Bushmeat Monitoring Programme).

Target area identified: See explanation in the section below. Free Prior and Informed Consent of communities secured as part of this process.

Baseline study underway: This initial research phase will gather the required information that will inform the development of the trade model that will be promoted by the project.

Formal project launch held: A formal project launch was held in Lomié in October 2013.

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.

The project work plan initially envisaged defining the parameters of the model within the first six

months of the project. This timetable has been found to be too ambitious and the project partners will instead spend the first twelve months developing the model, in order to ensure full participation of all stakeholders, as well substantive government buy-in to and participation in the process.

A notable development concerns the selecting of the specific target communities in which the project will work. At the time of the project conception, the project partners worked closely with the Conservator of the DBR to identify an appropriate target area, namely the Western periphery of the DBR. However it has subsequently been decided by the Conservator (and with the agreement of the project partners) that the project, which seeks to promote a sustainable, legal, commercial trade in wildlife meat, should not work too close to the periphery of a protected area where all commercial hunting is illegal and where the project would face significant problems in determining the provenance of the wildlife meat in question. Following wider stakeholder consultation across the south east of Cameroon, a number of potential sites were identified and a final target site, the Lomié district, has been selected, which is ideal, being close to the Dja yet not within the limits of the DBR itself.

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

No; the objectives and results of the project remain the same and there is no anticipated impact on budget at this stage.

Discussed with LTS: no

Formal change request submitted: no

Received confirmation of change acceptance n/a

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

Yes No

If yes, and you wish to request a carry forward 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 carry forward request: £15,000

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**