

Darwin Initiative: Half Year Report

(due 31 October 2013)

Project Ref No	20-018
Project Title	Pesticide Impacts on Biodiversity in Ethiopia & Agroecological Solutions
Country(ies)	UK; Ethiopia
Lead Organisation	PAN UK
Collaborator(s)	PAN Ethiopia; AAU; IBS;
Project Leader	Keith Tyrell
Report date and number (eg HYR3)	31 October 2013 - HYR1
Project website	http://www.pan-uk.org/projects/pan-uk-project-tackling-pesticide-impacts-on-biodiversity-in-the-ethiopian-rift-valley

1. Outline progress over the last 6 months (April – Sept) 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).

Preparations & partner meetings in Ethiopia (Apr – Aug 2013)

- Preparations emails sent by NR Group & meetings to engage partners
- Biodiversity Day celebrations in Ethiopia (17 May 2013)
- Series of meetings conducted among the core national team
- A half day eco-toxicology briefing for the core team by an analytical chemist

Training and planning workshop (Aug 13): The Ethiopian partners (PAN Ethiopia, Ethiopian Wildlife and Natural History Society, Addis Ababa University, Institute for Biodiversity Conservation) gathered in London & Kent for the '*Initial Planning and Training event for Ethiopian Capacity Building Core Team*' from 15-27 August 2013. The programme was based on training on the biodiversity and chemicals conventions as they apply to the project; and ecotoxicology monitoring. Through multiple working sessions the participants also developed a detailed work-plan for the first year.

On the project planning aspects, the EWNHS proposed a linkage with a Global Environment Facility (GEF) funded project on Migratory and Soaring Birds, which addresses agriculture impacts on migratory birds, suggesting that the Darwin project be used as the co-finance 'vehicle' to begin that project. This suggestion was tentatively accepted and work is progressing to identify areas of overlap and specific coordination between the two projects.

Field scoping visits to sites in Rift Valley (Aug – Oct 13): The 'Core Darwin Team' (CDT) visited the Ziway and Arba Minch on 6-7 and 16-17 September, to brief local stakeholders (Ministries of Agriculture & Health, high school representatives, field agents from the associated TRAIID cotton project) on the project and ecosystem approach; and to conduct an ecosystem walk to document and locate project site features on GPS. In October a field days was done aiming to show case the result of Cotton IPM to federal, regional and local government officials as well as to farmers and school environmental club members from Ziway and Arba Minch. An IPM baseline survey has been done for the IPM trained farmers and is in progress for the control group.

The TRAIID FFS for cotton began in July with contracts signed with 3 farmers in Chano Mille, Shele Mella and Faragussa kebeles of Arba Minch Zuria and Mirab Abaya districts to use their fields as demonstration plots; and training of food spray use for facilitators June 16-28 in Arba Minch. FFS between Jun-Oct did not include the ecotox elements planned for Yr 2, but trained 72 men, 18 women in the three project sites.

Project documents and reports: Draft Training Report; Field Scoping Mission; FFS/ IPM Baseline Study

2a. 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 partner planning meeting produced a much more detailed workplan which had inevitably led to some changes in the workplan items for year 1. These are summarised overleaf.

The main budget impact is that we have requested to carry over chemical analysis of ecotox samples to year 2, – while we will have done the field work by the end of year 1, the analysis and more importantly the issuance of the related invoices will likely spill into year 2.

FFS with new ecosystem services/ biodiversity elements will not be developed in time for the field training (happens Aug – Oct) but has been put back to Yr 2.

2b. Have any of these issues been discussed with LTS International and if so, have changes been made to the original agreement?

Discussed with LTS: Yes

Formal change request submitted: Yes

Received confirmation of change acceptance No

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

Yes No

3b. If yes, and you wish to request a carryforward of funds, this should be done as soon as possible through the formal Change Request process. However, it would help Defra manage Darwin funds more efficiently if you could give an indication now of how much you expect this request might be for.

Estimated carryforward request: £7000

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

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 through a Change Request.

Please send your **completed report 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**

Project implementation timetable – Original vs actual/ revised

Brown: complete – Orange: In progress – Beige: (re)scheduled

Activity	No of Months	Year 1				Year 1 Actual			
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Output 1									
1.1 Run training session in UK for core Ethiopian participants	0.5								
1.2 Set up and train monitoring group in Ethiopia <i>Being done in 2 parts: Ecosystem Approach Q2/3 and Ecotox Q4 with UK trainers</i>	1								
1.3 Design monitoring programme for Rift Valley sampling	1								
1.4 Train local participants in community-based monitoring	1								
Output 2									
2.1 Conduct baseline survey on pesticide use and cotton production	1.5								
2.2 Conduct baseline and impact surveys on biodiversity components <i>Baseline survey of biodiversity potential via ecosystem services</i>	1.5								
2.3 Conduct ecotox monitoring sessions	1.5								
2.4 Analyse pesticide residues	0.75								Yr 2
2.5 & 2.6 Summarise results and assess with groups involved	1.75								
Output 3									
3.1 Incorporate biodiversity and ecotox monitoring into FFS curriculum	0.5								
3.2 Conduct FFS training sessions with smallholder farmers <i>Will not include revised curriculum in Yr 1 but in Yrs 2 & 3 with large farms</i>	7								Yr 2
3.3 – 3.6 <i>Not due in Yr 1</i>	3								
Output 4 <i>Not due in Yr 1</i>									
Output 5									
5.1 Set up National Biodiversity & Agriculture Stakeholder Group	0.25								
5.2 Help run at least 5 NBASG sessions	1.5								
5.3 – 5.4 <i>Not due in Yr 1</i>	1								
Output 6 <i>Not due in Yr 1</i>									