



**Darwin Initiative Main/Post/D+ Project
Half Year Report
(due 31st October 2018)**

Project reference: 23-002

Project title: Important Plant Areas of the Republic of Guinea

Country(ies)/territory(ies): Republic of Guinea (Guinea-Conakry)

Lead organisation: Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew

Partner(s) : Herbar National De Guinée (HNG), L'Université Gamal Abdel Nasser, Conakry (UGAN), Guinée; Plantlife International (Plantlife); Guinée-Ecologie (GE); Centre d'Observation de Surveillance et D'Informations Environnementales (COSIE), Ministère de l'Environnement des Eaux et Forêts (MEEF).

Project leader: Dr Martin Cheek

Report date and number (e.g., HYR3): October 2018, HYR3

Project website/blog/social media etc.: <http://www.herbarquinee.org/ztips-darwin.html>

#TIPAs_Guinea [@KewAfrica](#), [@HerbarGuinee](#)

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 to end September).

0.1,0.2, 1.6: Over the last 6 months progress has been made on the TIPA recording sheets for 7 sites; three have been completed and disseminated to the steering group for TIPAs and CAPs (Conservation Action Plans) formed last reporting year and a further four are in progress. A meeting was convened in June where the evaluations were discussed and amended. The next meeting is planned for October.

3.1 Shipping of the teacher's guide and materials to Guinea was arranged with the help of the British Ambassador to Guinea. Workshops will be held shortly to train teachers and disseminate the materials across the country.

3.6 National Flower was featured in an article in The Telegraph online and subsequently in the Young Economist. The results were submitted to the Government for ratification.

1.1 Following the publication of new assessments on the IUCN red List in July, an update to the PeerJ Preprint article Preliminary list of Threatened plant species of Guinea.

2a. Give details of any notable problems or unexpected developments/lessons learnt 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.

Shipping of the Teacher's guides was allowed via the diplomatic bag c/o the British Embassy in Guinea and therefore no shipping charges were incurred by the project.

Funding proposal was submitted to Mohamed bin Zayed foundation for additional funding to protect the National Flower TIPA site at Dalaba. If successful this will help to formally protect the only known site of *Vernonia djalonensis* and will be the first TIPA to be formally recognised in the national protected areas network. There will be funds for workshops on environmental awareness and conservation of the national flower, providing greater legacy of the project.

New species of Podostemaceae were discovered as part of a study on the waterfalls of Koukoutamba on the Bafing river with the Wild Chimpanzee Foundation (WCF). Another new species was discovered on the Konkouré river. All species are at risk of extinction from planned hydroelectric dams.

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

Discussed with LTS: Yes/No

Formal change request submitted: Yes/No

Received confirmation of change acceptance Yes/No

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

Yes No Estimated underspend: £

3b. If yes, then you need to consider your project budget needs carefully. Please remember that any funds agreed for this financial year are only available to the project in this financial year.

If you anticipate a significant underspend because of justifiable changes within the project, please submit a rebudget Change Request as soon as possible. There is no guarantee that Defra will agree a rebudget so please ensure you have enough time to make appropriate changes if necessary.

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. Additionally, if you were funded under R24 and asked to provide further information by your first half year report, please attach your response as a separate document.

Please note: Any planned modifications to your project schedule/workplan can be discussed in this report but **should also** be 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 2-3 pages maximum. **Please state your project reference number in the header of your email message e.g. Subject: 22-035 Darwin Half Year Report**