



**Darwin Initiative/D+ Project  
Half Year Report  
(due 31<sup>st</sup> October 2019)**

<b>Project reference</b>	24-013
<b>Project title</b>	Balancing water services for development and biodiversity in the Tana Delta
<b>Country(ies)/territory(ies)</b>	Kenya - Tana River and Lamu counties
<b>Lead organisation</b>	The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
<b>Partner(s)</b>	Nature Kenya, Kenya Wildlife Service, Kenya Forest Service, Tana River County Government, Lamu County Government, Tana Delta Conservation Network
<b>Project leader</b>	Bruce Liggitt
<b>Report date and number (e.g. HYR3)</b>	HYR3 - 31st October 2019
<b>Project website/blog/social media etc.</b>	<a href="http://www.naturekenya.org">www.naturekenya.org</a>

**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).**

The project started on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017 and this report covers activities from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019 until the 30<sup>th</sup> September 2019.

**Output 1. A 95,200 ha Community Conservation Area (CCA) is established through consensus building among pastoralists, crop farmers and fishermen (indicators 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.10, 1.11).**

Farmers, pastoralists, fishermen and minority groups in 45 villages and county governments of Tana River and Lamu were mobilized and they designated a 95,200ha Indigenous and Community Conservation Area (ICCA). An ICCA management plan was completed in consultation with national and county governments, farmers, fishermen, pastoralists and minority groups (annex 1). Maps generated within ICCA management plan include threats and proposed activities under different land use/cover conditions. Nature Kenya is advocating for high level endorsement of the management plan through signing by the Governors of Tana River and Lamu counties. Forest adjacent/dwelling households were mobilised and 5 Community Forest Associations were established and were supported to register in Nairobi (annexes 2 – 3). Nature Kenya in collaboration with Kenya Forest Service, Kenya Forestry Research Institute (KEFRI), Tana Delta Conservation Network (TDCN) County Governments of Lamu and Tana River supported these groups to draft participatory forest management (PFM) plans in line with forest law (annexes 4 – 6). For each forest, PFM plans are informed by socioeconomic surveys carried out in neighbouring villages (annexes 7-9) and ecological surveys (annexes 10-14). TDCN and Nature Kenya staff carried out socioeconomic surveys while KEFRI and TDCN carried out the ecological surveys. Village Natural Resource and Land Use Committees (VNRLUCs) participated in all surveys.

**2. Farmer, pastoralist and fishing communities have the capacity to jointly manage Community Conservation Areas (Activities 2.1, 2.2, 2.3 and 2.4).**

During the final ICCA management plan validation meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> July 2019 (annex 15) the interim ICCA committee which was government heavy was dissolved. It was agreed that

going forward a committee will be formed, with membership drawn from 45 Village Natural Resource and Land Use Committees (VNRLUCs). This is the committee that will implement the Tana Delta ICCA management plan. Tana Delta Conservation Network (TDCN), based on capacity building by Nature Kenya, supported all 45 VNRLUCs to register formally as self-help groups with terms of reference, a role TDCN will continue to play going forward.

TDCN was trained and they carried out detailed biodiversity monitoring, waterfowl counts, and common bird monitoring in the ICCA (annex 16-17). Biodiversity monitoring data will be used in preparation of the annual Key Biodiversity Areas Status and Trends Report 2019.

TDCN represented ICCA communities in the following county level fora: on 29<sup>th</sup> May 2019 a public hearing meeting to consider the County Budget estimates for 2019/2020; on 24<sup>th</sup> Sept 2019, a County Budget Economic Forum to consider the finance bill 2019; On 17<sup>th</sup> July 2019, 5 TDCN members and 1 NK staff attended the inaugural Tana River County Tourism Summit. On 19<sup>th</sup> June 2019, 4 TDCN members attended a meeting at Kenya Marine & Fisheries Research Institute on socio-economic development in preparation for environmental and social safeguard instruments for a World Bank Project.

TDCN submitted comments to the National Environment Management Authority on the study report - Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) for the Proposed Giritu Sugar Factory in the upper Tana Delta upstream of the ICCA (annex 18).

### **3. County Governments have the capacity and have allocated financial resources to support communities to manage the CCAs (Activities 3.1-3.9; 3.11).**

On 20<sup>th</sup> June 2019, the TDCN hosted the national government, Tana River and Lamu County Governments, Nature Kenya and UN Environment who launched The Tana Delta Restoration Initiative funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) with co-financing from the national and county government agencies. The project implemented by Nature Kenya includes ICCA management as one of its activities.

On 21<sup>st</sup> June 2019, the Field Project Manager met Kipini West Member of County Assembly (MCA) Hon Musa Wario to discuss the economic state of the communities living in parts of his ward with a recommendation to expand the poultry project particularly the model adopted by TDCN to extend assistance to women (Annex 19). The MCA is willing to create partnership with TDCN and assist communities develop the infrastructure required to make the business profitable. The meeting also discussed the gains so far achieved across the delta in the implementation of the projects and the assistance the County Assembly should extend to the communities through budgetary provisions. The manager used the opportunity to rally support for the ICCA and the upcoming ICCA management plans.

On 29<sup>th</sup> June 2019, a second meeting was held between the project manager and the MCAs for Garsen Central and Garsen North, various project activities were discussed. Top on the agenda was the proposed Giritu ranch sugar plantation and factory and the need to galvanize support to entirely reject the project (Annex 20). Also covered were the proposals for a livestock feed irrigation project around Shirikisho. The MCAs indicated the need to expand NK project activity base to most villages to ensure support and joint community action that would ensure they reject such proposals. They indicated that County governments take a long time to implement projects that impact lives of local people so civil society organizations including Nature Kenya should work to fill the gaps. They indicated that most project proponents including those likely to harm both pastoralists and farmers take advantage of the local community poverty situation and the focus should be in eliminating or minimizing poverty levels.

On 24<sup>th</sup> May 2019, a consultative meeting was held between the department of water (Tana River County), an officer from Water Resources Authority (WRA) and Nature Kenya's Field Project Manager to agree on the timelines for the development of a land and water register (Annex 21).

On 28<sup>th</sup> August 2019, the Field Project Manager met the water officer in Garissa and agreed that community level meetings to develop land and water register are planned to take place in November 2019.

ICCA boundaries were agreed in consultation with communities, County Governments of Tana River and Lamu and national government agencies. The total ICCA area increased from the initial 95,200 ha to 116,000ha after stakeholders adjusted boundaries to include areas that had been left out.

On 5<sup>th</sup> September 2019, together with other departmental heads, Nature Kenya attended a County Sectoral plan development workshop where land-use plan and ICCA implementation was captured in the Environmental Protection, Water and Natural Resource Sectoral plan – pp4 (annex 22). On 5<sup>th</sup> September 2019, the 2019/20 Annual Development Plan (ADP) for the department of environment (Annex 23) was developed with a financial allocation for the completion and adoption of the ICCA management plan, Draft County Environment Bill and the County Forest Restoration Strategy all developed with assistance of Nature Kenya (pp 8).

#### **4. The potential for developing sustainable financing for the CCA from carbon and ecotourism has been assessed. (Outputs 4.1 – 4.2).**

All activities under output 4 have been completed and reporting done in the last annual report (April 2019). Nature Kenya is discussing with United Nations Environment Programme the idea of a 'Green' Industrial Park: "Transforming lives, spurring economic growth, keeping nature values in the Tana Delta" This idea is an activity in a GEF/UNEP/Nature Kenya project for Tana delta. The objective is a new model of county governance, that harnesses private sector ambition to meet the needs of the communities and ecosystems of the Tana Delta, is established, to overcome the socio-economic challenges of developing the Delta. A draft concept towards a business case for this green industrial park has been developed (Annex 40). If implemented, private sector investors will be expected to support conservation and management of the ICCA and local livelihoods.

#### **5 The poorest and most vulnerable subset of the 35,000 people living inside the CCA are empowered to demonstrate how livelihoods can be developed/diversified to support the long-term conservation of the delta's natural resources (Outputs 5.2, 5.4, 5.6, 5.8, 5.10, 5.12).**

Initially three fishponds in Ozi Village were stocked with 2,400 Tilapia (*Oreochromis niloticus*) fingerlings sourced from the Kenya Marine Fisheries Research Institute. These ponds are now ready for harvesting (Annex 24) and TDCN is sourcing for markets. The Ozi Village community rehabilitated three additional ponds and the project stocked these ponds with 2,400 fingerlings and supported fish farmers with fish feed (Annex 25). Fisheries Department has provided fish farmers with technical support throughout. In total fish farmers expect to harvest 2.4 tonnes of fish worth Ksh. 480,000 (£ 3,591). This translates to a contribution of 9.6% and 17.47% increase the total household income for male-headed and female-headed households respectively over the reporting period.

The 42 beneficiary pastoralists have engaged in goat trading, mainly between June and October 2019 as the prolonged droughts that extended into May 2019 did not provide the right environment for this trade. Over the period, the communities traded 26 goats, making a total sale of Ksh 39,900 (£298) with a net profit of Ksh 17,385 (£130) (Annex 26).

The 126 (67M; 59F) farmers supported with 2571 kg of rice seeds in Ozi Village transplanted the seedlings around April. 36 farmers have reported an average harvest of 1.4 tonnes per acre translating to 50.4 tonnes of unprocessed rice. Once this rice is milled at a conversion rate of 65% it will yield 32.76 tonnes of milled rice valued at Ksh 1,965,600 (£14,704) at farm gate and Ksh 2,293,200 (£17,155) at market prices. This translates to an average income of Ksh 54,600 (£408) and Ksh. 63,700 (£476) per household at farm gate and market prices respectively. Preliminary results from the first rice harvest therefore constitute 55% and 99% increase in household incomes for Male and Female Headed Households respectively at farm gate prices. At market prices, annual household incomes increase by 64% and 116% for beneficiary male and female headed households respectively. The rest of beneficiary households are located in villages that are currently cut off by floods therefore difficult to get records of harvest from these villages. The full rice harvest report will be given in the project annual report.

30 (7M; 23F) farmers from Harakisa Community Development Project were supported to initiate bird's eye chilli farming in collaboration with Equator Kenya Limited, a private company. Equator Kenya Ltd. entered into a pre-planting purchase agreement detailing purchase prices and guaranteeing agricultural extension services and market for farmers (Annex 27). Planting was done in late April 2019, 16 (3M; 13 F) beneficiary farmers harvested 971.67 kg of African bird's eye chilli earning them a total of Ksh 53,381 (£399) (annex 28). This translates to an increase in income of Ksh 3,336 (£25) over a two-month period representing 37% household monthly income increase for Male headed household and up to 114% monthly income increase for female headed households in Idsowe Village. At full production, each household is expected to earn Ksh. 180,000 (£1,346) annually from the sale of the chillies from a one quarter of an acre.

9 (2M; 7F) beneficiaries in climate smart agriculture harvested and sold 258 kg of tomatoes for Ksh 8,880 (£66) and 96 kg of kale. Out of these 178 kg of tomatoes were sold for Ksh. 8,880 (£66) while 66 kg of kale were sold for Ksh. 1,310 (£10). The rest of the harvest was consumed at household level (Annex 29).

TDCN has adopted a strategy to support women to keep indigenous chickens as an income generating activity. The group has shifted from working with groups to working with individual chicken farmers. The project supported TDCN with an incubator to hatch chicks, vaccinate them and supply eligible farmers with 1 month old chicks within a microfinance model. Between July-August, the group hatched 54 chicks, conducted necessary vaccinations and are ready for distribution (Annex 30).

The long dry spell between February and July 2019 negatively affected honey production in Tana Delta. Over the reporting period, only 62 beneficiaries (33M; 29F) households cumulatively reported harvesting 641 litres of honey. Of these, 602.05 litres were sold for Ksh 298,820 (£2,236) translating to average household income of Ksh 4,820 (£36) (Annex 31).

Between April and September 2019, 21 (15M; 6F) wildlife guides earned Ksh 15,977 (£120).

A total of 400 energy saving stoves were procured in August 2019 with installation planned to take place in October – December 2019.

### **6 Lessons learned from the project are being used by government bodies (including country Governments) leading the development of other Deltas throughout Kenya (Outputs 6.1, 6.2, 6.5-6.8).**

A Project Implementation Committee (PIC) meeting was held on 30<sup>th</sup> July 2019 during validation of the ICCA management plan. Project progress was presented to 4 county level meetings and the national SSGs workshop (annex 32) in September 2019. Nature Kenya participated in the following county planning meetings: On 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2019, they attended a departmental meeting to develop the Annual Development Plan (ADP) for 2019/20 financial year. On 5<sup>th</sup> September 2019 Nature Kenya attended County Sectoral plan development workshop where it was a member of the Environmental protection, Water and Natural Resource Sector planning committee. On 18<sup>th</sup> September 2019, Nature Kenya staff attended a stakeholder engagement Forum at Kenya Marine Fisheries and Research Institute on the development of Co-Management Area (CMA) guidelines to develop a national guideline for the formation of CMAs to ensure an integrated and participatory approach as provided for in the Fisheries Management and Development Act, 2017. On the 17<sup>th</sup> July 2019, Nature Kenya attended an inaugural tourism development summit to find means of unlocking the tourism potential in the County.

Yala Swamp land use plan and strategic environmental assessment were completed, learning from the Tana Delta process and endorsed by governors of Siaya and Busia Counties.

In August 2019 the Physical and Land Use Planning Act 2019 became law with sections on land use planning borrowing heavily from the Tana LUP development process

[http://kenyalaw.org/kl/fileadmin/pdfdownloads/Acts/2019/PhysicalandLandUsePlanningAct\\_No13of2019.pdf](http://kenyalaw.org/kl/fileadmin/pdfdownloads/Acts/2019/PhysicalandLandUsePlanningAct_No13of2019.pdf).

On 27<sup>th</sup> September 2019, the Nature Kenya Advocacy Manager and members of the Inter Ministerial Technical Committee on Sustainable Management of Deltas held a briefing meeting with the H.E. The Rt. Hon. Raila Odinga and briefed him about the work in Tana and Yala

Deltas (annex 33).

Two project articles were published in the Kenya Birding Magazine (annex 34) and another in line for publishing in Travel News magazine. A poster calendar for the year 2020 is in draft (annex 35) which when finalized 2,000 copies will be printed and distributed in the Tana Delta, Tana River and Lamu County stakeholders and stakeholders in Nairobi.

On 11<sup>th</sup> May 2019 World Migratory Bird Day celebrations were held in Moa village Lamu County, attended by County and National Government officials from Tana River and Lamu Counties. A total of 99 people attended the function (45M, 5F, 54 pupils).

On 28<sup>th</sup> June 2019, Nature Kenya field project Manager met with 5 staff members of staff to the Garsen Member of Parliament including the Constituency Office Manager, Personal Assistant and three field staff. The meeting focussed on the projects implemented by Nature Kenya and how the MP's office through the Constituency Development Fund (CDF) can be used to create synergy and coordinate efforts.

On 19<sup>th</sup> June 2019 TDCN, and Nature Kenya staff joined Lower Tana Conservation Trust in creating awareness among four Community Forest Associations of Kilelengwani, Ozi, Chara and Kipini on the importance of mangrove forest restoration. The event culminated in the planting of 1,856 mangrove seedlings.

On 21<sup>st</sup> June, the Nature Kenya Executive Director Dr. Paul Matiku held meetings with the Garsen Member of Parliament, two Members of the Tana River County Assembly, the Cabinet Secretary Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Director General Kenya Forest Service among other high level national and county government officials (annex 36). The meeting discussed national coordination of conservation efforts in the Tana Delta and other Kenyan deltas. As a result of this meeting Nature Kenya drafted and submitted to the Cabinet Secretary a policy brief (annex 37) and a cabinet memo (annex 38) on conservation and development issues in the delta. On 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2019 Nature Kenya Executive Director and Advocacy Manager met the Member of Parliament of Garsen Constituency (the delta) and held further discussions including the role of the MP in catalysing discussions with upstream counties on development of a water-sharing mechanism (annex 39).

**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.**

Farming African Bird's Eye Chilli is new to the area. We adopted the plan after discussing with potential buyers and looking at the potential returns and project beneficiaries. The venture has proved to be one of the most profitable enterprises with consistent income to the households. Moreover, the chillies are not consumed by either livestock or wildlife and this has helped reduce incidents of conflict between farmers and pastoralists surrounding the farm. It has also reduced human wildlife conflict, freeing time for women who normally stay in farms throughout the day to guard their crops against livestock and wildlife. Women have additional time to engage in other gainful activities. Chilli is a high value crop and at optimal production a household requires only a quarter of an acre to make Ksh. 180,000 (£1,342) per year and the chilli plants last three years once planted. This not only provides additional income to households but also minimizes the need to open natural areas for crop production.

We noted that the group approach towards chicken farming did not work because groups are unable to properly coordinate and provide the intense attention that chicken production needs. We therefore changed the strategy and purchased a chick incubator, to be operated by TDCN. TDCN will therefore hatch chicks, vaccinate them and supply one month old chicks to eligible chicken farmers using a microfinance model.

The Women's Representative for Garsen supplied Ozi Rice farmers with a rice milling machine after learning about Nature Kenya support to rice farmers. This was unexpected and value adding.

It was expected that the fisheries department would only provide technical backstopping to project beneficiaries in fish farming in Ozi Village. However, the department went further to support communities with fish feed formulation materials worth Ksh 20,000 (£150) and technical support to rehabilitate three additional fishponds.

**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: NA

Formal change request submitted: No

Received confirmation of change acceptance 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: £NA

**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?**

We have noted the issues raised by Darwin from the Annual Report Review, querying discrepancies in the baseline figures. We are addressing this and shall respond in due course with a Change Request.

**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 R25 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 DO NOT send these in the same email.****

Please send your **completed report by email** to [Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.uk](mailto: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: 25-035 Darwin Half Year Report**