



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

Project reference	24-018
Project title	Enhanced biodiversity, water-security, and forest recovery in northern Guinea.
Country(ies)/territory(ies)	Guinea
Lead organisation	Wild Chimpanzee Foundation
Partner(s)	OGUIPAR, BIOTOPE, Kew Gardens, World Vision Senegal, GRET, INSUCO
Project leader	Christophe Boesch; Arnaud Gotanegre (WCF-Guinea Director)
Report date and number (e.g., HYR3)	HYR, year-2, 1 st of April to 30 th of September 2018
Project website/blog/social media etc.	www.wildchimps.org , www.facebook.com/wildchimps

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).

Following recommendations of the first review (AR1R), we would like to regroup our activities in 3 main outputs. An updated logical framework will be soon present for validation.

Output 1. Rehabilitation of riverine areas via reforestation (former output 1 reforestation and Mise en défens)

a. Establishing and managing tree nurseries: End of September 2018, the nursery of Laafa-Boube comprised approximately 12,690 plants, and we have stored more than 40,000 native tree seeds. In October, 1725 saplings have been planted, leaving new space in the nursery.

b. Tree planting along riverine areas: In May, a community sensitization mission was organized to negotiate and to sign agreement-in-principle to defend and restore spring heads. This is a first attempt towards the “Plan de Gestion du Territoire Villageois” (PGTV) and the mission concerned three villages: Kalinko Konkero, Lallabara and Laafa-Boube. Currently, 12 sites have been selected that were not only proposed by the villagers, but also fulfilled the WCF criteria for ecological restoration and park’s management strategy (**Annexe 1**). The reforestation process has been launched on the 17th of September 2018 on 3 degraded area (Dow faamerai site in Lallabara (0,34ha); Horè Laafawol in Laafa (3ha); Kalinko Ninfè site (1ha)) in the northern corridor of the Moyen-Bafing National Park (MBNP). Therefore, 4,34 ha were enriched with the following trees species: *Azelia africana*; *Erythrophleum guineensis*; *Cola cordifolia*; *Tamarindus indica*; *Diospyros mespiliformis*; *Detarium senegalensis*; and *Kaya senegalensis*.

c. Planting orchards: In addition to the conversion of the wetlands and the creation of market gardens (Output 2, a and b), the implementation of orchards will be defined through a larger agreement. All these dimensions are part of the Land Management Plan that we will have ratified with the communities and authorities by year 2 for the six pilot villages.

d. Protection of existing forest: The process of forest protection and bushfire monitoring will be supported through the creation of village committees in the targeted villages (end of year 2). A group of community ecoguards will be trained and working for forest protection.

Output 2. Agriculture related (former Output 2 Converted wetland, and Output 3 Sustainable agricultural practice)

a. Wetland-related activities, including land management planning: By year 2, and for the six pilot villages of the FMNR project (Farmer Management Natural Regeneration), a land management plan is reasonably feasible. Moreover, 22 other villages will be selected from the entire 15 communes of the Moyen-Bafing National Park (MBNP) to elaborate similar plans by 2020 (**Annexe 2**). The mapping project will be expanded with satellite image analysis to provide a detailed representation of the village territories, defining the peoples relation to space, as well as the areas of the territory that are socially disputed (**Annex 3**). A collaborative management team for the pilot villages is under development, and the sites for wetlands-related activities will be identified during these rounds of discussion.

b. Market gardens: In addition to the conversion of the wetlands, the implementation of market gardens will be defined during the elaboration of land management plans.

c. Innovative farmers: This project supports the introduction of FMNR into existing agricultural systems for a conversion to innovative and environmentally friendly systems. It aims to select two districts, six pilot villages and 12 farmers' leaders. These farmers' leaders should be further used as advisors for other members of the communities for suggesting new technics. WCF has developed a strategical agreement with the International Development NGO GRET and their first interventions took place at the end of May 2018. The aim of this first intervention was to deepen the diagnosis of agrarian systems by taking into account the specific issues of agro-ecology in four other areas, and the conclusions are going to be used with the 6 other localities to expand our strategy at the park level. Based on the results of this diagnostic, the creation of tools for the sensibilisation for agro-ecology practices is currently in progress (image box, flyers, practical guide).

Output 3. Improving the information base on the fauna/flora in the area, and its movements in the corridor (former Output 4 biomonitoring)

a. Bird study: Conclusions of the study on the inventory of birds carried out in the park with Biotope (10 to 30 June 2018) will be soon completed by a second mission at the end of this year. First results show that 143 species were encountered. The results so far show the presence of three priority species for conservation *Necrosyrtes monachus* (Scavenger Vulture), *Gyps africanus* (African Vulture) and *Gyps rueppellii* (Rüppell Vulture), three fully protected species that are on the 2017 IUCN Red List (CR, Critically Endangered).

b. Flora study: A first preliminary list of botanic species of the MBNP is available from the literature, and it currently includes 206 species. The first mission has detected 187 species, among them are fourteen (14) threatened species, according to the IUCN criteria (**Annexe 4**). A further mission will be organized in November to complement this list. A new species for science has been identified at the Koukoutamba waterfalls by the Kew botanical garden: *Lebbiea grandiflora*. Read more : <https://inews.co.uk/news/environment/expedition-planned-to-save-newly-discovered-herb-from-extinction/>

c. Camera traps / analysis of movement in corridor: We placed 400 cameras for monitoring large and medium size wildlife in the northwest and central part of the MBNP in April 2018. 50 species are mentioned for the area of the MBNP in the literature. So far, 37 mammal species have been registered (6 primates, 15 carnivores, 8 ungulates, 1 daman, 1 lagomorph, and 6 of rodents), plus 14 species of birds, as well as 2 species of monitor lizards (reptile).

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.

Slowness on the high political level prevented us from having a clear political arbitration regarding the co-existence of the Moyen-Bafing National Park and mining projects on the periphery and the Koukoutamba dam. Despite these political issues, the WCF did all its best to work within the inter-ministerial commission for developing relevant solutions, and also through

different lobbying channels.

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: No

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: £

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 re-budget Change Request as soon as possible. There is no guarantee that Defra will agree a re-budget 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**