



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

Project reference	25-005
Project title	Enabling ecosystems to deliver sustainable development goals at Lake Indawgyi
Country(ies)/territory(ies)	Myanmar
Lead organisation	Fauna & Flora International (FFI)
Partner(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nature and Wildlife Conservation Division (NWCD), Forest Department (FD) • Indawgyi Nature Conservation and Development Association (INCDA) • Indawgyi Natural Farming Association (INFA) • Inn Chit Thu Social Development and Eco-tourism Group • Mohnyin Natural Greening Development Association (NGDA) • Shan Maw Myae Co., Ltd. • Wetlands Work
Project leader	Frank Momberg
Report date and number (e.g. HYR3)	<i>HYR2</i>
Project website/blog/social media etc.	<i>None</i>

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).

1. A decentralised and collaborative management committee and mainstreamed ecosystem services approach places the Indawgyi Lake Biosphere Reserve under management systems that respect integrated development and biodiversity needs

This output comprises twelve activities aimed at improving collaboration between government departments and CSOs, and reducing illegal activities. Two main activities were conducted during the reporting period.

- Regular patrolling and law enforcement are conducted by the Indawgyi Wildlife Sanctuary (IDWS) supported by two community rangers for terrestrial patrol and one community ranger for lake patrol. The patrol covered Indawgyi east and south forests and lake area and outlet river area as well.

- For upstream and lake area, two community were supported to department of fisheries and the patrol and upstream threat monitoring were conduction. The patrol covered not only fish

conservation zone and but also Nant San Thar stream. The team also conducted fishery awareness in Chaung Wa and around villages by one village per month.

2. Community forestry and agroforestry in designated buffer zones of Lake Indawgyi Biosphere Reserve reduce deforestation and forest degradation, while maintaining access to essential natural resources

This output comprises two activities aimed at supporting community to establish community forestry and agroforestry in the buffer zones of Indawgyi Biosphere Reserve together with Indawgyi Nature Conservation and Development Association (INCDA).

- For buffer zone development, 9 CF groups were already formed and nursery were already established in June. Nursery raising and seedling caring were consequently carried out in July and August. The average number raising plants in each group was 15000 and now 86% was well grown.
- Transplanting of plants from nursery to CF field was started in September. The site selection was conducted by CFUG based on management plan and mainly in degraded forest area. Currently, 41 % of vital seedlings are already planted in the buffer zone of Indawgyi Biosphere Reserve.

3. Organic rice farming and value-adding practices result in certified organic products that provide income to at least 200 households and protect wetland biodiversity

This output comprises 7 activities aimed at supporting the farmers to initiate organic farming to increase income together with Indawgyi Natural Farming Association (INFA).

- To expand the area of organic farming, quality seeds were supported to PGS rice growing farmers. Moreover, in July, 830 fruit and root crop tree such as bamboo, dragon fruits and citrus were supported to 11 PGS farmers, who own orchards.
- Book keeping and report writing training was conducted for the communities who are doing livelihood development such as pig raising, green tea processing and value added product producing. The training was delivered by FFI staff and 24 participants were attending.
- To reduce the impact of agriculture on Lake Ecosystem and development of local livelihood, organic farming in Indawgyi was started in 2017. In 2018, INFA organization was collaborated with Myanmar Organic Grower and Producer Association (MOGPA) for organic farming development and certification. On August, Dr. Than Than Sein and her group were monitoring and inspecting Indawgyi organic PGS farms. In the field visiting, 141 farmers were inspected for organic certification.
- After field inspection, organic farming experience exchanging meeting was conducted in Nam Mun. In the meeting, 45 PGS farmers were attending and discussing the challenges of organic farming.
- For local livelihood development, green tea processing training was hold in June, 2019. On August, practical green tea processing was started and 7 drying machines were supported to 7 green tea groups (Green Garden group).
- In livelihood development program, the activities are only doing in organic farming but also in livestock raising such as pig raising and poultry rearing. To get systematic raising methods for the community, basic pig raising was conducted in Nam Mun. The training was delivered by livestock breeding and veterinary department (township) and 38 participants were attending.

- For the PGS organic rice growing farmers and seed production farmers, an excursion event was conducted in August. The excursion was aimed to exchanged and study farming practices and techniques from Department of Agricultural Research (Mohnyin). The research officer, U Myint Thaug explained about the history of DAR (Mohnyin), different steps of quality seed production, the current location of climate condition and farming techniques such as system of rice intensification. In excursion, 45 Indawgyi farmers were participating.

4. At least 1,000 households (c. 5,400 people) participate in community waste collection and safe disposal; at least 200 households (c.1,000 people/ approx.50% of all HH in flood prone areas) benefit from improved sanitation systems in flood prone areas with eutrophication problems

- Wetland work expert, Mr. Puthea arrived to Indawgyi in August and gave the training to local partner team (group of 3 peoples) and Handy Pod installation was start in Lone Ton. The installation was continued to He Par village and Nyaung Pin village. At the end of September, 35 household were already setup Handy Pod system. (Lone Ton = 12, He Par = 13 and Nyaung Pin = 10)
- Parami village waste management group were operating regular waste collection and awareness in Nam Mun village start from 2013. From December, 2018, the group was expending their activities to Maing Naung, Sa Nwin Kone and In Thar villages. In July, the group has been covered 7 villages for waste management and plastic awareness.

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.

- CF site selection and nursery establishment for this year was late due to the time to get permission from wildlife sanctuary authorities and the plants were receiving more biotic stress than normal nursery plants.
- The organic farming were facing climate change condition in this year and received rainfall was 250 mm less than previous year. The farm land were populated with weeds species.

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/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?

None

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. 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**