



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

Project reference	25-010
Project title	A sustainable landscape for Critically Endangered primates and marginalised communities
Country(ies)/territory(ies)	Vietnam
Lead organisation	Fauna & Flora International
Partner(s)	GreenViet
Project leader	Josh Kempinski
Report date and number (e.g., HYR3)	HYR1
Project website/blog/social media etc.	N/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).

Fauna & Flora International (FFI) began implementation of this project in Kon Tum province, central highlands of Vietnam, from 1st July 2018. The project is designed around landscape-wide planning, forest protection and improving sustainability of local livelihoods to reduce encroachment and degradation of forests, benefiting douc langurs, while improving the wellbeing of targeted ethnic minority farmers/hunters.

Within this first three months of implementation, in collaboration with project partner GreenViet, the project focused on staff requirement, detailed workplanning, training and beginning to conduct five of the main activities, below, as agreed in the project timetable.

In terms of project work planning, three separate meetings have been held with FFI and GreenViet staff to develop a detailed Y1 workplan (which is available to share with Darwin/LTS), and a deepening understanding of the division tasks, roles and responsibilities between the partners, as well as agreement on communication and coordination. These tasks, held in Danang (where GreenViet are based) and Kon Tum, culminated in a ToR and contract for GreenViet, building on the existing MoU. See also Activity 3.1 (below).

The project also invited Tim Bergman, [Darwin] Project Manager in Cambodia, to share insights and lessons on project start-up, planning and management. He was also asked to help with further exploring local livelihoods and options for diversification.

Activity Progress

Activity 1.1. Preliminary consultations and FPIC with effected / buffer zone villages regarding a new protected area in Kon Plong (planned Q2 July – September 2018):

Under this activity, the project conducted preliminary consultations and subsequently Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) at 14 key (target) villages within the landscape of Kon Plong forest. Although this was an initial step (and FPIC is ongoing), the local communities who are assumed to be affected by the process of establishment of a new protected area have agreed and have given consent for project implementation. The vast majority also considered that once established a new protected area it will benefit both community development in the buffer zone and biodiversity conservation through engagement in land use planning and

community-led biodiversity/threat monitoring. 6% of local the community were concerned that there might be a negative impact on livelihoods, which is understandable and will be address in the next phases of consultation and project development.

In combination with village level meetings, project also updated socio-economic data in order to later on support prioritisation of livelihood development interventions, and together with FPIC results develop 'Impact / Safeguard monitoring' (Activity 3.10).

Activity 1.10. Knowledge-Attitude-Behaviour (KAB) surveys in each year: baseline, mid-term and project end (planned Q2 July – September 2018)

Under this activity, the project has focused on 14 villages within landscape of Kon Plong forest (see also Activity 1.1) to conduct initial baseline on Knowledge-Attitude-Behaviour of local villagers on biodiversity conservation and forest protection/management. An initial reports on socio-economic conditions and KAB has been produced. In this coming quarter, project will document this survey results in detail, as a baseline data for later monitoring, by comparing with mid-term and end of project survey to measure the impacts of project on Knowledge-Attitude-Behaviour of local villagers.

Activity 2.1. Policy review related to sub-national development plans and goals, related policy at national and local levels, pertaining to land use etc. (planned Q2 & Q3 July – December 2018)

Project conducted several meetings with relevant stakeholders at three levels (provincial – district – commune) to know their development plans and goals. In addition to this, project also conducted three scoping visits to communities living within Kon Plong forest landscape. The overarching objective of the project, to support the process of establishing a new, equitable protected area in Kon Plong, falls under the central government priority and sub-national mission to conserve primate species and biodiversity in Kon Plong forest. And as such, aligning with policy and development plans, is essential. In coming quarter, the project will document this review/results as a recommendation memo or policy briefing to Kon Plong district government on land use plan and biodiversity conservation planning. This will support and feed directly into subsequent land use planning, at the landscape scale, within which protected area development is the 'core'.

Activity 3.1. A thorough, ongoing and gendered FPIC-based consultation process and theory of change, related to the project/key interventions (planned Q2 July 2018 – onward)

With support of an FFI livelihood development Expert from Cambodia, FFI's REDD+ project team in Kon Tum, and together with project partner GreenViet, project organised a three-day training workshop on project planning, monitoring and evaluation, and gender to project staff, following by a field visit to four key villages and Kon Plong landscape. Through this training workshop and field visit, project developed a detailed work-plan, consideration of target villages and interventions based on consultations with experts, relevant stakeholders and community representatives. In coming quarters, project will focus on engagement of local people in co-create and support sustainable livelihoods interventions that later can make a meaningful impact on local poverty rates and enable both women and men to improve market access for their goods locally.

To support livelihood development interventions later, the project assigned staff (one from FFI and three from GreenViet) attend a training course on Asset Based Community-led Development (ABCD) approach. This approach, in combination with market-based approach will better help project create sustainable livelihood development interventions that well fit in local conditions.

Activity 3.10. Impact / Safeguard monitoring - bi-annual data collection (Q2 July 2018 – onward)

The project has just started to gather all necessary data and information on FPIC, KAB and socio-economic conditions from the 14 villages within the landscape of Kon Plong forest. Project is now developing the first iteration of an Impact / Safeguard monitoring system; the first part of which – a Benefit Sharing Mechanism and associated Grievance Redress Mechanism – has already been drafted.

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.

Project implementation has been smooth during its first three months of operation. FFI holds very good working relationships with project partner GreenViet and also the Forest Protection Department of Kon Tum province. FFI has an on-going REDD+ project in the same landscape of this project. Therefore, project received great support in terms of administration procedure, expertise, and human resources from partners and REDD+ project team.

In terms of project budget and timetable (delivery), and potential impacts that this may have later, the project is somewhat underspent during first quarter. This because of a delay in recruiting project staff, and the need to spend considerable time in detailed discussion and planning with GreenViet, having secured the grant. There was also some residual budget, from co-funds, covering in part some of the scoping and KAB/FPIC work that needed to spent down.

However, the project confirms that it will be able to catch up in next quarter and no significant underspend or delay is expected, hereafter.

There was one potential staff change (see accompanying letter), albeit not yet been confirmed.

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 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?

No (see letter on staff changes)

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**