



**Darwin Initiative/Darwin Plus Projects  
Half Year Report  
(due 31<sup>st</sup> October 2021)**

<b>Project reference</b>	28-028
<b>Project title</b>	Pairing community conservation areas with sustainable aquaculture in Lake Victoria
<b>Country(ies)/territory(ies)</b>	Kenya
<b>Lead organisation</b>	Conservation International Foundation
<b>Partner(s)</b>	FFI, Pathfinder International, Victory Farms LLC
<b>Project leader</b>	Leonard Akwany
<b>Report date and number (e.g. HYR1)</b>	HYR1
<b>Project website/blog/social media</b>	None yet

**1. Outline progress over the last 6 months (April – Sept) against the agreed project implementation timetable (if your project has started less than 6 months ago, please report on the period since start up to end September).**

Because the offer letter for the project was received on August 20<sup>th</sup> and the signed offer letter was returned on September 17, a new start date of October 1, 2021 has been requested and approved.

**2a. Give details of any notable problems or unexpected developments/lessons learnt that the project has encountered over the last 6 months (for COVID-19 specific delays/problems, please use 2b). Explain what impact these could have on the project and whether the changes will affect the budget and timetable of project activities.**

As noted above, a new start date, as well as small staffing changes, have been requested and approved. In response to reviewer feedback, an increase in match funding to allow for increased staff time on the project has also been requested. Responses to reviewer feedback are included in a separate document.

**2b. Please outline any specific issues which your project has encountered as a result of COVID-19. Where you have adapted your project activities in response to the pandemic, please briefly outline how you have done so here. Explain what residual impact there may be on your project and whether the changes will affect the budget and timetable of project activities.**

Pre-work planned for the project was impacted by COVID-19 restrictions in terms of people's movement, the number of people in any meeting, and curfew. This limited the team's local consultations; for instance, strict adherence to standing operation procedures (SOP) by the Ministry of Health and county governments resulted in more virtual, as opposed to in-person, meetings with partners and key stakeholders. The restrictions are loosening but may tighten again; the project team will continue to adhere to SOP measures as they evolve.

**2c. 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
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Formal change request submitted:	Yes/No
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Received confirmation of change acceptance	Yes/No
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**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. **Please DO NOT send these in the same email as your report.**

**4. Are there any other issues you wish to raise relating to the project or to Darwin's management, monitoring, or financial procedures?**

There are no other issues to raise at this point in time.

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.

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: 25-001 Darwin Half Year Report**