



**BIODIVERSITY  
CHALLENGE FUNDS**



## **Biodiversity Challenge Funds Projects Darwin Initiative, Illegal Wildlife Trade Challenge Fund, and Darwin Plus**

### **Half Year Report**

It is expected that this report will be a **maximum of 2-3 pages** in length.

**If there is any confidential information within the report that you do not wish to be shared on our website, please ensure you clearly highlight this.**

**Submission Deadline: 31<sup>st</sup> October 2025**

**Please note all projects that were active before 1<sup>st</sup> October 2025 are required to complete a Half Year Report.**

**Submit to: [BCF-Reports@niras.com](mailto:BCF-Reports@niras.com) including your project ref in the subject line.**

<b>Project reference</b>	DARCC056
<b>Project title</b>	Strengthening capabilities and capacities for sea turtle conservation in Indonesia
<b>Country(ies)/territory(ies)</b>	Indonesia
<b>Lead Organisation</b>	Turtle Foundation Switzerland (TF)
<b>Partner(s)</b>	Yayasan Penyu Indonesia (YPI)
<b>Project Leader</b>	Dr. Hiltrud Cordes
<b>Report date and number (e.g. HYR1)</b>	31 October 2025 HYR2
<b>Project website/blog/social media</b>	<a href="http://www.turtle-foundation.org/en">www.turtle-foundation.org/en</a> <a href="https://www.instagram.com/turtle.foundation/?hl=de">https://www.instagram.com/turtle.foundation/?hl=de</a> <a href="https://www.facebook.com/turtlefoundation/">https://www.facebook.com/turtlefoundation/</a>  <a href="http://www.yayasanpenyu.org/en">www.yayasanpenyu.org/en</a> <a href="https://www.instagram.com/yayasanpenyu/?hl=de">https://www.instagram.com/yayasanpenyu/?hl=de</a> <a href="https://www.facebook.com/yayasanpenyu">https://www.facebook.com/yayasanpenyu</a>

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

Although we are not looking for specific reporting against your indicators, please use this opportunity to consider the appropriateness of your monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL) systems (are your indicators still relevant, can you report against any Standard Indicators, do your assumptions still hold true?). The guidance can be found on the resources page of the relevant fund website.

During the reporting period from April to September 2025, the project has progressed well and remains on track against the agreed implementation timetable. All major planned activities have been implemented as scheduled, and key indicators show strong advancement towards or even achievement of the project targets:

**Capacity building and staff development (Indicator 1.1 [DI-A01])**

Between April and September 2025, Yayasan Penyu Indonesia (YPI) ran its comprehensive staff training programme, delivering a total of 108 training weeks by September 2025. We are confident that we will achieve our target of 123 training weeks by the end of December 2025. In August, a five-day *Team Building Training* was held in Bali with 12 participants from YPI. The training included sessions on leadership, financial management, the Environmental and Social Safeguard Framework (ESSF), Logical Frameworks, and the socialisation of key Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), such as those on finance, travel, and safeguarding. Participants also visited local sea turtle conservation stakeholders.

Additionally, the Project Coordinator, Ms. Yuliana Syamsuni, completed an online course on *Behaviour Change for Sustainable Impact* provided by the Centre for Wildlife Studies. The course consisted of six self-paced modules focusing on the theoretical foundations and practical applications of behaviour change in environmental conservation.

**Outreach and communication (Indicators 1.2 and 1.3 [DI-C11, DI-C12])**

YPI's outreach activities through social media and digital platforms have continued to grow steadily. By September 2025, YPI's total social media following across Instagram, Facebook, LinkedIn, and YouTube had increased to 19,262 (from a baseline of 11,600), with 3,302,442 views and 90,458 engagements (likes, comments, and shares).

YPI's new website, launched in early 2025, is also performing well. It has attracted an average of 605 visitors per month, with 388 total downloads of educational and technical resources recorded to date. While the current monthly average is slightly below the December 2025 target of 800 visitors, consistent upward trends suggest that this milestone remains achievable within the planned timeframe.

**Ranger Handbook development and knowledge sharing (Indicator 2.1 [DI-C01])**

The *Ranger Handbook for Sea Turtle Conservation Management* is under development and has reached approximately 40% completion. The handbook is structured into eight modules grouped into three parts: (1) *Foundational Knowledge and Nesting Beach Monitoring*, (2) *Advanced Nesting Beach Conservation and Data Collection*, and (3) *Advanced Knowledge*. The content integrates inputs from field rangers, scientific advisors, and project coordinators to ensure its practical usability and long-term relevance.

As part of peer learning and knowledge exchange (Activity 2.3), an exchange visit to the *Jeen Womom Coastal Park* in Papua was organised from 20–30 August 2025. Two YPI staff and one Turtle Foundation representative participated. The visit provided valuable insights into long-term monitoring methodologies, research approaches, and community stewardship strategies in leatherback turtle conservation.

**Education materials printed and distributed (Indicator 3.3 [DI-C19])**

This target was fully achieved and exceeded. Three sets of children's education materials were produced—*Bunda Amalia Belimbing*, *Purple Turtle*, and *Petualangan Tukik*—instead of two originally planned. By September 2025, a total of 600 copies had been distributed to all four YPI project sites (Berau, Nias, Sipora, and Simeulue): 10 copies of *Bunda Amalia Belimbing*, 100 copies of *Purple Turtle*, and 40 copies of *Petualangan Tukik* to each site. All materials are also freely available for download on YPI's website, increasing accessibility and reach.

**Overall assessment and reflection on MEL systems**

All project activities are progressing on schedule, and all indicators remain relevant and measurable. Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) systems continue to function effectively, allowing for timely data collection and adaptive management. The indicators have proven to be appropriate for tracking both quantitative and qualitative project outcomes, while our assumptions still hold true.

In summary, progress during this period has been strong across all outputs, with several targets already achieved ahead of schedule. The project remains well positioned to meet its final objectives by March 2026.

**3. Have any of these issues been discussed with NIRAS and if so, have changes been made to the original agreement?**

Discussed with NIRAS:

No

Formal Change Request submitted:

No

Received confirmation of change acceptance:

No

Change Request reference if known:

**4a. Please confirm your actual spend in this financial year to date (i.e. from 1 April 2025 – 30 September 2025)**

Actual spend:

**4b. Do you currently expect to have any significant (e.g. more than £5,000) underspend in your budget for this financial year (ending 31 March 2026)?**

Yes ☐ No ☒ Estimated underspend: £

**4c. If you expect an underspend, then you should consider your project budget needs carefully.**

**5. Are there any other issues you wish to raise relating to the project or to BCFs management, monitoring, or financial procedures?**

Suspensions or allegations related to fraud and error concerns should be reported to [fraudanderror@Defra.gov.uk](mailto:fraudanderror@Defra.gov.uk)

No

**6. Project risk management**

**6a. If your project has an Overseas Security and Justice assessment, please provide an update on any related risks, and any special conditions in your award paperwork if relevant for your project.**

No Overseas Security and Justice Assessment has been conducted for this project.

**7. Please use this section to respond to any feedback provided when your project was confirmed, or from your most recent Annual Report. As a reminder, all projects that were scored as 'Not Yet Sensitive' in the Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) assessment of their latest Annual Report should demonstrate how they are meeting the minimum GESI-Sensitive standard.**

In response to the feedback received on our most recent Annual Report:

[Redacted text block]

[Redacted text block]

YPI continues to maintain its *Empowering* status in the Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) framework and remains committed to promoting a safe, inclusive, and equitable working environment across all project sites.

## Checklist for submission

Have you responded to <b>feedback from your latest Annual Report Review</b> ? You should respond in section 6, and annexe other requested materials as appropriate.	Yes
Have you reported against the most <b>up to date information for your project</b> ?	Yes
Have you <b>clearly highlighted any confidential information</b> within the report that you do not wish to be shared on our website?	Yes
Include your <b>project reference</b> in the subject line of submission email.	Yes
Submit to <a href="mailto:BCF-Reports@niras.com">BCF-Reports@niras.com</a>	Yes
Please ensure claim forms and other communications for your project are not included with this report.	Yes