

Biodiversity Challenge Funds Projects Darwin Initiative, Illegal Wildlife Trade Challenge Fund, and Darwin Plus Half Year Report

Note: 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: 31st October 2022

Project reference	DAREX005
Project title	Ridge to Reef Conservation in West Papua, Indonesia
Country(ies)/territory(ies)	Indonesia/West Papua
Lead partner	Fauna & Flora International (FFI)
Partner(s)	Yayasan Konservasi Alam Nusantara (YKAN), West Papua Research Agency for Regional Development (BRIDA) formerly BALITBANGDA, The West Papua Natural Resource Conservation Agency (BBKSDA Papua Barat),
Project leader	Frank Momberg
Report date and number	<i>HYR1 (April-September 2022)</i>
Project website/blog/social media	FFI , YKAN

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).

Output 1. Regional policies, development and spatial plans, and sustainable financing mechanisms support the long-term protection of the Raja Ampat and Tambrau land and seascapes covering 5.1 million hectares.

1.1 Project inception: recruit additional staff, establish project steering committee, join the ‘Crown Jewel of Tanah Papua consortium’.

In the early stage of the project, FFI initiated inception to explain the project implementation plan to key parties in West Papua province such as the Regional Research and Innovation Agency (BRIDA) formerly the Regional Research and Development Center (Balitbangda), the West Papua Natural Resources and Conservation Agency (BKSDA Papua Barat), the West Papua Provincial Forestry Service, and the Production Forest Management Unit (KPHP) Unit II Sorong. FFI is a member of the Crown Jewel of Tanah Papua (CJTP) Consortium since June 2022 and has been involved in the preparation of an academic paper on the Creation of Provincial Strategic Area of CJTP which based on biodiversity and cultural evidences. This academic paper is the basis and framework for the draft of regional regulation on the determination and management of the CJTP Landscape in West Papua Province. On human resource arrangement, FFI is currently conducting recruitment of additional 12 staffs to support project implementation. We had shortlisted candidates who will be interviewed by soon..

1.10 Identify philanthropic/ multilateral funding to scale-up after project end (e.g. LLF/ GCF).

FFI is currently developing long-term funding opportunities to expand projects in West Papua, especially in the Tambrau Regency through the Legacy Landscapes Fund ([LLF](#)). FFI partnered by GIZ, had submitted a concept note to the LLF and passed to the stage 1 of proposal scheme. In this initial stage, LLF has provided funding of USD ██████ to FFI for collecting data and local government’s supports on the process of constructing the full proposal.

Output 2. Management effectiveness of 7 terrestrial and 3 marine protected areas is improved, and other effective area-based conservation (OECMs) designations are created, enabled by evidence-based planning, community engagement, and increased technical and operational capacity.

2.1 Undertake additional new biodiversity baseline surveys/threat assessments. (FFI)

Currently, initial surveys have been conducted in 3 villages in Sorong Regency and 2 villages in Tambrau Regency. In the preliminary survey, an introduction to survey activities was carried out along with permission to enter the customary forest area in the 5 villages. An introduction to the biodiversity of West Papua was conducted, includes unique, endemic, and protected species. For supporting the survey effort, training on data collection techniques and the use of observation tools such as GPS, binoculars, and cameras were conducted. A total of 28 people (25 male, 3 female) participated in the training. Training participants also engage in a preliminary survey to the target sampling area to observe forest conditions, access, habitat and ecosystem diversity. The results of the preliminary survey found that there are several habitat types, namely lowland forest, karst hilly forest, riparian, and seasonal swamp forest with hilly topography in the north and valley plains in the south. The elevation of the surveyed area ranges from the coastal edge to hills reaching 600 m above sea level. Some of the findings from the short observation include endemic bird species, namely the king bird-of-paradise (*Ciccinnurus regius*) and twelve-wired bird-of-paradise (*Seleucidis melanoleucus*). In addition, there were findings of slaty grey snake (*Stegonotus cucullatus*) and blue tongue skink (*Tiliqua gigas*).

2.5 Undertake base line Knowledge, Attitude, Behaviour (KAB) survey in all target villages.

The FFI teams have developed a questionnaire for Knowledge, Attitude, Behaviour (KAB) assessment in target villages. The survey will be conducted on January 2023 in 20 villages across Sorong Regency, Tambrau Regency, and Raja Ampat Regency (Kofiau and North Waigeo).

2.8 Review the potential of territorial-use rights in fisheries (TURF) to support small-scale sustainable fisheries. (YKAN)

The YKAN team, comprising the MPA and Fisheries teams, conducted a field visit in September 2022 to review the locations to be used as TURF sites. Based on internal discussions, three locations were decided to be TURF sites, namely North Misool, (Masyarakat Hutan Adat) MHA Malaumkarta Raya and MHA Werur Raya.

2.10 Review options for collaborative management structures and systems for 10 terrestrial and marine PAs. (YKAN)

Several coordination and internal discussions have been held with the YKAN team to review the structure and system of collaborative management. From these discussions, there are 2 (two) options that will be followed up for further development, namely fisheries co-management in Marine Protected Areas and community leadership in fisheries management in tenurial waters.

2.11 Facilitate participatory gazettement of North Misool MPA. (YKAN)

YKAN is currently facilitating technically the Working Group (Pokja) formed by the West Papua Maritime and Fisheries Service to develop a Zoning Plan for a potential Regional Conservation Area in the Northern Misool Waters as one of the documents required for determination by the Minister of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries. Stages that have been carried out by the Pokja to prepare the Zoning Plan Document include a series of Pokja meetings to develop the Zoning Plan (output: minutes, zoning map), public consultation on the draft Zoning Plan (output: minutes), workshop on Finalizing the Zoning Document (output: Zoning Document), and drafting a letter from the Governor of West Papua on the Request for Determination to the Minister of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries. The letter including supporting documents will be sent to the Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries in November 2022 for further evaluation.

2.13 Finalise stakeholder consultation for Raja Ampat land/seascape Biosphere Reserve nomination. (FFI)

A discussion with Man and Biosphere (MAB) Indonesia Prof Purwanto and Dr Hari Nugraha was held through online platform on 25th September 2022. The FFI team updated the MAB team on the progress of the ongoing Raja Ampat UNESCO Geopark proposal and the opportunity to propose a Biosphere Reserve with the latest Darwin funding support. MAB recommended that the Biosphere Reserve proposal process should be restarted with an audience and presentation to the Regent and relevant agencies in Raja Ampat on the proposal scheme and policy support for the proposal.

2.23 Provide training for Malaumkarta/Werur customary marine conservation area management institutions to develop zoning and management plans. (YKAN)

YKAN has conducted initial socialization on Masyarakat Hukum Adat (MHA) to the communities of Malaumkarta Raya and Werur Raya and established MHA Management Units in both locations. It then conducted focus group discussions with traditional leaders, religious leaders and village governments to obtain input on the management of the Malaumkarta and Werur MHA management areas. The strategic management plans for Malaumkarta Raya and Werur Raya were then disseminated to stakeholders at the village level.

2.27 Establish, equip and train 2 community-based surveillance groups at Malaumkarta and Werur customary MPAs. (YKAN)

Community Supervisory Groups (POKMASWAS) in Malaumkarta and Werur have been established through a Decree of the Head of the West Papua Maritime and Fisheries Service. Training has been provided to these 2 POKMASWAS on the basics of Conservation Areas and MHA, the structure and organization of POKMASWAS and SOPs for Monitoring. In addition, several field equipment such as GPS, lifejacket, binoculars, handy talky, and first aid kit also being provided. Specifically, for the Werur POKMASWAS. YKAN has installed four solar panels at the monitoring post on Amsterdam Werur Island.

Output 3. At least 2,400 local people (>40% women) register improved livelihoods through secure tenure and legal access to natural resources, improved community capacity for sustainable natural resource management and ecotourism, and improved value chains and market access for forestry, agriculture and fisheries products.

3.1 Undertake baseline and endline socio-economic studies/capacity building needs assessments in 30 villages. (YKAN)

Socio-economic and livelihood baseline surveys were conducted in five villages in North Misool, four villages in Malaumkarta Raya and six villages in Werur Raya. In August - September 2022, YKAN identified capacity building needs in North Misool and Werur Raya and conducted gender and vulnerable group surveys in 7 (seven) villages namely Malaumkarta, Suatolo, Werur, Werwaf, Wertim, Wertam, Werkam, Bukit and Suyam. As for North Misool, the gender and vulnerable groups survey was conducted online due to sea conditions that made it impossible to travel.

3.2 Undertake annual Participatory Wellbeing Assessment (PWA) in target villages. (FFI)

FFI has provided training on Social, Economic and Cultural Data Collection Methods (Activity 3.1) and Participatory Wellbeing Assessment (PWA) (Activity 3.2) to prospective enumerators consisting of communities and Forest Area management staff, namely KPHP Sorong and BBKSDA Papua Barat. The training was held on 22-24 August 2022 in Aimas Sorong and attended by 30 people with 19 men and 11 women. Participants received material on social research methods both quantitative and quantitative including PWA techniques. Social, Economic, and Cultural data collection including PWA has been conducted in 6 villages in Sorong District on 7-23 October 2022. This data collection involved 4 enumerators who had been previously trained. Data collection will continue in other villages in November 2022 and January 2023.

2. 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.

None	
3. Have any of these issues been discussed with NIRAS-LTS International and if so, have changes been made to the original agreement?	
Discussed with NIRAS-LTS:	Yes/No
Formal Change Request submitted:	Yes/No
Received confirmation of change acceptance	Yes/No
Change request reference if known:	

4a. Do you currently expect to have any significant (e.g. more than £5,000) underspend in your budget for this year?	
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Estimated underspend:
4b. 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. Please DO NOT send these in the same email as your report.	
5. Are there any other issues you wish to raise relating to the project or to BCF management, monitoring, or financial procedures?	
None	

If you are a new project and you received feedback comments that requested a response (including the submission of your risk register), or if your Annual Report Review asked you to provide a response 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 NIRAS-LTS International through a Change Request. **Please DO NOT send these in the same email.****

Please send your **completed report by email** to BCF-Reports@niras.com. The report should be between 2-3 pages maximum. **Please state your project reference number, followed by the specific fund in the header of your email message e.g. Subject: 29-001 Darwin Initiative Half Year Report**