



**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: 31st October 2025

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

Submit to: BCF-Reports@niras.com including your project ref in the subject line.

Project reference	DAREX 005
Project title	Ridge to Reef Conservation in Southwest Papua, Indonesia
Country(ies)/territory(ies)	Indonesia
Lead Organisation	Fauna & Flora International
Partner(s)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Yayasan Konservasi Alam Nusantara (YKAN) 2. Directorate General for Nature Resources and Ecosystems Conservation (KSDAE), Ministry of Environment and Forestry (MoEF)-former (now: Ministry of Forestry) 3. Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Service, Southwest Papua Provincial Government 4. West Papua Research Agency for Regional Development (BRIDA/BALITBANGDA-Papua Barat)
Project Leader	Frank Momberg
Report date and number (e.g. HYR1)	HYR4, Q1-Q2 Year 4
Project website/blog/social media	https://www.fauna-flora.org/ https://www.ykan.or.id/en/program/oceans-program/ocean-protection/

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).

OUTPUT 1

The integration of terrestrial and coastal spatial planning: the RTRW/RZWP3K are now in the final document drafting, and a multi-agency coordination confirmed role and the use of provincial APBD funds to support its next step. In parallel, the integrated SEA/KLHS process has been formally initiated by the Governor's Decrees and established SEA Working Group where the first public consultation was held in September 2025 (**Activity 1.2, 1.5**). The SEA recommendations have been also incorporated in the Southwest Papua RPJMD 2025-2029, of which has been finalised and submitted, also placed on the 2025 legislative agenda (**Activity 1.3**). In the other hand, the work on financial sustainability is progressing under **Activity 1.10**: YKAN agreed a cost-sharing mechanism with the Raja Ampat Management Unit for patrol operations in North Misool MPA through 2027; the new national Debt for Nature Swap (TFFCA) began disbursing nine month community grants in coral reef areas including Southwest Papua; the Legacy

Landscapes Fund entered Year 2; and Franklinia Foundation funding was secured for threatened tree conservation in four Sorong villages for 2025-2028. These progresses keep us on track toward **Indicators 1.1-1.3** (biodiversity and low-carbon priorities embedded in provincial planning, SEA produced, and an integrated RTRW/RZWP3K prepared for submission as a PERDA) and demonstrate tangible long-term financing commitments toward **Indicator 1.5 and Outcome 0.6**.

OUTPUT 2

Implementation under **Activities 2.3 and 2.4** continued to build the evidence and governance base for species and area-based protection. From April-September 2025, monitoring covered 14 priority species across three landscapes: eight discrete surveys in Raja Ampat (marine and terrestrial targets), six months of continuous birds-of-paradise surveys and five months of camera trapping in Sorong Corridor A, and one targeted survey in Tambrau. In August 2025, a multi-stakeholder workshop (27 participants, M:22, F:5) was held advancing the Southwest Papua Species Action Plan by training partners using IUCN Red List methods, producing preliminary assessments for high-priority endemic trees, and drafting its Species Action Plan; in parallel, Fauna & Flora participated in two national coordination meetings for the 2026-2030 action plans for cetaceans and sirenians to incorporate our project sites listed as priority areas. Under **Activities 2.12 and 2.9**, institutional strengthening continued: in North Misool MPA, zoning is complete, a working group was established by decree, and an October 2025 workshop agreed on a vision, conservation targets, threat analysis, and a 20-year phased management plan; the site's latest EVIKA score is 57.53% (Optimum/Silver). Maksegara MPA advanced through a Governor's Decree, five coordination meetings, and two public consultations, while feasibility work and TURF planning in Werur, Malaumkarta, and North Misool produced a comparative manuscript draft and a draft national policy brief on community-based fisheries management. **Activities 2.15, 2.14, and 2.16**, Raja Ampat was formally designated as a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve in September 2025, confirming completion and submission of the integrated land/seascape nomination dossier and management plan; Tambrau's Biosphere Reserve nomination was submitted to UNESCO with nine letters of support from government, customary institutions, women's representatives, communities, NGOs, and academia. Under **Activities 2.21 and 2.22**, customary forests with formal decrees now cover 53,609 ha, with a further 13,788 ha technically verified and 3,035 ha awaiting handover, for a potential total of 70,432 ha; six new RKPS during this period bring the cumulative total to 16 RKPS. Finally, **Activities 2.25, 2.26, and 2.28** maintained patrol: 29 marine patrols were conducted in North Misool MPA (involving nine villages), customary surveillance continued in Werur and Malaumkarta, and 15 terrestrial SMART patrols were carried out (6 in Raja Ampat, 9 in Sorong Corridor A), identified illegal logging and hunting as the main threats. These results demonstrate progress toward **Indicators 2.2, 2.4, 2.5, 2.7, and 2.8**. Simultaneously, conservation awareness activities (**Activity 2.6**) also engaged 689 participants this period (348 M, 342 F), bringing total reach since Year 1 to 2,390 people and directly contributing to **Indicator 2.3**.

OUTPUT 3

Livelihoods, enterprise governance, and market access were strengthened through **Activities 3.5, 3.7, 3.8, 3.9, and 3.14**. Training and mentoring delivered during this period covered entrepreneurship, financial literacy, organisational management, guiding and hospitality for ecotourism, coconut oil processing, RKPS preparation, seedbed development, and pest/disease management in community agriculture. These sessions involved 127 participants (50 F, 77 M) from five villages in Raja Ampat, eight in Sorong, and six in Tambrau, plus targeted technical support to groups in Malasigi, Kuadas, Megame, Malayauw, and Dela to improve ecotourism infrastructure, visitor services, product promotion, orchid-based livelihood exploration, and on-farm management. This capacity-building work directly supports **Indicators 3.4 and 3.5**. Under financing and enterprise performance (**Activity 3.8**), five new community sub-grant agreements were signed with an initial disbursement of IDR 1,298,530,000 to 198 members (95 F, 103 M). Funds were issued in two 50% tranches; three groups have already begun generating income, reporting IDR 66,210,000 in combined revenue and an estimated profit of IDR 21,312,500. Cumulatively, over 3.5 years, 12 community groups have now received sub-grants totalling IDR 2,168,957,000, covering food processing, customary area management, marine surveillance, ecotourism services, conservation/'sasi' systems, and traditional handicrafts. This demonstrates ongoing delivery toward **Indicator 3.6**. **Activity 3.9** ensured financial accountability and compliance through internal audits in 20 villages (9 Raja Ampat, 6 Sorong, 5 Tambrau) across Phases I-III of the revolving fund mechanism. Across partners, support now reaches 38 registered community groups (12 supported by YKAN, 21 by Fauna & Flora, plus 5 in proposal development), with women representing over 40% of membership according to last year's verified data and updated gender-disaggregated figures are in progress. This supports 38 registered community-based groups (12 supported by YKAN, 21 by Fauna & Flora, plus 5 in proposal development), with women representing over 40% of membership, aligning with the ≥40-group target and the intent of **Indicator 3.7**.

All progress remains on track, and no significant changes in assumptions have affected the activities or results.

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.

n/a

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

Discussed with NIRAS:

Yes/ No

Formal Change Request submitted:

Yes/ No

Received confirmation of change acceptance:

Yes/ No

Change Request reference if known: *If you submitted a financial Change Request, you can find the reference in the email from NIRAS confirming the outcome*

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

Actual spend: [REDACTED]

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:

[REDACTED]

4c. If you expect an underspend, then you should 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, and not later than 31st December. There is no guarantee that Defra will agree a re-budget so please ensure you have enough time to make appropriate changes to your project if necessary. **Please DO NOT send these in the same email as your report.**

NB: if you expect an underspend, do not claim anything more than you expect to spend this financial year.

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

n/a

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.

The project risk register, as requested in the Annual Year Report, is to be included in this section.

[2025-Risk Framework Indonesia Final.xlsx](#).

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.

Our project was initially assessed at a sensitive level with a score of 6, based on six key criteria: gender analysis, stakeholder engagement, disaggregation by gender and social categories, risk identification and mitigation, and safeguarding measures. During the past six months, our GESI ambition level has improved to 8, particularly due to advancements in gender analysis and institutional capacity. We have conducted gender assessments for three Indigenous Peoples groups and established the necessary expertise, tools, training, and clearly defined roles to effectively implement a GESI approach. Nevertheless, the overall GESI ambition level remains at the sensitive stage, though this upward shift clearly reflects our positive trajectory toward a more empowering framework.

Checklist for submission

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