

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 2024

Please note all projects that were active before 1 October 2024 are required to complete a Half Year Report.

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

Project reference	DAREX007
Project title	Scaling rights-based approaches for conservation and poverty reduction in Indonesia
Country(ies)/territory(ies)	Indonesia
Lead Organisation	Yayasan Planet Indonesia (YPI)
Partner(s)	AKAR Foundation
Project leader	Adam E. Miller
Report date and number (e.g. HYR1)	31st October 2024, HYR2
Project website/blog/social media	www.planetindonesia.org FB: Planet Indonesia IG: Planetindonesia Twitter : planet_indo

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 M&E 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.

Securing Rights through Social Forestry Scheme

During this period, no new social forestry permits were issued. However, we maintained the existing 13,469 hectares secured in Year 1 by facilitating the establishment of 3 Village Forest Management Institutions (LPHD) in 3 villages. Support was provided to these LPHDs in designing their organisational Articles of Association and bylaws, as well as support in preparing their Annual Work Plans. Additionally, three potential areas in two villages in West Kalimantan are currently proposing additional 6,533 hectares. The villages have completed the technical field verification. In addition to securing management rights in general, we particularly support women in accessing and using resources in tenurial areas; in Bengkulu, we continued to establish and support 4 additional groups of women.

Adaptive Resources Management Plans

In Y1, 8 adaptive resource management plans were developed in our coastal-mangrove forest and terrestrial areas, and these existing plans are now in the process of sharing sessions with local stakeholders to get feedback before the implementation. During this reporting period, 1 additional adaptive resources management plan was developed in Bengkulu.

SMART Patrols

Between April-September 2024, 30% of the total area was patrolled (433,019.29) by the 16 existing community-led SMART patrol teams in West Kalimantan. Two (2) additional teams were established in Bengkulu that will contribute to the larger coverage of the patrolled area.

Governance Bodies

During this reporting period, 11 governance institutions in Bengkulu with 454 direct beneficiaries were added to the existing 61 governance institutions with a total of 4,401 direct beneficiaries supported.

Livelihood Support

The value of assets accrued by the project's savings and loans program increased by 5.19% in this reporting period. We calculated the growth rate of the assets by taking the value of total assets up to March 2024 (IDR 3,963,413,195.78) and compared it to the total value of assets accrued until August 2024 (IDR 4,169,225,383). Additionally, we calculated the loan repayment after the savings/loans programme has been running for one fiscal year, and we have observed 78% of loan repayment rate from members who have accessed loans. During project support, 39 or 5% governance bodies already operated their program activities in savings/loans, farming, health, fisheries, and livelihoods.

Climate Smart Agriculture and Sustainable Fisheries

During this reporting period, 826 farmers participated in project facilitated training on using semi-organic herbicides, grafting trees for agroforestry programs, producing biochar, and legume cover crops to improve yields through climate friendly practices. 13 new income generating opportunities are supported in West Kalimantan, for example, animal husbandry (broiler chicken and goat farming) and agriculture (corn and vegetables farming, agricultural product processing or agribusiness). In fisheries, we have supported 533 fishers through improved fisheries management in our coastal and marine areas of West Kalimantan during the reporting period.

Healthy Family Initiatives

We have trained and supported a total of 91 health ambassadors during April-September 2024, with 3,274 individuals reached during visits to assist families with public health education and services. The basic and mandatory topic to be delivered is "12 Indicators of a Healthy Family." The Health Ambassadors, together with the respective local government health clinics (PUSKESMAS) have organised 37 travelling clinics to enable local communities to access free health services. This involved the visits of health workers such as nurses, midwives and doctors.

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.

Indigenous communities we partner with show a strong interest and willingness to pursue the Customary Forest (Hutan Adat) scheme. However, the permit approval process tends to be lengthy, particularly in areas within the regency with an absence of Indigenous Peoples recognition in the form of local district regulations as the prerequisite to apply for the permit. Additionally, the government's target for the designated area of Customary Forest in West Kalimantan has been surpassed and is no longer a priority. Also, changes in the ruling government (the new president and ministers) are usually followed by frequent regulatory and policy shifts, which will likely affect the process of establishing and approving community-based management plans through the Social Forestry Schemes. These challenges necessitate YPI to develop adaptive strategies and approaches tailored to the local communities. Also, YPI has been actively coordinating and consulting with BPSKL (The Social Forestry and Environmental Partnership Agency) to adapt with the updated Social Forestry policies and issues, and will also need to adjust with the new relevant government body formed by the new ruling regime.

The Healthy Family Initiatives program for the travelling clinic often faces medical shortages at local clinics, affecting follow-up care. To address this, Health Ambassadors identify prevalent diseases beforehand and report them to government clinics to ensure sufficient medication.

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 2024 – 30 September 2024)

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 2025)?

Yes **No** Estimated underspend: £

4c. If you expect and 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. 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 BCF management, monitoring, or financial procedures?

No

6. Please use this section to respond to any feedback provided when your project was confirmed, or from your most recent annual report. If your project was subject to an Overseas Security and Justice Assistance assessment please use this space to comment on any changes to international human rights risks, and to address any additional mitigations outlined in your offer letters. Please provide the comment and then your response. If you have already provided a response, please confirm when.

Respond to reviewer recommendation:

1. Clarify reporting by tabulating output and outcome achievements from the many activities to help the reader see the big picture. Tabulation provided [HERE](#)

2. Exit Strategy

YPI has been working in the area for a decade and has a long-term strategic work plan and a comprehensive fund-raising strategy in place. Our approach will strengthen the self-reliance and capacity of Indigenous-led governance institutions at the community level. Building the institutional capacity of local governance bodies is essential to supporting the sustainability and durability of impact created. The ability of IPLCs to continue to self-organise, make decisions, and address the needs of nature in the long-term hinges upon the capacity of community governance bodies. Building institutional capacity within governance platforms that act as the decision-making body ensures the sustainability of positive socio-ecological trajectories that improve human well-being and reduce nature crimes.

We have a strong track record of working with governments and foundations and aim to obtain multi-year grants and renew them when possible.

Checklist for submission

For New Projects (i.e. starting after 1st April 2024)	
Have you responded to any additional feedback (other than caveats) received in the letter you received to say your application was successful which requested response at HYR (including safeguarding points)? You should respond in section 6, annexes other requested materials as appropriate.	
If not already submitted, have you attached your risk register ?	
For Existing Projects (i.e. started before 1st April 2024)	
Have you responded to feedback from your latest Annual Report Review ? You should respond in section 6, annexes other requested materials as appropriate.	●
For All Projects	
Include your project reference in the subject line of submission email.	●
Submit to BCFs-Report@niras.com .	
Have you clearly highlighted any confidential information within the report that you do not wish to be shared on our website?	●
Have you reported against the most up to date information for your project ?	●
Please ensure claim forms and other communications for your project are not included with this report.	