



**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>	DAREX007
<b>Project title</b>	Scaling rights-based approaches for conservation and poverty reduction in Indonesia
<b>Country(ies)/territory(ies)</b>	Indonesia
<b>Lead Organisation</b>	Yayasan Planet Indonesia (YPI)
<b>Partner(s)</b>	AKAR Foundation
<b>Project Leader</b>	Adam E. Miller
<b>Report date and number</b>	31st October 2025, HYR3
<b>Project website/blog/social media</b>	<a href="http://www.planetindonesia.org">www.planetindonesia.org</a> FB: <a href="#">Planet Indonesia</a> IG: <a href="#">Planetindonesia</a> LinkedIn: <a href="#">Planet Indonesia</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).**

#### **MoV related to Output and Activity**

##### **Securing Rights through Social Forestry Scheme**

In the Gunung Nyiut Landscape, the Engkangin Village Forest Management proposal has progressed to the Ministry of Forestry's technical verification stage (2,722 hectares). In total, there are 65,274 ha of land with secured rights under the social forestry scheme managed by our partner communities (53,467 ha in West Kalimantan and 11,807 ha in Bengkulu). Beyond securing the land, we also support 12 women's groups in Bengkulu to access and utilize resources within these areas.

##### **Adaptive Resources Management Plans**

Two Village Forest Management Plans (RKPS) for two villages in Gunung Naning landscape were officially ratified in May 2025. Twenty-five adaptive resource management plans were also developed in Bengkulu, Sumatra. Our technical team is currently supporting the communities in other landscapes as they draft and refine their own adaptive management plans.

##### **SMART Patrols**

During this period, four new SMART patrol teams were established in West Kalimantan, bringing the total to 20 community-led patrol teams in the region. They patrolled across 620,661 hectares, covering 43% of our target area. In Bengkulu, we're currently supporting one SMART patrol team.

##### **Governance Bodies**

During this reporting period, we established two new governance institutions in the Melawi regency, Gunung Naning landscape, leading up to a total of 76 community-led governance institutions; 55 in West Kalimantan (reaching 4,645 individuals in HYR3) and 21 in Bengkulu, Sumatra.

#### **Livelihood Support**

We recorded an 83% increase in loan repayment rates and a 63% increase in assets during this reporting period. Community business groups in Kubu Raya, West Kalimantan, developed income-generating opportunities by cultivation of small, soft-shelled mangrove crabs and rehabilitated free-clawed crabs, which are then grown to market size. We also provided climate-smart agriculture training at demonstration plots, cultivation of various commodities for small enterprise, as well as stingless bee farming. Business literacy among community members was built on through workshops and farm visits, studying best practices from poultry farms.

#### **Climate Smart Agriculture and Sustainable Fisheries**

Climate-based agricultural trainings were implemented across the sites, each tailored to the specific environmental conditions and community needs. These initiatives reached 268 farmers. We also support 387 fishers by distributing Fisheries Business Actor Cards to improve their formal recognition.

#### **Healthy Family Initiatives**

8 new Health Ambassadors were trained and a total of 209 HA reached 3,754 individuals in sharing health information on 12 healthy family indicators, as well as relevant public health topics. We also supported 39 traveling clinics in total (30 in West Kalimantan and 9 in Sumatra).

**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.**

The implementation encounters several hurdles across the sites; including overlapping responsibilities between the members and working groups, limited stakeholder engagement, and digital literacy gap among team members. To overcome these, we've learned the importance of clearly defined roles, addressing these from the outset, strengthening cross-sectoral collaboration, providing gradual digital training, and building on the capacity of the community institutions for more effective and sustainable operation.

**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: XXXXXXXXXX £

**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: N/A

**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 31<sup>st</sup> 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.**

**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)

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.**

There have been no actual risks that were realised during this reporting period. To provide further details on the risk management aspect of the project, please find attached the updated [Risk Register](#). It serves as a reference for understanding how identified risks are being monitored and mitigated throughout project implementation

**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.**

## Checklist for submission

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