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	IWT132
Project title	From Forests to Courts: Combatting IWT in West Kalimantan, Indonesia
Country(ies)/territory(ies)	Indonesia
Lead Organisation	Yayasan Planet Indonesia
Partner(s)	Langland Conservation UK
Project Leader	Abrar Ahmad
Report date and number (e.g. HYR1)	31st October 2025, HYR2
Project website/blog/social media	www.planetindonesia.org FB: Planet Indonesia IG: Planetindonesia LinkedIn: Planet Indonesia

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: IPLCs have access to financial and non-financial services at the village level
Assets grew by 4,6% on average across both landscapes **[Indicator 1.1]**. Monthly assistance also boosted members' financial literacy, covering saving and loan transactions, financial checks, and reporting. We supported three income-generating activities across sites that included pepper cultivation, stingless bee farming, and broiler chicken farming. Farmers utilized demonstration plots to trial climate-smart agriculture practices and cultivate crops to be supplied to small enterprises **[Indicator 1.2]**. 51 Health Ambassadors across sites received training to strengthen family health programs. In total, 162 ambassadors are now actively delivering health programs by sharing information on 12 key healthy family indicators and other health topics through monthly visits and mobile clinics **[Indicator 1.3]**. HAs conducted monthly household visits to 1,151 individuals across sites **[Indicator 1.4]**. Additionally, in Ketapang, we partnered with local health centers to raise awareness about nutrition and stunting. Our traveling clinic program provided health checks, consultations, medicine, and public health information to 1,422 individuals.

Output 2: IPLCs receive Social Forestry permits and training to develop natural resource management plans for social forestry areas

In addition to the 6 villages that have received their social forestry permits, we are continuing to support other villages in both landscapes to gain access to the social forestry scheme that will enable partnership communities to have greater control over the management of their surrounding natural resources. In the Gunung Nyiut Landscape, the Engkangin Village Forest Management Proposal has progressed to the Ministry of Forestry's technical verification stage (revised area: 2,722 ha). In the Gunung Naning Protected Forest landscape, we collaborate with the Indigenous Peoples Alliance (AMAN) and the Community Land Defenders Institute (Lembaga Bela Banua Talino, LBBT) to support partner communities in applying for Customary Forest permits, which is a different and longer permitting process compared to Village Forest permits **[Indicator 2.1]**. In the Gunung Naning landscape, we supported the development and ratification of three Social Forestry Work Plans (RKPS) for three villages through a community-led, participatory process. Two additional RKPS in the Gunung Nyiut area are in the final stages of ratification **[Indicator 2.2; IWTCF-D12]**.

Four new SMART patrol teams were established (two in each landscape), bringing the total to 14 active community-based SMART patrol teams, receiving regular training on monitoring tools and methods **[Indicator 2.3; IWTCF-B03]**. However, no SMART patrol teams were ratified in this reporting period **[Indicator 2.4]**. Data from the SMART patrols show variations in encounter rates across locations, with encroachment remaining the most frequently recorded threat in both landscapes. Based on the most recent data, the average exploitation rate in both regions decreased by 16.26% compared to the baseline in June 2024 **[Indicator 2.5]**.

Output 5: Research findings regarding IWT in West Kalimantan is published and shared with government agencies

Although no publications were submitted to journals in this reporting period, we have started working on drafting 2 articles for publication **[Indicator 5.1]**. The first article will evaluate the impact of law enforcement and outreach campaigns on the Indonesian caged bird trade in Kalimantan, analyzing whether intensified efforts decrease the availability of protected songbirds in both physical and Facebook markets. The second article, planned for an Indonesian journal, will focus on trends in protected and non-protected species trade on Facebook and the correlation between their availability and price. We expect these to be published by Year 3. However, not policy briefs were developed during this reporting period **[Indicator 5.2]**

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.

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
Formal Change Request submitted:	Yes
Received confirmation of change acceptance:	Yes
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)?

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?

Suspicions or allegations related to fraud and error concerns should be reported to fraudanderror@Defra.gov.uk

No, currently we do not have anything to share/raise related to the project at the moment.

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 realised during this reporting period. The updated project risk register is attached to the email with this HYR.

6b. Have any concerns or allegations relating to sexual exploitation, abuse or harassment been reported in the past 6 months?

Suspicions or allegations related to safeguarding concerns should be reported to ODA.Safeguarding@defra.gov.uk

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.