

# Darwin Initiative: Half Year Report

(due 31 October 2013)

<b>Project Ref No:</b>	DPLUS002
<b>Project Title</b>	An autonomous seabird monitoring network for the Southern Ocean
<b>Country(ies)</b>	BAT, South Georgia, South Sandwich Islands, Falkland Islands
<b>Lead Organisation</b>	University of Oxford
<b>Collaborator(s)</b>	UCL
<b>Project Leader</b>	Tom Hart
<b>Report date and number (eg HYR3)</b>	HYR1
<b>Project website</b>	

## 1. Outline progress over the last 6 months (April – Sept) against the agreed baseline timetable for the project (if your project has started less than 6 months ago, please report on the period since start up).

Cameras have been ordered, modified where appropriate and shipped to two depot locations ready for deployment in November 2013 to January 2014.

Off the back of the International Penguin Conference and adjacent meetings, we have made a lot of contacts and new partners who we hope will be able to expand this project beyond the end of Darwin Plus funding.

We are negotiating with Zooniverse to develop the online crowdsourcing resource. We hope this will be live in April 2014, allowing us to automate all of the data extraction from images. There is no progress on the computer vision algorithm yet, which will follow on from the data extraction phase.

Progress has been made on the citizen science application, for which we are developing an online uploader tool and Photosynth tool to monitor seabird sites where it is not possible to leave cameras.

We have achieved the following against the Q1 and Q2 forecasted outputs:

- a) Power analysis of monitored sites and design network (Q1)  
Partially complete- we have a crude power analysis and we are working on a more sophisticated analysis. We have designed the network in light of this and have identified priorities for monitoring over the next two years.
- b) Test current trial version with multiple user images and users (Q1)  
Complete
- c) Beta test satellite linked camera (Q2)  
Complete-this is now working and will be deployed in January 2014
- d) Generate count data and clustering statistics from the data on the image database (Q2)  
Cameras have been ordered, modified where appropriate and shipped to two depot locations ready for deployment in November 2013 to January 2014.

## 2a. Give details of any notable problems or unexpected developments 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.

We have had to cancel the first expedition of this year, so there has been some unexpected additional shipping costs to get cameras in the right locations. This might also result in fewer cameras being placed in year 1, but we are working around this. We don't think this will impact

the deliverables.

**2b. Have any of these issues been discussed with LTS International and if so, have changes been made to the original agreement?**

Discussed with LTS: No

Formal change request submitted: No

Received confirmation of change acceptance No

**3a. Do you expect to have any significant (eg more than £5,000) underspend in your budget for this year?**

Yes  No

**3b. If yes, and you wish to request a carryforward of funds, this should be done as soon as possible through the formal Change Request process.** However, it would help Defra manage Darwin funds more efficiently if you could give an indication now of how much you expect this request might be for.

Estimated carryforward request: £

**4. Are there any other issues you wish to raise relating to the project or to Darwin's management, monitoring, or financial procedures?**

No

**If you were asked to provide a response to this year's annual report review with your next half year report, please attach your response to this document.**

**Please note: Any planned modifications to your project schedule/workplan or budget should not be discussed in this report but raised with LTS International through a Change Request.**

Please send your **completed report by email** to Eilidh Young at [Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.uk](mailto:Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.uk) . The report should be between 1-2 pages maximum. **Please state your project reference number in the header of your email message eg Subject: 17-075 Darwin Half Year Report**