



Darwin Initiative/Darwin Plus Projects Half Year Report (due 31st October 2021)

Project reference	DPLUS091
Project title	Improving coastal ecosystem resilience to climate change in Anguilla
Country(ies)/territory(ies)	Anguilla
Lead organisation	Department of Disaster Management
Partner(s)	Anguilla National Trust, Department of Environment.
Project leader	Calvin Samuel /Damian Barker
Report date and number (e.g. HYR1)	HYR3
Project website/blog/social media	N/A

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

Output 2. Implementation of climate change models and stakeholder-informed conservation action plans

Activity 2.4: Establish nursery for native coastal vegetation seedlings

We continue to maintain our nursery, and currently have approximately 1000 red, white and black mangrove, buttonwood and seagrape seedlings growing within it. These will be out-planted at restoration sites when they reach an appropriate size.

Activity 2.5 Review and implement best practice methodologies to increase resilience of coastal ecosystems at five priority sites identified by stakeholders.

Our coastal restoration activities are on-going at the priority sites identified by stakeholders in Y1 of the project. Over the last 6 months, we have out-planted 59 buttonwood, 46 seagrape, 42 white, 30 black and 3 red mangroves at Cove bay, Forest beach, Long Salt pond and Long Salt Pond Bay. We will continue restoration activities into the final quarter of this project

Activity 2.6: Develop and implement monitoring protocols for restored coastal ecosystems.

We continue to monitor the survival of seedlings planted during this project and, up until August 2021, can report survival rates of 62% for red mangroves, 75% for white mangroves, 83% for black mangroves, 83% for buttonwood, 72% for seagrape.

Output 3. Enhancement of national and regional capacity to understand small island vulnerability to climate change and to undertake actions to increase resiliency

Activity 3.4: Provide in-field training to coastal community members in coastal ecosystem mitigation and restoration protocols and methods by natural resource members.

On the 27th July 2021, we celebrated World Mangrove Day with tree planting at Cove Bay with the Ministry responsible for Natural Resources, the Albena Lake Hodge Comprehensive School's Environmental Club, and local community members. In addition, on the 12th August we held a

tree planting activity at Long Salt Pond with Anguilla National Youth Council. In total 9 females and 4 males have been trained in coastal restoration techniques during this reporting period.

Activity 3.6: Publicise and report on project progress and results through the Darwin platform, stakeholders' engagements, radio programmes and the newspaper.

On 28th July 2021, project partners presented on aspects of the project to a group of 28 youths from the Anguilla-based not-for-profit organisation Sustainable Anguilla. Three social media posts related to the project have been issued and a newspaper article has been published in Anguilla's local newspaper *the Anguillian* and the Saint Martin *The Daily Herald*.

All activities that were scheduled to have taken place by this stage of the project (as detailed in the implementation schedule) have been completed.

2a. Give details of any notable problems or unexpected developments/lessons learnt that the project has encountered over the last 6 months (for COVID-19 specific delays/problems, please use 2b). Explain what impact these could have on the project and whether the changes will affect the budget and timetable of project activities.

We have not experienced any notable problems or unexpected developments.

2b. Please outline any specific issues which your project has encountered as a result of COVID-19. Where you have adapted your project activities in response to the pandemic, please briefly outline how you have done so here. Explain what residual impact there may be on your project and whether the changes will affect the budget and timetable of project activities.

To date, Anguilla has been relatively fortunate in the number of cases of Covid-19 reported and its containment. As a result, we have been able to proceed with this project as expected and have not experienced any specific issues as a result of Covid-19.

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

Discussed with LTS: Yes/No

Formal change request submitted: Yes/No

Received confirmation of change acceptance Yes/No

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

Yes No Estimated underspend: £

3b. If yes, then you need to 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 rebudget Change Request as soon as possible. There is no guarantee that Defra will agree a rebudget so please ensure you have enough time to make appropriate changes if necessary. **Please DO NOT send these in the same email as your report.**

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

Not at this time.