

Darwin Initiative for the Survival of Species

Half Year Report Form

Project Title	Devising solutions to bushmeat exploitation in the Sanaga-Cross region
Country	Cameroon, Nigeria and Equatorial Guinea
Organisation	Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust (Jersey) and the Wildlife Conservation Research Unit (WildCRU), University of Oxford
Project Ref. No.	162/10/004
Report date	April 2002

1. Outline progress over the last 6 months against the agreed baseline timetable for the project.

- Planning meetings between In-country project co-ordinators and Principal Investigators held in Jersey and Oxford.
- In-country project co-ordinators in place.
- Over 20 local assistants trained and employed in data collection for the project.
- Inventories of market sites in villages and towns started.
- Data collection on extraction of bushmeat started.
- Meetings held with collaborating UK (Institute of Zoology, Nuffield Institute of Nutrition) and US institutions (Hunter College) on development of methodologies.
- Collaboration protocols established with local NGOs (CERCOPAN, Nigerian Conservation Foundation, WWF-Cameroon, WCS-Cameroon).
- Visits to Nigeria, Cameroon and Equatorial Guinea by Principal Investigators.
- PhD student linked to the project, working on the economics of bushmeat, started.
- Project launched formally to the national media in March 2002 – features in Independent and the Observer. Radio interviews in the Today programme (Radio 4) and Radio Scotland. Coverage in local press and television in Jersey.
- Two scientific papers on data analysed for the project already in press.

2. 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 effect the budget and timetable of project activities. Have any of these issues been discussed with the Department and if so, have changes been made to the original agreement?

In general, there have not been any major problems. Given the broad nature of the project – which embraces three countries and covers data collection over a large region by employing numerous personnel – we have encountered relatively few difficulties, which were more problematical than expected at the outset. The major setback has been the fact that purchase of vehicles and employment of local assistants has been more expensive than anticipated.

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

Given the difficulty noted at (2) re local labour and vehicle costs, we are requesting permission to vire money among the original cost headings. At the same time, we are actively seeking additional funding elsewhere, and are also requesting that the DI consider allocating modest supplementary funding to this project in the event that our efforts do not succeed on the necessary time-scale.

Completed forms to: Rose Clarkson, Darwin Initiative M&E Project Manager, John Muir Building, Kings Buildings, University of Edinburgh, Mayfield Rd., Edinburgh EH9 3JK, Scotland. Email: R.Clarkson@ed.ac.uk