

# Darwin Initiative for the Survival of Species

## Half Year Report Form

<b>Project Title</b>	Darwin Initiative Papuan Plant Diversity Project
<b>Country</b>	Papua, Indonesia
<b>Organisation</b>	Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew (RBG Kew)
<b>Project Ref. No.</b>	162/10/018
<b>Report date</b>	May 2003 – October 2003

**1. Outline progress over the last 6 months 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).**

Dissecting microscope and 40 Aluminium specimen racks purchased and shipped from Jakarta to Manokwari. 'Accessions and Loans' room renovated. Manokwari Herbarium manager currently taking examinations for Darwin-sponsored Masters degree in Jakarta.

Work continued by the coordinator on Interactive Key to Malesian Plant Families and Revision of *Ilex* of New Guinea. A further trip to Leiden Herbarium is being scheduled with collaborators on the Malesian Key project next month.

There is provision for intellectual collaboration by Manokwari staff in the Indonesian glossary and testing phase of the Malesian Key. An idea has also been put forward for the creation of a photographic record of Manokwari Herbarium development to assist monitoring of long distance management.

**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 affect 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?**

Further security alerts and concomitant visa difficulties again conspire against us, most notably the bomb on the Marriot Hotel in Jakarta in August, the reduction of tourist visa status from 60 to 30 day duration non-renewable, and the embargo by Jakartan authorities on the 'sensitive' areas Papua and Aceh.

The impact on the Papuan Plant Diversity Project is further delay to travel of Kew staff to Manokwari and an indefinite postponement of the Herbarium Techniques Course. Discussions are in progress with all parties to form a strategy for the final year of the project, turning adversity to our advantage through the fostering of long distance management, the provision of two more Manokwari staff study visits to Kew, and the installation of a generator to mitigate electricity supply problems in Manokwari herbarium.

The situation was discussed with Sylvia Smith, who assisted with advice and provision of contacts in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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

No

Please send your **completed form by 31 October each year per email** to Stefanie Halfmann, Darwin Initiative M&E Project Manager, Email: [stefanie.halfmann@ed.ac.uk](mailto:stefanie.halfmann@ed.ac.uk)