

Darwin Initiative for the Survival of Species

Half Year Report Form

Project Title	The Darwin Southeast Asian Wetland Restoration Initiative
Country	Vietnam
Organisation	Royal Holloway Institute for Environmental Research
Project Ref. No.	162/12/034
Report date	30 th September 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).

Project start: 1st June 2003. The outputs and milestones required during this reporting period have been met.

- Meetings in Vietnam in July between the project partners (RHIER, CTU and AGU) to assist in finalising project work plan (report produced, available on request). This included formalisation of:
 - The stakeholder network and Expert Advisory Committee (EAC) {8(1); 16A(1); 16B(100); 16C(25); 17A(1)}
 - Study sites and permissions for research**.
 - November project workshop and training workshop preparation invitations and structure*.
 - (Ongoing) production of materials for Ecosystem Approach training workshop (as a tool to implement the CBD) in November 2003, in Vietnam*.
- Ongoing meetings in UK among project staff to produce the structures and materials for training workshops in Vietnam on biophysical and socio-economic research to be held in November 2003**.
- The establishment of an Expert Advisory Committee (EAC) to comment on and guide the progress of the project by representing the views of wetland stakeholders and interested parties in Vietnam, particularly the Mekong Delta, including the CBD focal point deputy (deputy director of the Vietnamese Environmental Protection Agency (VEPA)). Dr. Vo Tong Xuan, Rector of An Giang University has agreed to chair the EAC.
- Basic project website established (<http://www.rhul.ac.uk/rhier/research/darwin>) {8(1); 17A(1)}; project flyers and A4 box leaflets (available on request) produced.
- Support (in-kind or financial) is actively being sought from businesses and other sources. In-kind contributions (project logo design and training material translations by BP SE Asia Ltd.) have already been secured.

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?

No notable problems or unexpected developments encountered by the project during this reporting period.

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

There are no issues.

* Contributing to and working towards delivering the standard outputs: 6A(20); 6B; 7(3); 8(4); 14A(1); 17B(1) and ** towards 4C(20); 4D(8); 5(6); 7(5); 8; 10(2); 11B(3); 12A(2); 13B(1); 16A(3); 16B(100x3); 16C (25x3); 22 (1)