

# Darwin Initiative for the Survival of Species

## Half Year Report (due 31 October each year)

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|---------------------------------|---|
| <b>Project Ref. No.</b>         | 13/011  |
| <b>Project Title</b>            | Sustaining livelihoods and protecting biodiversity through development of pez blanco aquaculture.                 |
| <b>Country</b>                  | MEXICO  |
| <b>UK Organisation</b>          | Institute of Aquaculture, University of Stirling  |
| <b>Collaborators</b>            | Prof. Lindsay G. Ross and Dr. Carlos A. Martínez Palacios   |
| <b>Report date</b>              | 31 October 2004   |
| <b>Report No. (HYR 1/2/3/4)</b> | (2004/1)  |
| <b>Project website</b>          | <a href="http://www.aqua.stir.ac.uk/GISAP/Darwin/index.htm">http://www.aqua.stir.ac.uk/GISAP/Darwin/index.htm</a> |

**1. Outline progress over the last 6 months (April – September) 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).**

This mid-term report is summarised against milestones from the original project document. In broad terms, despite some start-up delays, milestones have been met and in some cases exceeded. All activities are now running and at present we expect to meet output targets by the end of the present project year in March.

| <b>Milestones from project proposal</b>   | <b>Original target date</b> | <b>Progress on milestones to date (end October 2004)</b>  |
|---|-----------------------------|---|
| Management group first meeting  | 4-5/04                      | <i>To be established during November</i>  |
| Identify & appoint staff  | 5/04                        | Appointed Mexican project staff members, Mr V Peredo & Ms A Ahumada.<br>Appointed short-term local project manager, Dr Antonio Campos Mendoza<br>Identified UK RA, Mr J Morales   |
| Train trainers in biodiversity and extension issues for project                     | 5-6/04                      | An 80 hour course was imparted to members of the Department of Agriculture (SEGARPA-Jalisco) and the Institute of Aquaculture and Fisheries of Jalisco state. This course involved the technology transfer of pez blanco aquaculture. Two delegates were involved. They will transfer all this information to rural areas in Jalisco, allowing with this the diversification and improvement of rural aquaculture through pez blanco. |
| Train stakeholders in pond management and on-growing using participatory techniques | 6-7/04                      | A campesino group from Ichupio were trained in the construction and development of earth ponds, installation of plastic liners and preparation of ponds for the introduction of pez blanco juveniles. The training involved the preparation and fertilization of the pond, inoculation of phyto- and zooplankton and monitoring of water quality parameters.<br>A further workshop is planned for early 2005                          |
| Conduct baseline livelihoods assessments in conjunction with above                  | 6-7/04                      | To be conducted with next workshops in early 2005.  |
| Train 2 staff members in MSc Sustainable Development at Stirling.                   | 9/04                        | Mr Peredo & Ms Ahumada travelled to Stirling to study Sustainable Aquaculture. This will prepare them for management of the project from mid-2005.  |

