

# Darwin Initiative for the Survival of Species

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

<b>Project Ref. No.</b>	14-026
<b>Project Title</b>	Horticulture and education for conservation in Nezahat Gökyiğit Botanik Bahçesi, (Istanbul, Turkey)
<b>Country(ies)</b>	UK and Turkey
<b>UK Organisation</b>	Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh
<b>Collaborator(s)</b>	Nezahat Gökyiğit Botanik Bahçesi, Turkey
<b>Report date</b>	30 April – 31 October 2006
<b>Report No. (HYR 1/2/3/4)</b>	HYR 2
<b>Project website</b>	N/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).**

Progress during the first 6 months has been good. Some timings have changed to fit in with personal circumstances but everything that should be completed within year 2 of the project will be completed. Each component of the project is linked and logical but, none-the-less, are also stand alone to the extent that timings can change slightly without compromising the whole project.

The short management visit went ahead as planned at the very start of the year and was then followed by an excellent workshop covering conservation and networking with invited attendees from NGBB and other institutes in Turkey. We were able to invite more than 10 people (as originally planned) and the workshop was a great success. We will report on it in more detail in our end of year report.

Two staff from NGBB are due to come to RBGE for each year of the project (ie 6 staff in total). Due to the requirement of having an English speaker as one of the staff to help with interpretation it was decided that it would be logistically easier to have none in the first year and then have four in the second year and two in the third year (as planned). This was agreed with DI last year. Four staff from NGBB were selected to visit RBGE for training but one fell ill just days before departure. Three visited as planned and we still hope that the fourth will be able to visit before the end of the year. The training, workshops and practical experience worked very well.

Two staff from RBGE visited NGBB as planned and gave a series of workshops and demonstration in practical horticulture. In addition to this external money was found for an additional three members of staff to visit NGBB to help with training, plant records and practical experience.

The education workshop that should have happened in September will now take place in February and March. This change of date was required simply to fit in with teaching requirements for both NGBB and RBGE staff. In addition, rather than one workshop with three staff we have attracted additional income and will now be able to run an additional workshop and so there will be two visits, each with two staff.

