

# Darwin Initiative: Half Year Report

(due 31 October 2007)

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| <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>Project Leader</b>           | Dr David Rae  |
| <b>Report date</b>              | 30 April – 31 October 2007  |
| <b>Report No. (HYR 1/2/3/4)</b> | HYR 3   |
| <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 over the first 6 months of the third year of this project has been good and everything is on schedule and within budget.

- In April David Rae visited NGBB to arrange final planning for the third year and discuss project details with Prof. Dr Adil Guner.
- In June two staff from RBGE visited NGBB to undertake *ex situ* and conservation technique and horticultural work.
- Also in June two staff from NGBB visited RBGE for horticultural, database and education training and experience. This had originally been planned as two people for five weeks but for a variety of reasons we decided that it would be better to split this visit and have two for two weeks in June and then another two staff for the remaining three weeks later.
- In October the additional two staff from NGBB visited RBGE for the remaining three weeks. Additional funding was sought externally to invite a further horticulturist from NGBB for this visit, so in the end, three of them visited for three weeks.
- In addition, and completely separate from the Darwin project (but it was very much complimentary) we found external funds to bring three young Turkish botanical artists to Edinburgh for three weeks for botanical art training.
- For logistical reasons the timing of the Interpretation workshop and CBD workshop were switched. This was done simply to suit personal diaries and the timetable of events at NGBB. Timing of these workshops was not critical so long as they took place within the year. The CBD workshop took place at NGBB in October and was highly successful. David Rae and Mary Gibby (Director of Science) from RBGE took part along with Prof Vernon Heywood and Joachim Gratzfeld from BGCI. Additional funds from Edinburgh and NGBB were found to invite Joachim Gratzfeld. Over 30 delegates from Turkey took

part including invitees from the Agriculture, Environment and Forestry Departments.

- The only remaining element of this project is the Interpretation workshop which is now due to take place in February.

**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.**

N/A

**Have any of these issues been discussed with the Darwin Secretariat and if so, have changes been made to the original agreement?**

**Discussed with the DI Secretariat:                      no/yes, in..... (month/yr)**

**Changes to the project schedule/workplan:    no/yes, in.....(month/yr)**

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

No

**If you were asked to provide a response to this year's annual report review with your next half year report, please attach your response to this document.**

**Please note: Any planned modifications to your project schedule/workplan or budget should not be discussed in this report but raised with the Darwin Secretariat directly.**

Please send your **completed form email** to Eilidh Young, Darwin Initiative M&E Programme at [Darwin-Projects@ectf-ed.org.uk](mailto:Darwin-Projects@ectf-ed.org.uk) . The report should be between 1-2 pages maximum. **Please state your project reference number in the header of your email message eg Subject: 14-075 Darwin Half Year Report**