

Darwin Initiative

Half Year Report (due 31 October each year)

PLEASE NOTE: Due to the increased number of reports expected in 2005, we will not be able to confirm receipt of reports but will contact you individually should any questions arise

Project Ref. No.	14-050
Project Title	Africulture Project
Country(ies)	South Africa
UK Organisation	GardenAfrica
Collaborator(s)	Umthathi Training Project, RBG Kew
Report date	10 October 2007
Report No. (HYR 1/2/3/4)	DI/AC/03 – HY2
Project website	Under development

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).

Summary of Progress during the last six month period:

Project Area:	Nature of Progress:
Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Risk Analysis and mitigation plan compiled. ● Strategic planning conducted to align partner training & staffing with the Africulture Project.
Staffing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Project Model detailed and documented. ● Key positions filled with high calibre staff as planned – centre manager, course facilitator, nursery worker, researcher.
Government Consents & Permits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Site development Consents obtained from both DEAT and Local Government.
Centre development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Main collection permit obtained from DEAT.
Plant collections & propagation programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Comprehensive plans and costings professionally drawn up. ● First plant collection established. ● Voucher system with Herbarium verification established. ● Plant material collection programme begun. ● Plant propagation programme begun to supply seedlings of selected species for training next year.
THP workshops	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Working relationship with local THPs effectively and fully established. ● Input workshops completed and species selection for inclusion in cultivation participatively conducted.
Training Course Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Gen Cultivation Course development specialist being selected. ● Development of all 3 courses dovetailed into existing training.
Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Re-approval of current budget from Darwin obtained. ● Additional funds obtained from DG Murray Trust and Misereor.
Dissemination of Project work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● First introductory Project newsletter compiled and disseminated. ● Public launch of Project conducted – media articles. ● First version of Project website established. ● Critique of THPs Act published in SA Labour Bulletin. ● Chelsea Flower Show exhibit to promote the Project

The Project was successfully launched in September, and was well attended by local institutions, NGOs, dignitaries and traditional health practitioner (THP) associations – who performed a traditional cleansing ceremony on the site to ensure the cultural viability of materials cultivated on site.

As per the previous (end of year) report, now that full costings (including construction and operations) have been established, all partners are now in position to commence a full fundraising campaign in the UK and SA to ensure that the Project is able to realise its full potential.

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.

Should we be unable to raise the full capital development funds by the end of 2006, it is likely that we will have to re-plan the site development over a two year rather than one year construction period. Since this requires additional design work by the architect and engineer, there will be some inevitable, yet minor cost implications. However, a phased development plan will provide room for manoeuvre in the event that not all funds are in place in time for contractual work to commence.

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

There have been no changes to our agreement with the DI, as this will not affect our existing agreement. Rather this will affect how we now move forward with additional fundraising – which we are now in a position to commence. The DI will be briefed on, and included in the resulting investment prospectus which will be positioned toward UK corporates & foundations.

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 by 31 October each year per email** to Stefanie Halfmann, Darwin Initiative M&E Programme, stefanie.halfmann@ed.ac.uk. The report should be between 1-2 pages maximum. **Please state your project reference number in the header of your email message.**