

Darwin Initiative: Half Year Report

(due 31 October 2007)

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| Project Ref. No. | 16-011 |
| Project Title | Biodiversity and ecosystem functioning: Building research capacity in SE Asia |
| Country(ies) | Malaysia & other SE Asian nations (plus China) |
| UK Organisation | The Royal Society SEARRP, University of Wales Swansea |
| Collaborator(s) | University Malaysia Sabah, ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity, Yayasan Sabah, Sabah Forestry Department, WWF-Malaysia, University of Beijing |
| Project Leader | Dr Glen Reynolds |
| Report date | 29 th October 2007 |
| Report No. (HYR 1/2/3/4) | 1 |
| Project website | 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).

Please note: Project start date July 2007

- Research component of project progressing as planned with collection of sample and other datasets as part of the Sabah Biodiversity Experiment
- Review of current practices and standards for the collection and analysis of biodiversity data ongoing, with particular assistance from the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity
- Review of current best practice for the analysis of biodiversity complete and ready for incorporation into training modules
- Data sharing agreement reached with Yayasan Sabah that will allow use of their datasets as part of both the research and training components of the project. This agreement is supplementary and additional to the project and should contribute significantly to project outputs, particularly the research component

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.

Unavoidable delay in running workshop 1.2 (as coded in project logical framework) due to date conflicts with other conferences/workshops involving key project partners. Workshop now re-scheduled to March 2008.

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

Proposed change of schedule discussed with, and approved by, Darwin Secretariat

Discussed with the DI Secretariat: yes no/yes, in September 2007 (month/yr)

Changes to the project schedule/workplan: yes no/yes, in October 2007 (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?

None

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 . 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**