

# Darwin Initiative: Half Year Report

(due 31 October 2011)

**Project Ref. No.** 17-009

**Project Title:** Integrating religion within conservation: Islamic beliefs and Sumatran forest management

**Country(ies):** Indonesia

**UK Organisation:** Durrell Institute of Conservation and Ecology (DICE), University of Kent

**Collaborator(s):** UK : Islamic Foundation for Ecology and Environmental Sciences (IFEES); Fauna and Flora international; Indonesia: British Council (BC), Indonesia; Conservation International (CI), Fauna and Flora International Indonesia Program (FFI-IP); Indonesian Conservation of Natural Resources section for West Sumatra province (BKSDA), Department of Forestry, Qbar and the University of Andalas (UNAND).

**Project Leader:** Professor Stuart R. Harrop

**Report date:** October 5, 2011

**Report No.** (HYR 1/2/3/4)

**Project website** [http://www.kent.ac.uk/dice/research/islam\\_conservation.html](http://www.kent.ac.uk/dice/research/islam_conservation.html)

**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).**

- **April**

Dr Northcott, Professor of Ethics and Director of Research at the University of Edinburgh visited the project. Specialising in religion and ecology in SE Asia, he learned of our project through an article published on FFI-UK's blog site and wished to see firsthand the work being done on engaging Islam and conservation. He said, 'Thank you DI team, it was a wonderful visit. I wish it had been longer... because of inspiring projects like this.'

- **May**

**Jakarta, 15 May 2011, Petition against road development Plan in Kerinci Seblat National Park (a UNESCO World Heritage Site):** **Outputs:** the petition was posted on the DI Facebook page which added 1942 signators; the DI Field Manager was selected as FFI-Indonesia's representative to join local NGO network and DI partner, Harimau Kita (a NGO consortium) to present a counter argument in a public hearing. Result: the Ministry of Forestry will develop an independent team consisting of academics, NGOs and practitioners which will evaluate and conduct a feasibility study before reaching a final decision.

**Guguk Malalo (GM) and Pakan Rabaa Timur (PRT)** **Outputs:** the DI team conducted routine nursery monitoring (25,000 seedlings planted in both nagari); meetings were conducted with community representatives and a female farmer in **PRT** agreed to provide her successful 30x50 m cacao farm as a DI demonstration plot.

- **June**

**Padang, DI Ramadan Campaign preparation:** The DI PO and F.Mangunjaya (CI-Indonesia) met with two of the DI project's key religious leaders to discuss potential activities for the DI Ramadan Conservation Campaign and Green Mosque campaign and visited both DI field Schools and nurseries to assess progress. **Outputs:** a new prayer sermon with focus on water conservation produced, TORs for both activities and budgets designed and approved, successful meetings held and permission gained from 7 mosques in Padang and 1 mosque in each project site to administer the sermons. The DI book outline and timeline drafted and sent to partners. Pre and post questionnaires were designed and preparations finalised for the Green Mosque campaign (see below).

- **July**

**GM and PRT: Participatory ecosystem services mapping (final data collection)** **Outputs:** 54 new GPS points were collected over two weeks to reflect socio cultural services, control services, livelihood provision: water, food and non timber forest products. These additional data will be added to the baseline map. **PRT: Nagari Regulation Drafting** **Outputs:** TORs for 4 required activities completed: focus group discussions (FGDs), community workshops (CWs) to determine nagari borders, public consultations and Nagari Regulation Declaration. FGDs and CWs completed. **GM: Nagari Regulation Drafting;** **Outputs:** FGDs and CWs are complete with proposed areas for Islamic management systems, a Nagari Forest Management Unit, Nagari Forest Regulations Committee and a Community Mapping Team were formed.

The public consultation and the Nagari Regulation Declaration are scheduled in October.

**GM, DI Green Mosque Campaign launch** Output: With support from the District government (The Disaster Mitigation and Search and Rescue Departments), 50 members of *Karang Taruna* (local youth organization) and mosque youth members planted 50 Indian willow (*Salix tetrasperma*) seedlings and 750 seeds along 1500 meters of the neighbouring Lake Singkarak coast line. The *Wakil Bupati* (Vice District Head) formally opened the campaign which gained national media attention through an article published in the national newspaper, *Republika*, Sunday - 24 July 2011. This event aided in it winning the honour of representing W. Sumatra province in a national environmental competition sponsored by the Ministry of Forestry (see under Sept.)

**Baiang Village, W.Sumatra, Village Clean Up** Output: members of *Karang Taruna*, mosque youths and students from Bung Hatta University involved in the DI Green mosque campaign joined together independently to organise a village clean up as a segue to the upcoming DI Ramadan Campaign.

**Padang and surrounding areas:** Output: DI Ramadan and Pesantran questionnaires piloted within urban and rural communities and minor adjustments made. 15 volunteer staff were selected and trained by DI project staff. Water conservation themed module for *pesantrens* (local religious) schools produced.

- **August** Please note: This year, the holy fasting month of Ramadan was from Aug. 1 - Sept.30th.

**Padang, 1 August-01 September, Second Annual DI Ramadan Conservation Campaign.** Output: The DI Ulama delivered water conservation-themed sermons during Friday prayer sermons in nine mosques (8 urban, 2 rural) reaching over 1,000 people. The DI team also provided a water conservation themed module in 10 *pesantrens* (9 urban, 1 rural), and directly within mosques (356 students) which included an environmental movie and tree (50) planting activity. Overall, 874 pre and post questionnaires were administered and collected by 15 previously trained DI volunteers.

**14-19 August, National Environmental Awards,** GM won the provincial nomination to represent W.Sumatra nationally, where it came 5th out of 25 entries. It has received national recognition as a Conservation Village and will receive priority for forest rehabilitation and village forest programs sponsored by the Forestry Department.

- **September**

**Padang,** Outputs: Ramadan questionnaire data input into SPSS, a statistical software package, for independent analysis (scheduled for October); DI / UNAND MSc student coursework complete and 1 student field research project defended successfully (second student will defend in early October).

**PRT, Nagari Regulation Drafting** Outputs: Public consultation complete. The religious management zones have been agreed and a community mapping team has been formed in preparation for the religious mapping activity scheduled for early October, Nagari Regulation Draft complete. Next steps: discussion with the Nagari legislation council and an anticipated Nagari draft regulation signed by the *Wali Nagari* (Village Head) by the end of October.

**Oxford, UK, Sept 21-22nd, Biodiversity Conservation Beyond Protected Areas Conference hosted by the Department of Zoology, University of Oxford** Output: The DI PL gave a 20 minute Presentation entitled, 'Religion and Conservation in Cultural Landscapes' in which the DI project was highlighted. Over 165 international attendees from academic institutions and NGOs were in attendance.

**Book Chapter:** The DI PL has co-authored, with Andrew Gosler and Shonil Bhagwat (both of Oxford University), a chapter entitled: *Leadership and Listening: Inspiration for Conservation Mission in Key Topics in Conservation Biology Volume 2* edited by Professor David Macdonald to be published by Wiley-Blackwell. The Chapter specifically analyses the potential impact of the Islam beliefs on conservation and the DI project is specifically highlighted and referenced within the Chapter. The book is currently going through the usual refereeing process.

**General:** Project article submitted to the Darwin Newsletter.

**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.**

There have been no such events in the last 6 months.

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

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

**Formal change request submitted:** **no/yes, in.....(month/yr)**

3. Do you expect to have any significant (e.g. more than £5,000) under spend in your budget for this year? Yes  No  If yes, and you wish to request a carry forward of funds, this should be done as soon as possible. It would help Defra manage Darwin funds more efficiently if you could give an indication of how much you expect this request might be for. Estimated carry forward request: £0

4. Are there any other issues you wish to raise relating to the project or to Darwin's management, monitoring, or financial procedures? No thank you.

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 LTS International directly.

Please send your **completed form by email** to Eilidh Young at [Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.uk](mailto:Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.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: 17-075 Darwin Half Year Report**