

Darwin Initiative: Half Year Report

(due 31 October 2012)

Project Ref No	17-023
Project Title	Linking research and environmental education to reduce Amazonian wildfires
Country(ies)	Brazil
UK Organisation	Lancaster Environment Centre, Lancaster University
Collaborator(s)	Museu Paraense Emílio Goeldi, Belém, Brazil and others
Project Leader	Dr. Jos Barlow (PI), Dr. Luke Parry (coordinating)
Report date	31 October 2012
Report No. (HYR 1/2/3/4)	3 (reporting period: May to October 2012)
Project website	http://www.tropicalforestresearch.org/projects/humansandwildfires.aspx

Project progress has been made in the following areas. On-going work is underlined.

Data collection and analysis: Data collection was completed in June 2012. We have comprehensive assessments of fire management practices, escaped fires, fire damage (to forest and farm infrastructure etc) and producer well-being measures from 496 properties (and 598 household surveys) from our main sampling regions (1 and 2), 39 interviews on fire (using comparable methods) from Region 3 (forestry matrix) and 178 interviews using comparable methods from extractive reserves on the Rio Arapiuns. Thus we have a total sample of 713 farms. All data has been checked for errors, and entered into a bespoke MySQL database using an internet interface. Data is currently being analysed for publication and dissemination.

Capacity building and academic education: Two Amazonian MSc students have completed and successfully defended their theses. We are currently assisting the students publish their work. In addition, our two undergraduate research students (Amanda Cardoso and Fatima Santos Lopes) have both successfully defended their dissertations. A Brazilian economics PhD student Thiago Fonseca spent 6 months in Lancaster in 2012 working with us on an economic model of fire/non-fire land preparation. A PhD student, Rachel Carmenta, is planning on submitting her thesis on Amazonian fires in December 2012.

Dissemination of results: We have had two relevant articles published in Biological Conservation, (The critical importance of considering fire in REDD+ programs and: A framework for integrating biodiversity concerns into national REDD+ programmes). Dr Parry, Dr. Gardner and Dr Barlow organised a symposium and presented talks at an international meeting of ecologists and conservation biologists in Bonito in June 2012 (Association of Tropical Biology Meeting). In addition, talks by either Parry, Barlow or Gardner were presented at the Royal Geographic Society Monday night Lecture (700 people in the audience), Imperial College London, University of Exeter, the Federal University of Acre, and many other locations in the UK, Germany and Brazil. Further publications and talks are planned for 2013, and we are working on a new project website.

Fire films: Our Santarem-based fire films are now complete, and will be posted online in the next two weeks. The films examine the transition to fire-free agriculture in the Santarem region of the Brazilian Amazon. There are 30minutes of film, broken up into 5 distinct chapters.

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.

Dr Gardner has been offered (and accepted) a Lectureship at Cambridge University. We envisage appointing Rachel Carmenta on a short term basis to carry out dissemination and project management activities up to the end of the project. Rachel has been involved as a PhD student throughout, and has a very good understanding of the project aims.

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

We have not discussed this with LTS, but do not foresee any issues as it does not affect project outputs, end dates, or budget.

Discussed with LTS:

Formal change request submitted:

Received confirmation of change acceptance

3. Do you expect to have any significant (eg more than £5,000) underspend in your budget for this year?

Y No

If yes, and you wish to request a carryforward 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 carryforward request: £

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

No, all relevant changes are outlines in the change request form

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 . 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**