

# Darwin Initiative: Half Year Report

(due 31 October 2012)

<b>Project Ref No</b>	18002
<b>Project Title</b>	Enhancing taxonomic capacity to underpin tropical biodiversity conservation (SE Asia)
<b>Country(ies)</b>	Thailand, Lao PDR, Cambodia
<b>UK Organisation</b>	Harrison Institute
<b>Collaborator(s)</b>	Prince of Songkla University, Thailand; Royal University of Phnom Penh, Cambodia; University of Laos, Lao PDR
<b>Project Leader</b>	Dr Paul Bates
<b>Report date</b>	22 October, 2012
<b>Report No. (HYR 1/2/3/4)</b>	HYR3
<b>Project website</b>	<a href="http://www.harrison-institute.org/research/CRM_R3_Darwin_taxonomic%20network.html">http://www.harrison-institute.org/research/CRM_R3_Darwin_taxonomic%20network.html</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 in the first six months of the second year followed the timetable as laid out in Section 18 of the application form.

- Training programmes in field, museum and laboratory techniques continued
- The 4 PhD students worked on their research topics (batsx3; birdsx1) in conjunction with their in-country and international supervisors; 3 MSc students carried on their research and a fourth student submitted her MSc for examination
- 3 PhD students and 3 MSc students took part in a SE Asian bat research and conservation workshop organised by the Prince of Songkla University and the Harrison Institute which took place in Hat Yai, Thailand
- 2 PhD students took part in an international workshop on bat taxonomy and echolocation organised by the Harrison Institute in India
- Presentations about the Darwin project were made at meetings and workshops in UK, Asia and Africa
- 1 PhD student secured funding for a three month study visit to the UK in 2013
- A project involving staff and students of Prince of Songkla University to promote taxonomic research in amphibians in peninsular Thailand was initiated
- The research collections of the Prince of Songkla University, Royal University of Phnom Penh and the National University of Laos were all enhanced
- Further publications were submitted on various aspects of mammal taxonomy
- The digital library of taxonomic research papers and books was further enhanced
- A MoU was initiated between the Harrison Institute, Prince of Songkla University, Texas



**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**