

Darwin Initiative: Half Year Report

(due 31 October 2010)

Project Ref No	19-003
Project Title	A sustainable future for Chinese giant salamanders
Country(ies)	China
UK Organisation	Institute of Zoology, Zoological Society of London
Collaborator(s)	Kunming Institute of Zoology (KIZ), Shaanxi Normal University (SNNU), Guiyang University (GU)
Project Leader	<i>Andrew Cunningham</i>
Report date	<i>October 23rd 2012</i>
Report No. (HYR 1/2/3/4)	<i>HYR 1</i>
Project website	<i>Under construction</i>

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).

● Project management, monitoring and development activities

Recruitment of Project Coordinator and of three EDGE fellows from the collaborating institutes;

Establishment of MoUs between project partners and identification of respective roles and responsibilities;

Establishment of steering group to provide guidance to, and monitoring of, the different aspects of this project;

Meetings with government ministries including Guizhou Environment Bureau and Yunnan Environment Bureau, on the purpose of establishing network, facilitating in-country conservation capacity building and developing potential post-project funding;

● Project research activities

Development of microsatellites (ongoing) and improvement of CGS genetic database at KIZ;

Establishment of the disease diagnostic laboratory in SNNU and development of disease diagnostic and screening protocols for both wild and captive CGS; 20 disease outbreaks on farms visited and samples taken for follow-up diagnostic investigations.

Scientific presentation given at the EcoHealth international conference, Kunming, 15-18 October 2012, which strengthened the profile, understanding and networking of Chinese giant salamander (CGS) conservation nationally and internationally.

Submission of a grant proposal, jointly written with Guiyang University, entitled “A sustainable future for the Chinese giant salamander in Guizhou Province” to the Guizhou Environment Bureau, in response to the provincial “Biodiversity conservation strategies and action plans”

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.

N/A

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

N/A

Discussed with LTS: no/yes, in..... (month/yr)

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

Received confirmation of change acceptance no/yes in.....(month/yr)

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

Yes 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?

N/A

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