

Darwin Initiative for the Survival of Species

Half Year Report Form

Project Title	Conservation of the orang-utan in Kinabatangan Wildlife Sanctuary, Sabah, Malaysia
Country	Sabah, Malaysia
Organisation	Cardiff University
Project Ref. No.	9/016
Report date	31/10/2002

1. Outline progress over the last 6 months against the agreed baseline timetable for the project.

The International Conservation Biology course, organised by Benoît Goossens (BG, Cardiff University) and held at Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS), which took place between the 15th of April and the 25th of May, was very successful (see 2nd year report for details).

BG spent part of June and July at UMS to set up the genetic lab and in the field to collect orangutan samples from additional populations in Sabah. He has also established a long-term project on the genetic management of endangered mammal species in Sabah.

BG, Mohammad Fairus Bin Jalil (UMS staff) and Jamil Sinyor (KOCP staff) attended the XIXth International Primatological Society Conference held in Beijing, 4-9 August, 2002 and presented three oral communications on the work which has been done so far on the Darwin project. The project leader presented four seminars which in part described this project.

BG returned from Malaysia to the UK on the 26th of August. He spent September at Cardiff University to write the two first papers (for Molecular Ecology and Folia Primatologica) on the project and a book chapter on a primate census led during the Kinabatangan 2002 Expedition.

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 effect the budget and timetable of project activities. Have any of these issues been discussed with the Department and if so, have changes been made to the original agreement?

No major problems were encountered during the period 1/04/02-30/09/02.

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