

Darwin Initiative for the Survival of Species

Half Year Report (due 31 October each year)

Project Ref. No.	EIDPO11
Project Title	Biodiversity Education and Teacher Training (BETT)
Country(ies)	Kyrgyzstan
UK Organisation	“Field Studies Council”
Collaborator(s)	Ecological Movement “BIOM”
Report date	18.11.2006
Report No. (HYR 1/2/3/4)	HYR 1
Project website	www.biom.org.kg

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).

Against the agreed baseline timetable for the project, we have got the following progress:

1. Inception Meeting

(a) Confirm the selection of the Development Team On the first step (May 2006) the Project Manager and assistant from BIOM team were appointed and coordinators from 3 Universities defined. Then during the Inception visit of FSC expert James Hindson to Bishtek (15-19 June, 2006) the selection criteria for other members of the Development Team were agreed. By the end of July we managed to finish selection process of the Development Team of 12 people (see the list in Appendix 1). There are 8 representatives from the staff of 3 universities on the team and 4 people from BIOM (Project manager, project assistant, information manager and expert on curriculum development). Three of the University team members – appointed as regional coordinators - are experienced in management, working with university administration, providing trainings, etc., The other 5 experts from university staff have ecological background and wide experience in curricula development and biodiversity conservation. On some project steps we also plan to involve an additional expert from the Kyrgyz National University (the leading university in KR) to ensure political support and good dissemination of project results all over the republic.

(b) A meeting of the Development Team during the Inception visit (16-th of June, 2006) supported the acquaintance of team members from different Kyrgyz Universities to each other and the FSC and helped to define principles of common work, make planning of project activities for half year period, discuss project methodology and issues of global frames for project realisation – UN Decade on ESD, UNECE Strategy on ESD, the National Conception of continuous eco-education and so on. We also started discussions about ways of integrating the Biodiversity Educational Module (BEM) into the University curricula. (see pictures – Appendix 2)

2. Identification of the area to be used as a Biodiversity Micro reserve

The areas for creation of biodiversity micro-reserves in all 3 Universities were defined during visits of project manager to Naryn (July 7-8), Osh (OshGU) (August 16-17) and Issk-kul (IGU) (September 4-5). Two of them are based in biodiversity botanic gardens (in IGU and OshGU), and one will be placed near the building of Biological Faculty (in NGU) (see the pictures in Appendix 3). All areas have excellent potential and officially approved by university administration for creation of micro-reserves.

This was also confirmed during meetings of project manager with rectors of IGU and NGU.

Now 2 of the 3 universities – from Issyk-kul and Osh have already developed the first drafts of their micro-reserves. The draft of micro-reserve of NGU is in the process of development. During December 2006 – February all these drafts will be discussed with university administrations, teacher staff and other stakeholders. We plan to start creation of Biodiversity Micro Reserves in March-April 2007. (see pictures – Appendix 6)

3. Training courses

(a) Training Course 1 – Biodiversity Education and ESD, Micro reserve Planning and Development - Bishkek (see pictures – Appendix 4)

This training course took place in Bishkek city on 6-8 September and was conducted for members of project DT by FSC expert Jonathan Oldham together with BIOM team. The training included 2 practical and 3 theoretical parts – session about role of biodiversity and modern approaches to biodiversity conservation, including ecosystem approach. The other session was devoted to concept of SD – it included presentation, discussion and role game. One more theoretical part provided info about experience and best practices, which we got in previous Darwin project – “School Green Land”, including methodology of creation of microreserves. The whole second day of the training was devoted to obtaining new knowledge and skills in the sphere of outdoor learning methodology – we visited 2 places – botanic garden and a pond area in Bishkek, where DT members were able to participate in different types of field studying activities, using identification keys (insects, plants, etc.) and ecological equipment. Also DT members learned a lot about new outdoor ecogames, which could be conducted with students. The third practical day of training was spent for development of first drafts of microreserves in 3 universities.

(b) Training Course 2 – Student Centred Learning and Learning out of the Classroom (see pictures – Appendix 5)

This training course took place in Bishkek city on October 26th and was conducted by FSC expert James Hindson for members of project DT. It included a number of sessions, focused on Student Centred Learning methodology and a part of work on Planning the BEM.

(c) Training Course 3 – Curriculum and Course Planning – Assessment - Planning the BEM and supporting Resources

This training course is going to be realised in February 2007 during the visit of FSC expert James Hindson to Kyrgyzstan.

4. Development of Biodiversity Education Manual (BEM)

This process was started at the end of October 2006. Now the team has developed the first draft of BEM concept – we defined the key themes of the module, its aims and objectives, as well as main approaches in methodology. We plan to have the next Development Team meetings on working with BEM in December 2006 and January 2007.

5. Project Promotion

(a) Newsletter 1 was produced in October 2006. It includes information about new Darwin project with universities in Kyrgyzstan, provides information about all project partners, article about concept of ESD and a set of interviews on ESD and biodiversity issues, given by representatives of experts on education, universities and schools of Kyrgyzstan.

(b) Project pages on the BIOM web site – www.biom.org/kg has been started and we plan to create the first draft by the middle of January 2007.

<p>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 were no such problems in the project during last 6 month.</p>
<p>Have any of these issues been discussed with the Darwin Secretariat and if so, have changes been made to the original agreement?No</p>
<p>Discussed with the DI Secretariat: no/yes, in..... (month/yr)</p>
<p>Changes to the project schedule/workplan: no/yes, in.....(month/yr)</p>
<p>3. Are there any other issues you wish to raise relating to the project or to Darwin's management, monitoring, or financial procedures? No</p>

Appendix 1 – List of members of Development Team

№	Name	Organiation/Position/role in the project	Address	Telephone/e-mail address
1.	Postnova Evgenia	Ecological Movement “BIOM” Project manager	720010 Bishkek Abdymomunova street 328-105	
2.	Domashov Ilia	Ecological Movement “BIOM” Project assistant		
3.	Korotenko Vladimir	Ecological Movement “BIOM” Expert on curricula and information materials development		
4.	Bulatova Roksana	Ecological Movement “BIOM” Information manager (support of project subscribe, issuing of project Newsletters, articles in newspapers, etc)		
5.	Gulnara Muhambetalieva	Issyk-kul State University (ISU), head of chair of ecology Project coordinator in ISU	722360 Kyrgyzstan Karakol city U. Abdrahmanov str. 103	
6.	Andrey Konovalov	Issyk-kul State University, teacher of Biological faculty Curricula development, microreserve creation		
7.	Khamidulina Shahida	Osh State University (OshSU) teacher of chair of pedagogical psychology Project coordinator in OshSU	Osh city, Kyrgyzstan street, 91-A	
8.	Muratova Rahima	Osh State University, teacher of Biological faculty Curricula development, microreserve creation,		
9.	Abdycaarov Abdymanap	Osh State University, teacher of Biological faculty Curricula development, microreserve creation		

10.	Omurov Nurlan	Naryn State University (NSU), dean of faculty of information technologies Project coordinator in NSU	722600 Kyrgyzstan Naryn city Sagymbay Orzobak uulu 47 Tel. + 996 (3522) 50814 Fax + 996 (3522) 50814	
11.	Shermatov sagynbek	Naryn State University Head of chair of ecology and agricultural technologies Curricula development, microreserve creation		
12.	Sadygalieva Jyrgal	Naryn State University Head of chair of BIology Curricula development, microreserve creation		
13.	Toktosunov Timur Asanovich	Vice dean of Biological faculty in Kyrgyz National University Expert on material and curricula development	720010 Bishkek Abdymomunova street 328	

Appendix 2 - DT meeting during the Inception visit



Appendix 3 – Pictures of area to be used as a Biodiversity Micro reserve in Issyk-Kul State University



Appendix 4 – Training Course 1 - Biodiversity Education and ESD, Micro reserve Planning and Development - pictures.



Appendix 5 – Training Course 2
- Student Centred Learning

Appendix 6 - Draft of plans of biodiversity microreserves

