

Darwin Initiative for the Survival of Species

Half Year Report (due 31 October each year)

Project Ref. No.	13-006 EIDPO19
Project Title	DarwinNet and the Tumbesian Important Bird Areas
Country(ies)	Peru and Ecuador
UK Organisation	BirdLife International
Collaborator(s)	Naturaleza y Cultura Internacional-Peru, Naturaleza y Cultura Internacional-Ecuador, Fundación ProBosque
Report date	15 October, 2006
Report No. (HYR 1/2/3/4)	1
Project website	www.darwinnet.org

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). Report period: July-September, 2006.

Progress has been positive in line with baseline timetable. The team have met three times to discuss project implementation (Macara 5 July, Loja 17-21 July, & Sullana 31 August – 1 Sept.) as well as regular communications via email with BirdLife.

Training to date for the team has consisted of a 5 day event organized by the Fundación Futuro Latinoamericano and Naturaleza y Cultura Internacional, during 17-21 July in Loja, on Environmental Conflict Resolution. 4 team members participated.

During 10-12 July two members participated in an event organized by IABIN, IIAP & the CHM of CONAM in Lima on the management of biological information.

The first newsletter for the project is being designed and is expected to be published at the end of October.

Consultations with regional stakeholders has begun: Peru:- Chiclayo – meeting with the Insituto Nacional de Recursos Naturales (INRENA), in charge of the two protected areas of National Sanctuary Bosque de Pomac, National Reserve Laquipampa (both IBAs). Around the El Angolo Hunting Ground (IBA) contact has been made with local communities for future activities. At Limon (IBA), contact has also been made with the community. Ecuador:- contact has been made with the communities in and around the Cañon de Catamayo forest (IBA). Activities have been initiated with communities around the Puerto Hondo Mangroves Protected Forest (IBA). There have been visits with local leaders to the Cordillera El Bálsamo – Cerro Seco forest (IBA). Such visits are continuing through October.

Webpage:

Development of the webpage continues: to the end of September, the Maillist had 1552 members, Expert database with 144 members, 3 new Species of the Month, and the news and events section has been regularly updated.

Other activities/outputs:

7 July: project assisted forum on the El Angolo Hunting Ground, co-organised with INRENA and the Municipality of Marcavelica. CD produced of presentations.

14 July: presentations at the Universidad Nacional de Piura as part of the XI National

Conference of Biology Students.

Presentation to 100 students at Puerto Hondo Mangroves Protected Forest (20.07.06), for International Mangrove Day.

Presentation to 300 students of the Tourism degree at the Universidad Peninsular de Santa Elena, Ecuador (26.07.06).

Field study of birds in agricultural landscapes (24-26.08.06). In collaboration with farmers from the ProMango Association, a short inventory was conducted as part of the certification of mangos for export to Tesco (Nature's Choice). Project considers that some interesting proposals could arise from this work in the future.

Assistance with the elaboration of the Conservation Strategy for the Coastal Crocodile (*Crocodylus acutus*), in Guayaquil in collaboration with the Ministerio de Ambiente and other regional entities.

Project donated 4 computers to schools near Macara and Celica (Cañon de Catamayo IBA), computers were received through an agreement with the Universidad Tecnica Particular de Loja (28-29.09.06).

Interesting communications:

Oliver Whaley (team member of successful Darwin Initiative project by Kew Gardens *Habitat Restoration and Sustainable use of Southern Peruvian Dry Forest*). Communications to lay the way for future collaborations or interchanges between the two projects.

Olivier de Munck (Computer Information Systems Officer, CHM-CBD): the CBD-CHM is planning a Latin American meeting for indigenous communities (Art. 8(j)) and a member of the DarwinNet team has been invited as an expert. Workshop planned for November, 2006.

Valérie Vendette (NGO Focal Point, CBD): CBD is setting up a new focal point for NGOs and DarwinNet was contacted for advice / recommendations on the development / direction of such a focal point. This is on-going and the project hopes to continue to support this initiative.

Sebastien Pesseat (Webmaster LEAD/FAO): LEAD - Livestock, Environment And Development is a multi-institutional initiative of FAO formed to promote ecologically sustainable livestock production systems. DarwinNet is assisting a new LEAD publication with photographic material.

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.

No notable problems.

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

Discussed with the DI Secretariat: no

Changes to the project schedule/workplan: no

3. Are there any other issues you wish to raise relating to the project or to Darwin's management, monitoring, or financial procedures? No.

Please send your **completed form by 31 October each year per email** to Stefanie Halfmann, Darwin Initiative M&E Programme, stefanie.halfmann@ed.ac.uk. The report should be between 1-2 pages maximum. **Please state your project reference number in the header of your email message.**