



Darwin Initiative Annual Report



Darwin Project Information

Project Ref Number	EIDPO025
Project Title	Capacity building to enhance Marine Protected Area effectiveness
Country	Malaysia (Sabah)
UK Contract Holder Institution	Marine Conservation Society
Host country Partner Institution(s)	Sabah Parks
Other Partner Institution(s)	
Darwin Grant Value	£120,000
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Project Leader Name	Dr Elizabeth Wood, MCS
Project website	www.sempornaislandsproject.com
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1. Project Background

This project follows on from a main Darwin Project that ran from 2005-2008 and was entitled '*Community Action for Sustainable Use and Conservation of Coral Reefs*'. Significant progress was made during this project but it was agreed that more still needed to be done to promote biodiversity conservation, tackle the long history of overfishing and destructive fishing, and address other management issues in the Tun Sakaran Marine Park.

The aim of this post project is to develop and carry out programmes that were identified in conjunction with Sabah Parks as being of particular benefit in addressing some of the on-going challenges. The project continues to focus on the Tun Sakaran Marine Park, which was gazetted in July 2004 and is Malaysia's largest marine protected area. It is situated offshore from Semporna in Sabah and covers 340km² of sea and coral reefs, 10km² of land and 8 islands.

The project is known locally as the 'Semporna Islands Darwin Project' and has its own logo.

The main objectives are as follows:

- To increase public understanding and support for management strategies within the Park.
The project is developing and running a community and outreach programme within the Park and surrounding area, thereby increasing awareness and also enhancing capacity within Sabah Parks to carry out this type of work in the future.

- To enhance knowledge and skills within Sabah Parks in relation to biodiversity and its relevance to Park management, and provide materials and tools to disseminate this information.

Marine Biologists from MCS are organising training courses in marine biodiversity for Sabah Parks staff, with the aim of increasing their working knowledge of reef flora and fauna. The courses will also enhance the participant's ability to understand the biological dynamics of coral reefs, apply ecological principles to management and get conservation messages across to the public. Interpretive material and displays, including an underwater 'Giant Clam Trail' will be developed as a resource both for parks staff and for visitors.

- To provide local communities with increased opportunities to engage in alternative livelihoods, so helping to take pressure off reef resources.

The project is addressing the problem of over-fishing and loss of biodiversity by further developing the alternative livelihoods programme. The hatchery is now operational and the aim is to build on the training and preliminary sea ranching trials for giant clams to develop invertebrate ranching as a viable alternative livelihood.

In addition, opportunities exist to diversify into reef tourism and the project will work with local communities and Park staff to pinpoint options and develop at least one pilot tourism-related alternative livelihood scheme.



Project Partnerships

The Project Partner in Malaysia is Sabah Parks. The Marine Conservation Society worked with Sabah Parks on the 2005-2008 Darwin Initiative project and the partners have a cordial and productive relationship.

The core project team comprises Dr Elizabeth Wood (Project Manager, MCS), Helen Brunt (Project co-ordinator, Sabah) and two local staff who were appointed to Sabah Parks but are fully supported by Darwin Initiative funds. One of these staff, Norida Salimeu, a Bajau speaker and recent graduate from Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS), was engaged as Community Outreach and Awareness Officer. Bobita Golam Ahad, who had worked with the previous Darwin Project, was appointed as Hatchery Manager in charge of the mariculture and sea-ranching programme. She also assists with many other project activities. The project counterpart in Sabah Parks is Dr Maklarin Lakim, Assistant Director (Research) and the project team works closely with Fazrullah Rizally Hj. Abd. Razak, Park Manager Tun Sakaran Marine Park, and Nasrulkhaim Maidin, Head of Marine Research Unit (Flora), Sabah Parks.

The only change to this management and staffing structure came at the end of the reporting year when Norida Salimeu resigned her post for personal reasons. She has been replaced by Jamie Valiant Ng who has a degree in Sociology from UMS and will deal with the community outreach work for the second year of the project.

The core team are in regular e-mail contact and also work together on the ground. Communications between the project team and Sabah Parks are conducted by e-mail, text, phone and face-to-face meetings. In addition, the project has an MoU with Sabah Parks and management meetings are held 3-4 times a year to discuss project progress. These meetings are attended by the Project Team and senior management staff from Sabah Parks, usually including either the Director or Deputy Director, Assistant Director(s), senior Administrative staff, Tun Sakaran Marine Park Manager and Marine Unit staff.

The project has benefitted from expertise within the Marine Conservation Society to run the Biodiversity Training Course and also to help with the outreach programme, in particular the organisation of the 'Coral Seas Roadshow'. In addition, the project is promoting further understanding of biodiversity and reef management issues through collaborative research with the University of Newcastle. The research project is being undertaken by a Masters Student, Jennifer Miller, who will lead the study and teach Sabah Parks Marine Unit staff how to recognise and record coral diseases and other causes of coral stress and mortality.

Other collaboration

The project has collaborated and worked with a number of other organisations and initiatives that are operating within Sabah and have similar or complimentary work programmes. For example, we exchange ideas and discuss work plans on a fairly regular basis with WWF, who have staff based in Semporna working on the Semporna Priority Conservation Area. Our project has joined WWF events, as described below, and WWF have participated in several of our project activities such as the Alternative Livelihoods Workshop and Coral Seas Roadshow.

Members of the project team have also participated in various other activities and events which have helped to promote knowledge exchange and a better understanding of some of the complex issues particularly in relation to local community involvement in resource management. In August 2009, Norida Salimeu together with a selected local community representative from Pulau Selakan participated in a 3-day workshop in Penampang on '*Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas*' organised by the Global Diversity Foundation (GDF) and Partners of Community Organisations (PACOS). The aim of the workshop was to explore the extent to which local communities are engaged in management and how this concept might be further developed.

In December 2009, a representative from SIDP attended a Seminar in Kota Kinabalu jointly organised by Sabah Biodiversity Centre and Universiti Malaysia Sabah School of Social Sciences and Ethnography and Development Research Unit, entitled *Supporting Biocultural Diversity & Conservation in Sabah*.

SIDP attended a workshop in February 2010 in Kota Kinabalu, Sabah organised by Global Diversity Foundation and entitled: '*Towards Traditional Knowledge protection within the proposed Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) International Regime and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)*'. This was an informative meeting which covered issues relating to use of biodiversity and the rights of indigenous people to comment on how changes in biodiversity would affect their way of life. There were discussions about Prior Informed Consent (PIC) in relation to aspects such as creation of 'no-take zones' which is very relevant to the situation in the Tun Sakaran Marine Park. There was also an illuminating session of role-play and group dynamics based around the scenario of a 'real life' application for a research permit and the potential conflicts between Parks Authorities, researchers and local communities. This highlighted the fact that full and effective participation in consultation processes is essential.

Bobita Golam Ahad was invited to attend as a facilitator at a workshop on *Environmental Leadership and Stewardship* held in Kudat and organised by WWF. The integration and application of environmental leadership and stewardship will help in improving the quality of life of the local community who are very dependent on the natural resources within the proposed Tun Mustapha Park. Bobita Alam's role as facilitator was to help local participants build teamwork spirit, understand the responsibility towards other people and the environment, improve friendship skills, and teach them how to be independent, so that this group would be able to educate other people to become a responsible individuals and live in harmony with nature for every ones' and the future generations' sake.

Helen Brunt attended a one day workshop on: '*Access and Use of Natural Resources by Indeterminate Peoples in Semporna*' (March 2010) and gave a short presentation about the Semporna Islands Darwin Project 'Alternative Livelihoods Programme'. The main theme of the workshop was to present the findings of research into resource use by indeterminate peoples that had been commissioned by WWF-Malaysia and carried out by the School of Social Sciences, Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS). The objectives of the research were to understand the demographic background of the indeterminate peoples, to investigate their access and use of natural (mainly marine) resources and to link these patterns to 'the bigger systems' (e.g. local authority policies, national and international laws and issues relating to conservation and climate change).

Helen Brunt, on behalf of SIDP, has also attended several meetings of the *Semporna Tourism Action Council* convened by the District Officer in Semporna and involving stakeholders such as the Fisheries Department, Sabah Parks, WWF and local tour operators. This has provided the opportunity to engage in discussions of topics such as tourism development, zoning and alternative livelihoods both in the Tun Sakaran Marine Park and more widely in the Semporna area.

The meetings and collaborations described above have provided opportunities to share knowledge and ideas and discuss options and effective strategies for addressing key issues such as resource management, biodiversity conservation and local community involvement.

With regard to building capacity to meet CBD commitments, the main support given by the project has been through training and public education. The marine biodiversity training for Sabah Parks is enhancing their capacity to understand and promote biodiversity conservation. The outreach activities undertaken by the project – particularly the Coral Seas Roadshow – has helped to ensure better understanding of the importance of biodiversity and the need for conservation and management.

3. Project progress

3.1 Progress in carrying out project activities

Output 1. Increased public understanding and support for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use strategies within the Tun Sakaran Marine Park.

- a) Meetings and focus groups to discuss scope and content of information programme and decide on strategies

Discussions about options and strategies for the outreach and awareness programme began soon after the start date of the project. All members of the project team were involved and ideas were also discussed more widely within Sabah Parks – for example at the joint Management Meetings. It was agreed that much still needs to be done to increase public understanding and support for biodiversity conservation, and that there is a wide and diverse target audience to reach out to. It was agreed that the priority was to concentrate efforts on local schools and communities living in, or using, the Park.

About 6 months into the project, following discussions with MCS staff involved in a UK educational initiative called the ‘Cool Seas Roadshow’, a decision was made to adapt the Roadshow and bring it out to the project site in Semporna. This activity was a major focus for the outreach programme and is summarised below.

- b) Materials designed and produced

Various materials were designed and produced during the year for different educational and outreach activities and target audiences. For example, a general information leaflet about the Tun Sakaran Marine Park and the role of project was produced for distribution locally in Semporna. This was targeted mainly towards visitors and other users of the Park (Annex 3a).

A portable model of the Tun Sakaran Marine Park was also made, specifically for use in the outreach programme (see details below and in the Report of Tun Sakaran Marine Park 3D model competition Annex 3b). The need for a model was based on experiences from the SIDP series of Boatshows in 2005-2008 when it became clear that the Bajau Laut (sea gypsy) community in the Tun Sakaran Marine Park have little comprehension of the geography of the Park from a 2-dimensional map. Traditionally, they use the land and seascape to navigate and are extremely familiar with the shape and contours of the islands – thus the need for a 3D model.

Life-size marine life models were used as a centrepiece for the Coral Seas Roadshow. These had been made by the presenter Andy Starbuck and consisted of an inflatable hammerhead shark and spinner dolphin and adult and juvenile green turtles made from fabric. In addition, the project team made a life-size model of the endangered humphead wrasse from a photograph mounted on plywood. Other materials developed for the Coral Seas Roadshow included a reef ‘panorama’ poster, jigsaw puzzles and the backdrop and ‘stick-on’ fish for an activity called ‘Build Your Own Reef’ (details are in the Coral Seas Roadshow Report Annex 3c).

In addition, use was made of materials that had been developed for the previous Darwin project and were still useful and relevant. For example, the ‘Stamp out Fish Bombing’ postcards and the colouring book were both reprinted with minor adjustments, and a new, larger, ‘marine life quiz’ sticker booklet was designed and printed.

It was also agreed that a new DVD would be an invaluable tool for disseminating messages to increase public awareness. Additional funding would be required for this and a proposal was put forward to the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Environment. This proposal was approved in late 2009 and we are currently waiting for the funds to be transferred so that filming and production can begin. A summary is included in Annex 3e.

c) Dissemination of information and establishment of TSMP 'Supporters Group'.

Park model-making event

We decided to involve one of the local schools in making the portable 3-D model (see above) because this would also provide a good opportunity for education and awareness activities with the students. There is no secondary school within the Park area, but most of the older children who are eligible go to SMK Bum-Bum, a large secondary school located on an island just outside the Tun Sakaran Marine Park. This school was approached and was keen to learn more about the Park and participate in the model making.

The activity was launched at SMK Bum-Bum by the project Community and Outreach officer who introduced the project and explained about the Park. The SIDP DVD (Bahasa Malaysia version) was then shown to the entire group of students from Years 3, 4 and Lower 6. The students and teachers gave positive feedback to the SIDP team and many students requested to join the model-making competition. Unfortunately we were unable to accept all the students for this competition as we were limited to a maximum of 30 students in 6 groups of 5 people.

Instructions and materials were provided by SIDP and the groups were given one week to complete their scale models. The results were excellent and have provided a useful resource. Two of the models were left with the school for their own display purposes, one put in the Marine Research Unit in Sabah Parks, one in the Park Manager's office and the other two are being used for outreach activities. For a report of this activity see Annex 3b.

Alternative livelihoods workshop in Pulau Selakan

Although the primary function of this workshop was to discuss alternative livelihoods (see below) a secondary aim was to reinforce conservation messages and discuss the possibility of establishing a Tun Sakaran Marine Park supporters group that would help to encourage active individual commitment to the conservation programme for TSMP. This idea of 'Reef Custodians' was discussed in one of the workshop sessions and all the participants present agreed this was a good one as it would provide them with an alternative source of income and also would benefit the environment.

Unanimous Smart Programme in Semporna [Program Sepakat Bestari Peringkat Semporna]

This programme was organised by the Information Department of Semporna and ran for two days in the centre of the town. The programme was based on the concept 'meet-the-client-day' and the main purpose was to convey information and policies to people through exhibition booths set up by government departments, private organisations and NGOs. The role of Sabah Parks/SIDP was to convey information about the Tun Sakaran Marine Park and a summary of the event is in Annex 3f. Two of the SIDP project officers were involved.

Semporna Coral Seas Roadshow

The '*Semporna Coral Seas Roadshow*' (CSR) ran for 3 weeks during January 2010 and performed at 23 schools, the local public library and an island venue, reaching a total of over 4,000 children and around 200 adults. Most of the Roadshows were carried out in a school hall or large classroom, but a few were held outside. Materials were transported to the site by van and/or boat and set up and dismantled for each show. A team of about 6-8 people

ran each Roadshow from a pool of 12 people from the Marine Conservation Society, Semporna Islands Darwin Project and Sabah Parks.

The Semporna CSR was developed from the MCS 'Cool Seas Roadshow', which has been running since 2006 and has reached over 100,000 children in the UK. Whilst many aspects were changed to make the Roadshow applicable to Sabah and the local issues in the Semporna area, the overall approach remained the same. The aim was to engage, educate and entertain children and raise awareness about marine life and conservation. In particular, we wanted to ensure that local children know about the Tun Sakaran Marine Park 'on their doorstep' and understood its importance and the efforts being made to protect it for future generations.

Life-size models of charismatic species (turtles, dolphin, shark, humphead wrasse) were used to explain how marine species are threatened and what people can do to look after them. An activity called 'Build Your Own Reef' formed part of the Roadshow and was used to illustrate the diversity of life found on coral reefs and to explain how coral reefs in the Semporna area are being damaged by fish bombing and overfishing. Other interactive activities encouraged the children to think about the issue of litter and what effect plastic and other waste may have on the marine environment and its wildlife.

Both teachers and students clearly appreciated the Roadshow, and feedback was very positive, with all the schools saying they would like more of this type of educational activity. One of the most apt comments was from SK Selakan (the only school in the Park), where the teacher said that the Roadshow was: 'Particularly suitable to help island citizens to understand about the importance to care for nature especially marine life care which is part of people's life on this island. Recommend to enhance ties between school and Sabah Parks so cooperation to help Sabah Parks can be increased in the future'.

Project and Sabah Parks staff also enjoyed being involved and quickly built up excellent communication skills. During the first week the presentation was done by Andy Starbuck from MCS, with simultaneous translation into Bahasa Malaysia, but by the end of the 3-weeks, the Roadshow was being expertly run by the local team.

For a report of this activity see Annex 3c. Press coverage is in Annex 3d.

Output 2. Sabah Parks staff with increased understanding of marine biodiversity and ecosystem functioning within the Park, and with resources and ability to teach and inform others.

a) Training and information needs identified through discussions with Sabah Parks staff

Various options were discussed with Sabah Parks and a plan agreed. The preference was for a basic introductory course in the first year, to provide the opportunity for Sabah Parks Marine Unit staff to learn about coral reef biodiversity, management issues and solutions. Participants were selected by Sabah Parks from the four Marine Protected Areas in Sabah (Pulau Tiga, Tungku Abdul Rahman, Turtle Islands and Tun Sakaran Marine Park). Several participants had not previously been involved in marine studies or field work of any kind while others had experience in specific topics such as turtle monitoring or Reefcheck.

b) Teaching and reference materials developed / acquired to use for training courses.

This activity was undertaken by Dr Elizabeth Wood and Dr Frances Dipper from the Marine Conservation Society. Three main types of resources were assembled:

A set of reference books. Prior to the course, Sabah Parks had only a limited stock of up-to-date identification guides to marine life. This, in addition to the lack of basic knowledge about

marine biology, makes it more challenging for Sabah Parks to undertake reef studies. A selection of identification books was therefore purchased for use on the Biodiversity Course. These were then donated to Sabah Parks to form the basis of a Marine Biology Reference Library for Tun Sakaran Marine Park (for the full list see Annex 3f). The Park is likely to become a focal point for marine studies in Sabah and so is a logical place for the library to be established.

A set of powerpoint presentations. These presentations were used in the classroom sessions and then the complete set passed to each participant for reference and/or for further use with other audiences (Produced as CD, see Annex 3g).

Marine Life Notes and reference list. The Marine Life Notes (see Annex 3h) accompanied each presentation and were designed to provide basic reference material for the major taxonomic groups. The reference list included books recommended for marine life identification and further studies (many of which have been donated to Sabah Parks) and a list of web-based sources of information.

c) Training field course on marine biodiversity carried out for Sabah Parks staff

The first training course was held in Semporna from Feb 8th – 12th inclusive and was attended by 20 Sabah Parks staff plus the project Community Awareness Officer Norida Salimeu (Programme & Feedback Annex 3i). The tutors were Dr Elizabeth Wood and Dr Frances Dipper from the Marine Conservation Society, with assistance and logistical support provided by the other SIP staff. In particular, Bobita Ahad Golam provided simultaneous translation and Helen Brunt co-ordinated snorkeling and other field activities. The programme consisted of 3 classroom days, each of which included interactive sessions and quizzes in addition to the talks. Mini-projects were also carried out by the participants, involving investigations at the Semporna fish market and dry produce market (which sells items such as shells and shark fins etc). There were 2 field days in which the participants engaged in a variety of activities including seagrass studies, coral identification and fish surveys. Feedback from the course was positive, with 90% of participants reporting that they had enjoyed it 'very much' and the level was 'about right' and 94% replying that they had learnt 'a lot' or 'quite a lot'.

d) Information on marine biodiversity and ecology of the Park incorporated into a display for use by staff and visitors.

The content of the display has been discussed and SIDP is working with Sabah Parks to develop this in the Hatchery on Pulau Boheydulang. Text and illustrative material for biodiversity posters on reef life (corals, fish and other marine life) has been prepared and the posters are now at the design stage. A map and information on dive sites and reef ecology of the Park is also in progress.

e) Underwater nature trail established for educational and research purposes

The underwater nature trail will feature giant clams because they are examples of globally endangered species that have been badly over-exploited in Sabah and are the focus of a rehabilitation programme in Tun Sakaran Marine Park. The trail will also give visitors the opportunity to learn about coral reef ecology and other forms of reef life. The site that has been selected already had 'resident' giant clams belonging to 5 species and we have introduced adult specimens of the other two species, together with thousands of juvenile clams that have been produced at the Hatchery. The latter are in cages to protect them from predators. The trail is about 100m long and follows the reef rim at a depth of between 3 – 5m depth.

Currently, the interpretive information for the trail is being designed. It will consist of custom-made underwater signs which will be fixed to the reef and will guide the visitor. Additional information will be provided on laminated cards that the visitor can borrow or hire and carry with them.

Output 3: Scope and effectiveness of alternative livelihoods programme enhanced.

a) Programme launched to culture marine invertebrates other than giant clams.

Work is continuing at the Hatchery on Pulau Boheydulang (Tun Sakaran Marine Park) to enhance the skills of the staff in culture techniques and to produce 'seeds' of invertebrates such as giant clams, abalone and sea-cucumbers. An algal culture room has been established and is running well, providing a steady supply of phytoplankton for juvenile clams.

A successful spawning of two species of giant clam (*Tridacna gigas* and *T. derasa*) was achieved in June 2009, and some of the juveniles are now (March 2010) around 9cm in length. Over 4,000 *T. derasa* have survived, but mortality of *T. gigas* has been high (reason unknown) and only 3 individuals remaining out of thousands of juveniles.

Abalone broodstock (*Haliotis asinina*) has been obtained from local fishermen and several spawning trials carried out, following standard protocols. There has been only limited success so far and larval survival has been very low. However, lessons have been learnt and work is continuing.

A separate progress report on the culture programme is in preparation.

b) Sea-ranching programme expanded to include these other invertebrates

After a period of a few months in the hatchery the juveniles will be transferred to open water cages for further grow-out. The aim is for sea-ranching of invertebrates to become established as an alternative livelihood for local communities – this is scheduled to be in place by the end of the project.

c) Stakeholder meetings to discuss alternative livelihood opportunities in reef/marine orientated tourism in the Park

Following discussions within the project team, Sabah Parks and the local community, a decision was made to organise an 'Alternative Livelihoods' workshop on Pulau Selakan within the Tun Sakaran Marine Park. The community on this island are well established and have previously expressed interest in becoming involved in livelihoods connected with tourism in the Tun Sakaran Marine Park. The workshop was held on Saturday 3rd October 2009 at Pulau Selakan, Tun Sakaran Marine Park, Semporna and was attended by 5 guest speakers, SIDP and Sabah Parks staff, 2 observers from WWF and 37 members of the local community. It was conducted entirely in Bahasa Malaysia. The guest speakers gave valuable information and insights into community based eco-tourism initiatives running elsewhere in Sabah, and the ways that the Selakan community could become involved in environmentally-friendly alternative or supplementary livelihood initiatives.

After the presentations, there were three workshop sessions to discuss the potential for the local community getting engaged in a) locally produced handicrafts b) homestays and c) other tourism-related activities. Each group was led by a facilitator from Sabah Parks, SIDP or WWF-Malaysia and produced much lively discussion. For a full report of the workshop see Annex 3j.

- d) Pilot project related to tourism as an alternative livelihood identified and planned by end of Yr 1 and launched early in Yr 2.

There was particularly strong interest amongst the participants at the Pulau Selakan workshop to get engaged in 'homestay' ventures. Homestay is well established in other parts of Sabah but is only just beginning in the Semporna area. The Selakan community felt that they had much to offer to visitors because of their location within the Park and the possibility of organising activities such as snorkelling trips around their local seaweed farms.

Since the workshop, the project has helped to get this programme off the ground. Registration forms were obtained from the Sabah Homestay Association (SHA) and passed to those in the Selakan community who had expressed an interest in joining the scheme and attending a training course. The completed forms were submitted to the SHA and it is hoped that five participants will be able to join a training course tentatively scheduled for June 2010.

3.2 Progress towards Project Outputs

Output 1. Increased public understanding and support for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use strategies within the Tun Sakaran Marine Park.

The task of increasing public understanding and support for biodiversity conservation is challenging because of the large number of people that need to be reached. We decided to concentrate on local schools and communities living in or using the Park and are confident that our activities with these target audiences enhanced their knowledge and appreciation of marine life and got them to think about issues such as destructive fishing and litter. Most of our outreach activities took place during the Coral Seas Roadshow and feedback from this event was very positive. This bears out our assumption that people will become engaged and committed to biodiversity conservation if messages and materials are relevant and inspiring.

The outreach programme will continue and expand in Year 2 and bring in new audiences. In addition, we will be encouraging people to make personal commitments to conservation when they sign up to the Tun Sakaran Marine Park supporters group. This will help in the often difficult task of quantifying changes in attitude and assessing the impact of outreach activities.

Output 2. Sabah Parks staff with increased understanding of marine biodiversity and ecosystem functioning within the Park, and with resources and ability to teach and inform others.

The first biodiversity training course for Sabah Parks staff was carried out as planned and was well received. Apart from the talks, interactive sessions and fieldwork, a range of resource materials was assembled and passed to Sabah Parks. This included a library of identification books which will be a useful resource for staff carrying out research and monitoring programmes in the future.

Progress has been made on planning and setting up biodiversity displays and providing information for staff and visitors and is on schedule for completion during Year 2.

Output 3: Scope and effectiveness of alternative livelihoods programme enhanced.

The Alternative Livelihoods Workshop held on Pulau Selakan in August 2009 was a very useful exercise that confirmed the interest of the local community in taking up alternative or supplementary livelihoods. Tourism, crafts and aquaculture were all identified as possibilities and an important output of the workshop was the formation of an Action Committee that, with the help of Project staff, will take some of these ideas forward.

We are aware that we need to do more to engage the Bajau Laut in alternative livelihoods, but this continues to be a difficult challenge, partly because of political sensitivities regarding their status as 'Indeterminate Peoples' and also because the way of life and needs of the Bajau Laut revolve around fishing. We will be continuing to work with the Bajau Laut, other local communities and Sabah Parks to find workable solutions.

3.3 Standard Measures

Table 1 Project Standard Output Measures

Code No.	Description	Year 1 Total	Year 2 Total	Total to date
4C	Postgraduate students receiving training: project staff joined 1 wk biodiversity training course	2		2
4D	Number of training weeks provided	2 people x 1week		2
6A	Number of people receiving other forms of education/training i) Sabah Parks staff on Biodiversity Course ii) Project & SP staff trained in outreach techniques (Roadshow)	i) 20 people ii) 8 people		28
6B	Number of training weeks provided	i) 20 X 1 week ii) 8 x 3 wks		44
7	Number of training materials produced for use by host country	1 (powerpoint presentations on biodiversity)		1
8	Number of weeks spent by UK project staff on project work in the host country	7		7
10	Number of individual field guides/manuals produced to assist work related to species identification, classification and recording.	1 (Marine life notes)		1
14B	Number of conferences/seminars/workshops attended at which findings from Darwin project work presented / disseminated.	4		4

15A	Number of national press releases in host country	1		1
16A	Newsletters produced	1		1
16B	Circulation of each newsletter in the host country(ies)	500		500
17B	Dissemination networks to be enhanced/ extended	1 (website)		1
21	Permanent educational/training/research facilities or organisations to be established and then continued after Darwin funding has ceased	0		0
23	Value of resources raised from other sources. a) in kind Sabah Parks field costs (staff, boat etc) b) CIMB Bank Malaysia c) Scubazoo in kind: office space	a) 8,000 b) £10,000 c) £1500		£19,500

Table 2 Publications

Type (eg journals, manual, CDs)	Detail (title, author, year)	Publishers (name, city)	Available from (eg contact address, website)	Cost £
Information leaflet	Tun Sakaran Marine Park, 2009	SIDP	info@sempornaislandsproject.com	0
Newsletter	SIDP News 2010	SIDP	info@sempornaislandsproject.com	0
Report	Tun Sakaran Marine Park 3D model competition 2009	SIDP	info@sempornaislandsproject.com	0
Report	Coral Seas Roadshow 2010	SIDP	info@sempornaislandsproject.com	0
Report	Pulau Selakan Alternative Livelihoods Workshop	SIDP	info@sempornaislandsproject.com	0

3.4 Progress towards the project purpose and outcomes

The purpose of the project is to ensure that biodiversity conservation and sustainable use goals for the Tun Sakaran Marine Park are met. Outputs are expected to be increased public support for the Park, Sabah Parks staff with increased understanding of biodiversity and its importance and a shift from fishing to other livelihoods.

Although it is difficult at this stage to quantify progress, we believe that all the activities carried out during year 1 have helped to move towards the successful achievement of the project purpose and outcomes.

3.5 Progress towards impact on biodiversity, sustainable use or equitable sharing of biodiversity benefits

It is not possible at this stage to provide measurable proof of positive impacts on biodiversity and sustainable use, but as above, we feel that progress have been made.

4. Monitoring, evaluation and lessons

We use the logical framework as a basis for monitoring and evaluation, and also regularly discuss progress and problems within the Project Team and with Sabah Parks. A formal meeting is held in Kota Kinabalu at Sabah Parks HQ every 3-4 months, in which the project officers make a presentation about their area of work. These meetings provide a useful forum for discussion and questions about project progress and related matters.

We believe that the qualitative and quantitative 'measurable indicators' set out in the original logical framework provide a good measure of whether the project is achieving its aims and will reach its final goal.

Where possible we have evaluated the effectiveness of project activities and events by getting feedback from the participants or target audience. In all cases this has been overwhelmingly positive.

We have learnt that 2 years is a short time to achieve our objectives, especially with regard to the alternative livelihoods programme. We know that Year 2 will be exceptionally busy if we are to meet our targets.

5. Actions taken in response to previous reviews (if applicable)

The wording of the project purpose has been changed in response to comments on the Project Proposal from the reviewer.

6. Other comments on progress not covered elsewhere

7. Sustainability

The project is concentrating on capacity building within Sabah Parks and the local community and there are positive indications that a solid foundation is being laid for biodiversity conservation, outreach and sustainable livelihood programmes to be carried forward after the project comes to an end.

The Coral Seas Roadshow was particularly valuable in teaching Sabah Parks staff new skills and establishing relationships with local schools that can be built on over the next few years. It has also left a legacy in the form of resources, wildlife models and activities that can be used in Roadshows in Semporna and more widely in Sabah.

The newly-formed Community and Conservation Unit within Sabah Parks is currently concentrating on developing and implementing the permit system for aquaculture in the park and is also trying to finalise the appointment of the eight island trustees that will be included in the Tun Sakaran Marine Park Advisory Committee. However, the officers in this unit have been involved in all outreach and community activities organised by SIDP and we believe that this will help to ensure the programmes continue after the project has finished.

8. Dissemination

Dissemination is an important component of the project and is described in more detail in Section 3. Dissemination activities during year 1 fell into the following categories in terms of target audiences:

- a. Coral Seas Roadshow for schools and local communities.
- b. Workshop for local community representatives, concentrating on alternative livelihoods but also including environmental awareness.
- c. Training Course on marine biodiversity for Sabah Parks, involving Marine Unit staff.

Sabah Parks is becoming more actively involved in community and outreach work in the Tun Sakaran Marine Park and, as mentioned above, plans to continue these activities in the longer term.

The project is known locally as the 'Semporna Islands Darwin Project' and has its own logo, website and newsletter. There was good press coverage of the Coral Seas Roadshow in local newspapers and an article is shortly to be published in the MCS magazine 'Marine Conservation'.

9. Project Expenditure

Table 3 Project expenditure during the reporting period

Item	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
Rent, rates, heating, overheads etc			
Travel and subsistence			
Operating costs (Workshops, seminars, outreach events, postage, phone, seminars, etc)			
Capital items/equipment (display boards, LCD projector & sound system, signage, underwater cameras)			
Others (reference books, educational materials, Roadshow & workshop field costs incl T-shirts, printing, software)			

Salaries (E Wood 6,000; H Brunt 5,000; F Dipper 1,750; S Ranger 1,750; N. Salimeu 10,000; B Ahad 10,000; J. Mapait 1,000)	
TOTAL	

10. OPTIONAL: Outstanding achievements of your project during the reporting period (300-400 words maximum). This section may be used for publicity purposes

I agree for LTS and the Darwin Secretariat to publish the content of this section

Coral Seas Roadshow: Bringing the sea into the schoolroom

[The following text is adapted from the press release]

Thousands of primary school children in the Semporna benefited from a visit by the unique *Semporna Coral Seas Roadshow*, and learnt things they never knew about Sabah's amazing marine life. The Roadshow was adapted and developed for the Darwin Project from the Marine Conservation Society's (MCS) '*Cool Seas Roadshow*', which has been running in the UK since 2006 and has reached over 100,000 children.

The '*Semporna Coral Seas Roadshow*' ran for 3 weeks and visited 25 primary schools as well as communities in the Tun Sakaran Marine Park, reaching over 4,000 children and around 200 adults. Audiences were entertained and informed with a DVD showing and an interactive presentation featuring life-size models of sharks, turtles and a dolphin.

The children then broke into smaller groups and enjoyed supervised activities such as 'Build Your Own Reef', jigsaw puzzles, sticker books and a colouring competition, around the themes of marine life and conservation. En. Abdul Raof Bin Muhammad Nor, Head Teacher at SK. Gelam-Gelam in Pulau Bum-Bum, Semporna, was full of praise for the Roadshow. "*This is a fantastic initiative and is engaging the children in a fun and informative way whilst raising awareness about the importance of the wonderful marine wildlife found in Sabah and the world's oceans. The roadshow activities greatly add to the students' knowledge in subjects such as Science and Moral Studies*".

The Roadshow Team also initiated dialogue with teachers to see how best to set up permanent links with schools and discussed ideas for the establishment of 'Coral Reef Clubs' in local schools. Following the success of this activity, we plan to take the Coral Seas Roadshow to more audiences during the second year of the project.

Annex 1 Report of progress and achievements against Logical Framework for Financial Year: 2008/09

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2008 - March 2009	Actions required/planned for next period
<p>Goal: <i>To draw on expertise relevant to biodiversity from within the United Kingdom to work with local partners in countries rich in biodiversity but constrained in resources to achieve</i></p> <p><i>The conservation of biological diversity,</i></p> <p><i>The sustainable use of its components, and</i></p> <p><i>The fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilisation of genetic resources</i></p>		<p>(report on any contribution towards positive impact on biodiversity or positive changes in the conditions of human communities associated with biodiversity eg steps towards sustainable use or equitable sharing of costs or benefits)</p> <p>This year's work has contributed to a better understanding of the importance and value of the Tun Sakaran Marine Park and advances have been made in promoting sustainable use by encouraging diversification into livelihoods that help take pressure of pronon-both amongst the public and and begun the to still working towards the goal and</p>	<p><i>(do not fill not applicable)</i></p>
<p>Purpose The project purpose is to ensure that biodiversity conservation and sustainable use goals for the Tun Sakaran Marine Park are met.</p> <p>[changed from original proposal after feedback from reviewer]</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increased public understanding and support for management strategies within the Park. 2. Sabah Parks staff with greater knowledge of biodiversity and its relevance to Park management, and with tools to disseminate this information. 3. Local community with increased opportunities to engage in 	<p>Good progress has been made on developing and carrying out the planned Yr 1 activities for the three programmes. These have involved education and awareness, biodiversity training and identification / promotion of alternative livelihoods.</p>	<p>For the outreach part of the project we will be concentrating on developing awareness programmes with selected schools and launching a major initiative to enlist all Park residents and users as 'friends' or supporters'. Another biodiversity course will be held for Sabah Parks staff, and display materials produced. We will be continuing to work with the newly-</p>

	alternative livelihoods and so help to take pressure off reef resources.		formed Selakan Community Committee to
Output 1. Increased public understanding and support for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use strategies within the Tun Sakaran Marine Park.	<p>1.1. Meetings and focus groups to discuss scope and content of information programme and decide on strategies early in Yr 1.</p> <p>1.2. Materials designed and produced.</p> <p>1.3. Dissemination of information and establishment of TSMP 'Supporters Group'.</p>	Good progress has been made towards this output with all of the activities on schedule, as described below.	
1.1. Meetings and focus groups to discuss scope and content of information programme and decide on strategies early in Yr 1.		These activities were scheduled for early in the project and were successfully carried out as a prerequisite for running the outreach programme during Year 1. Target audiences were identified and will remain much the same for Yr 2 but we review the content of the information programme at regular intervals and develop it accordingly in order to ensure our goals are achieved.	
1.2. Materials designed and produced.		We produced a variety of materials in Yr 1 and these will continue to be used but may be adapted or developed further, according to need. We also plan to produce new materials to expand the content and reach of the awareness programme.	
1.3. Dissemination of information and establishment of TSMP 'Supporters Group'.		Information was disseminated at several events with our main effort being through the 'Coral Seas Roadshow'. During this activity, we reached over 4,000 children and 200 adults and had enthusiastic feedback. The establishment of the TSMP Supporters group is scheduled for Year 2.	

<p>Output 2. Sabah Parks staff with increased understanding of marine biodiversity and ecosystem functioning within the Park, and with resources and ability to teach and inform others.</p>	<p>2.1 Training and information needs identified through discussions with Sabah Parks staff early in Yr 1.</p> <p>2.2 Teaching and reference materials developed / acquired to use for training courses.</p> <p>2.3 One-week training field course on marine biodiversity carried out for Sabah Parks staff (approx 20 participants each time) in Yr 1 and a second in Yr 2.</p> <p>2.4 Information on marine biodiversity and ecology of the Park incorporated into a display for use by staff and visitors by middle of Yr 1.</p> <p>2.5 Underwater nature trail established for educational and research purposes by Yr 2.</p>	<p>We are on target for achieving the output by the end of Year 2, having completed the first Biodiversity Training Course for Sabah Parks staff and put together the outline content for the displays and underwater nature trail.</p>
<p>Activity 2.1. Training and information needs identified through discussions with Sabah Parks staff early in Yr 1.</p>	<p>This activity was completed on time and a decision reached to run two courses, starting with a basic introductory course in Year 1</p>	
<p>Activity 2.2. Teaching and reference materials developed / acquired to use for training courses.</p>	<p>Marine life notes and powerpoint presentations were prepared and a set of identification books acquired for use on the course. These have since been donated to Sabah Parks.</p>	
<p>Activity 2.3. One-week training field course on marine biodiversity carried out for Sabah Parks staff (approx 20 participants each time) in Yr 1 and a second in Yr 2.</p>	<p>The course, comprising a mixture of classroom and field sessions, was successfully completed in February 2010.</p>	

<p>Activity 2.4. Information on marine biodiversity and ecology of the Park incorporated into a display for use by staff and visitors by middle of Yr 1.</p>	<p>The display is slightly behind schedule - plans have been prepared and most of the materials are now at the design stage.</p>
<p>Activity 2.5. Underwater nature trail established for educational and research purposes by Yr 2.</p>	<p>The site for the trail has been selected and a prototype sign prepared. Specimens of each of the 7 giant clam species have been placed along the trail and work is continuing on the preparation of interpretive materials.</p>
<p>Output 3. Scope and effectiveness of alternative livelihoods programme enhanced.</p>	<p>3.1 Programme launched to culture marine invertebrates other than giant clams early in Yr 1.</p> <p>3.2 Sea-ranching programme expanded to include these other invertebrates during Yr 2.</p> <p>3.3 Stakeholder meetings to discuss alternative livelihood opportunities in reef/marine orientated tourism in the Park early in Yr 1.</p> <p>3.4 Pilot project related to tourism as an alternative livelihood identified and planned by end of Yr 1 and launched early in Yr 2.</p> <p>Several positive steps have been taken towards achieving this output – most notably the formation of an Action Committee on one of the islands in the Park following a successful local community Alternative Livelihoods in 2009.</p>
<p>Activity 3.1. Programme launched to culture marine invertebrates other than giant clams early in Yr 1.</p>	<p>The programme is underway and has had some success, but to date, survival of larvae has been lower than expected. More trials are underway.</p>
<p>Activity 3.2 Sea-ranching programme expanded to include these other invertebrates during Yr 2.</p>	<p>This activity is schedule for Year 2</p>
<p>Activity 3.3. Stakeholder meetings to discuss alternative livelihood opportunities in reef/marine orientated tourism in the Park early in Yr 1.</p>	<p>A very successful workshop was held and has led to the first steps towards establishing pilot projects.</p>
<p>Activity 3.4. Pilot project related to tourism as an alternative livelihood identified and planned by end of Yr 1 and launched early in Yr 2</p>	<p>This activity is scheduled for Year 2</p>

Annex 2 Project's full current logframe

LOGICAL FRAMEWORK

18. Please enter the details of your project onto the matrix using the note at Annex 3 of the Guidance Note for Main applications.

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
<p>Goal:</p> <p>Effective contribution in support of the implementation of the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Convention on Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), and the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species (CMS), as well as related targets set by countries rich in biodiversity but constrained in resources.</p>			
<p>Sub-Goal:</p> <p>To strengthen and enhance measures being taken to promote biodiversity conservation and sustainable use of resources within the Tun Sakaran Marine Park.</p>	<p>Successful completion of the three selected programmes (see outputs).</p>	<p>Independent assessments by Sabah Parks and through the DI project evaluation.</p>	
<p>Purpose</p> <p>The project purpose is to develop and carry out programmes identified as being of particular benefit in consolidating support for the Park and making it more likely that the twin goals of biodiversity conservation and sustainable use will be achieved.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increased public understanding and support for management strategies within the Park. 2. Sabah Parks staff with greater knowledge of biodiversity and its relevance to Park management, and with tools to disseminate this information. 3. Local community with increased opportunities to engage in alternative livelihoods and so help to take pressure off reef resources. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Feedback following awareness campaign shows high level of understanding and support for conservation measures. o Surveillance shows low or no incursion into Biodiversity Conservation (no-take) zones due to community awareness and support. o Reduced threats to biodiversity from activities such as fish blasting due to greater public vigilance. o Improved economic situation for local 	<p>Increased public understanding of the benefits of biodiversity conservation will lead to more proactive support for the Park.</p>

		fishing families.	
<p>Outputs</p> <p>1. Increased public understanding and support for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use strategies within the Tun Sakaran Marine Park.</p>	<p>1.1. Meetings and focus groups to discuss scope and content of information programme and decide on strategies early in Yr 1.</p> <p>1.2. Materials designed and produced.</p> <p>1.3. Dissemination of information and establishment of TSMP 'Supporters Group'.</p>	<p>a) Report of conclusions and recommendations from discussions and focus group meetings.</p> <p>b) Materials available for dissemination.</p> <p>c) Report of public awareness and education programme.</p> <p>d) 'Supporters Group' established and helping to promote conservation initiatives in the Park.</p>	<p>The materials produced are relevant and inspiring enough to stimulate positive reactions from the public and a wish to actively support the Park.</p>
<p>2. Sabah Parks staff with increased understanding of marine biodiversity and ecosystem functioning within the Park, and with resources and ability to teach and inform others.</p>	<p>2.1 Training and information needs identified through discussions with Sabah Parks staff early in Yr 1.</p> <p>2.2 Teaching and reference materials developed / acquired to use for training courses.</p> <p>2.3 One-week training field course on marine biodiversity carried out for Sabah Parks staff (approx 20 participants each time) in Yr 1 and a second in Yr 2.</p> <p>2.4 Information on marine biodiversity and ecology of the Park incorporated into a display for use by staff and visitors by middle of Yr 1.</p> <p>2.5 Underwater nature trail established for educational and research purposes by Yr 2.</p>	<p>a) Bilingual (English and Bahasa Malaysia) teaching materials including powerpoint presentations and illustrated identification guides.</p> <p>b) Reference material including identification books to form permanent source of information for future research.</p> <p>c) Display incorporating photographs and key information on coral reef biodiversity within the Park.</p> <p>d) Underwater nature trail with interpretive material.</p>	<p>Trained Sabah Parks staff will engage with the training and will remain in the organisation for long enough to train others and to maintain and further develop the interpretive displays.</p>

<p>3. Scope and effectiveness of alternative livelihoods programme enhanced.</p>	<p>3.1 Programme launched to culture marine invertebrates other than giant clams early in Yr 1.</p> <p>3.2 Sea-ranching programme expanded to include these other invertebrates during Yr 2.</p> <p>3.3 Stakeholder meetings to discuss alternative livelihood opportunities in reef/marine orientated tourism in the Park early in Yr 1.</p> <p>3.4 Pilot project related to tourism as an alternative livelihood identified and planned by end of Yr 1 and launched early in Yr 2.</p>	<p>a) Juveniles of other species of invertebrates produced at the hatchery.</p> <p>b) Ranching of these juveniles in operation.</p> <p>c) Discussion document on opportunities and challenges for local community involvement in tourism activities in the Park.</p> <p>d) Alternative livelihoods tourism-related pilot project in operation and report produced.</p>	<p>Local communities remain committed to engaging with the alternative livelihoods programme</p>
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Annex 3 Onwards – supplementary material (optional but encouraged as evidence of project achievement)

This may include outputs of the project, but need not necessarily include all project documentation. For example, the abstract of a conference would be adequate, as would be a summary of a thesis rather than the full document. If we feel that reviewing the full document would be useful, we will contact you again to ask for it to be submitted.

- a) Project Information leaflet about Tun Sakaran Marine Park
- b) Report of the Tun Sakaran Marine Park 3D model competition 2009 (pdf)
- c) Report of the Coral Seas Roadshow 2010 (pdf)
- d) Coral Seas Roadshow press coverage
- e) DVD proposal 2009
- f) Report of the Unanimous Smart Programme in Semporna 2009
- g) Marine Biodiversity Training Course 2010: Powerpoint presentations
- h) Marine Biodiversity Training Course 2010: Marine Life Notes
- i) Marine Biodiversity Training Course 2010: Programme, activities and feedback
- j) Report of the Pulau Selakan Alternative Livelihoods Workshop
- k) SIDP Newsletter