

Darwin Initiative: Half Year Report

(due 31 October 2007)

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| Project Ref. No. | 162/12/002 – post project fellowship |
| Project Title | Darwin Fellowship |
| Country(ies) | Gabon |
| UK Organisation | ECTF Darwin Initiative Monitoring BushLoan Penicuik Midlothian UK |
| Collaborator(s) | University of Stirling/ Margaret Okot/ Anne Marie Ndong Obiang / University of East Anglia/ Dr Harriet Jones |
| Project Leader | Katharine Abernethy |
| Report date | June 2008 |
| Report No. (HYR 1/2/3/4) | HYR1 |
| Project website | |

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).

A/ In September 2007 I was set to take an MSc course in Applied Ecology and Conservation at the University of East Anglia during which I would progress through each module monitored by Dr Katharine Abernethy of the University of Stirling and Dr Diana Bell of the University of East Anglia.

Compulsory units in this course include Univariate Statistics, Multivariate Statistics, Ecological census methods and Research skills for ecologists. Optional units can include Conservation genetics, Population dynamics and modelling, Introduction to GIS, Restoration ecology and Understanding environmental change.

As part of the course work I would to undertake a research project and dissertation for 4 months starting at the end of March 2008 till the end of July 2008, the fieldwork for this would be based in Gabon on Bushmeat issues with me working in close collaboration with Projet Gibier, I was to be supervised by Dr Katherine Abernethy of the University of Stirling. During my time in Gabon a couple of days would be set aside for me to give presentations to the Ministry of Water and Forestry based on what I have learnt during the teaching part of the MSc.

Finally after the end of the MSc, I would have given a series of presentations on both my dissertation and modules undertaken during the teaching part of the MSc. These presentations would be given both to the Ministry of Water and Forestry and to different national NGO's.

B/ On arrival, I started in Graduate diploma as during summer 2007, UEA installed a rule that all international students need that before do their Msc.

The Program was Graduate Diploma in Ecology; this program was act for September 2007to June 2008. At the end of the first term (December) all students were asked to select their units for the second term, starting January. All my selected units were agreed and recorded with the Admission Office. However, somewhere along the line I

