

# Darwin Initiative

## Half Year Report (due 31 October each year)

<b>Project Ref. No.</b>	14-035
<b>Project Title</b>	Strengthening pro-poor wetland conservation using integrated biodiversity and livelihood assessment
<b>Country(ies)</b>	Cambodia and Tanzania
<b>UK Organisation</b>	IUCN
<b>Collaborator(s)</b>	Overseas Development Group (University of East Anglia); IUCN Sri Lanka; UNDP/GEF-IUCN-MRC Mekong Wetlands Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Use Programme (MWBP); IUCN Eastern Africa
<b>Report date</b>	31 October 2006
<b>Report No. (HYR 1/2/3/4)</b>	HYR/1
<b>Project website</b>	<a href="http://www.iucn.org/themes/ssc/our_work/freshwater/darwin_index.htm">http://www.iucn.org/themes/ssc/our_work/freshwater/darwin_index.htm</a>

### 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).

Project activities for the period have been completed successfully according to the baseline timetable:

- Rufiji training workshop and scoping mission. The first workshop and scoping survey related to the Tanzania component of the above project were successfully completed, from 2<sup>nd</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> May, 2006. The scoping visit (2<sup>nd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> May) to the Mtanza-Msona villages of the Rufiji District preceded the workshop. The scoping visit enabled the team to establish field contacts, meet relevant government officials, identify suitable sampling sites for the survey and also identify local data sources and other logistical requirements for the field surveys. The subsequent workshop held in Dar-es-Salaam (9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> May) convened a team of potential experts for involvement in the project to discuss the proposed work, demonstrate and discuss methodologies to be used, and clarify how Darwin objectives can complement and assist in those of the REMP and how REMP information can be employed in achieving Darwin objectives. The workshop was attended by 14 participants including relevant stakeholders, and potential core team members.
- Rufiji dry season field trip. The first field assessment for the Mtanza-Msona villages (19<sup>th</sup> Sept – 7<sup>th</sup> Oct 2006) was conducted successfully with a team of 10 people with a combination of biodiversity, livelihoods and economic backgrounds. The project was very lucky to benefit from the expertise of two volunteer members of the team, namely, Gita Kasthala (conservation ecologist, UK) and Matthew Knisely (ethnobotanist, USA). The first steps in conducting an integrated approach to field assessment were evaluated and elaborated through this field trip. Preliminary feedback reports that the level of integration developed significantly during the field period as the team members gained a better understanding of the objective of “integration”. Findings from the field trip will feedback into the “toolkit” which will remain a working document to be developed throughout the project period.
- Stung Treng – ongoing field assessment. A dry season biodiversity assessment has been conducted and the data sent to the IUCN Species programme, UK, for analysis.
- Stung Treng – Literature review and compilation of existing datasets. Marcus Chambers has now compiled three reports based on a review of the literature and existing data sets: i) Ramsar

