

Darwin Initiative for the Survival of Species

Half Year Report Form

Period: 1st April 2001 to 30 November 2001

Project Title	Building capacity in wetland biodiversity conservation in Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland and Russia
Country	Various
Organisation	Eurosite
Project Ref. No.	162/10/008
Report date	30 November 2001

1. Outline progress over the last 6 months against the agreed baseline timetable for the project.

- Detailed project schedule agreed with department by early Summer
- UK Project team met in July - good ownership of the project achieved.
- 13 participants from target country identified and signed up. Two spare places (1x Estonia, 1x Poland) are expected to be filled in time to participate in country visits and workshop 2.
- First workshop held successfully in November 2001 in Scotland later than originally planned but change was agreed with the Department.
- Workshop 1 report is at an advanced stage at the time of writing

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 effect the budget and timetable of project activities. Have any of these issues been discussed with the Department and if so, have changes been made to the original agreement?

1. Changes to timing of first country visits and workshop 2 have been made in agreement with the Department following concerns over practicalities from UK project participants. There is an implication for project funding as both project events were to have taken place by the end of the first financial year. Visits now planned for March to May 2002. Workshop 2 will take place in June 2002 at the National Trust Centre at Wicken Fen, Cambridgeshire
2. International travel costs from Baltic States and Russia higher than anticipated because estimates were made from UK to Baltic States, Poland & Russia, rather than the reverse. At this stage it is unclear what effect this will have on project funds.
3. The Wildlife Trusts representative left to work for another organisation, but has now been replaced by Mr Mike Deegan from Shropshire Wildlife Trust. No implications for the project expected
4. Number of project participants (13) lower than target (15), which may have an implication for project funding in Year 1. These will be filled in time for Workshop 2.

3. Are there any other issues you wish to raise relating to the project or to Darwin's management, monitoring, or financial procedures.

No

Note - Submission of first 6 month report delayed to include the first key project event - Workshop 1