

Darwin Initiative for the Survival of Species

Half Year Report Form

Project Title	Bai Tu Long Bay Biodiversity Awareness Project (BTLB BAP)
Country	Vietnam
Organisation	Society for Environmental Exploration
Project Ref. No.	162/10/022
Report date	31 st October 2003 (1/4/03 – 30/10/03)

1. Outline progress over the last 6 months 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).

The project has achieved the following over the last 6 months:

- Biodiversity Interpretation Centre building completed
- 2 training workshops conducted (biodiversity survey and monitoring and sustainable tourism).
- 3rd Field Guide and poster produced and distributed (Lepidoptera)
- Television appearance Vietnam TV (VTV), covering the sustainable tourism workshop
- 3rd Newsletter compiled, printed and distributed
- Draft reports produced: 3x workshops, 1x biological & socio-economic surveys: published shortly
- Environmental education course (schools – 8 session) book published
- External Evaluation of biodiversity awareness raised, conducted.

These achievements are in line with the Key Milestones, with the exception of the exhibition of the biodiversity displays.

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?

As the Biodiversity Interpretation Centre has now been completed the biodiversity interpretation displays will be exhibited and the British Ambassador, Hanoi, will conduct the official opening. As reported in previous documents the fall through of the building from FIPI, led to application of funds to build the centre and once funds were secured from the FCO's Environmental Project Fund, the task of obtaining permissions and contracting builders through the Vietnamese bureaucratic system was mounted. To compare with other organisations that have built, centres and displays, the project has shown time efficiency for Vietnam. No changes to the original agreement have been made over the last 6 months.

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 Project Manager, Email: stefanie.halfmann@ed.ac.uk