

Darwin Initiative for the Survival of Species

Half Year Report Form

Project Title	Elephants of Mikumi National Park, Tanzania: Conservation, Education & Research
Country	Tanzania
Organisation	Anglia Polytechnic University
Project Ref. No.	162/11/008
Report date	April-October 2003

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).

PARK ECOLOGISTS MSc PLANNED: Specifics of master proposal for Park Ecology Warden, Frederick Mofulu, discussed and schedule planned.

DATA COLLECTION PROTOCOLS INITIATED IN FIRST YEAR OF PROJECT CONTINUED: Regular foot transects by rangers on patrol and vehicle transects by ABRU and Park Ecology staff throughout park. Vegetation plots monitored quarterly. Aerial survey conducted in collaboration with Wildlife Conservation Society in early July.

PROTOCOL DEVELOPMENT CONTINUED: Refinements of established techniques implemented and new techniques for monitoring along seasonal watercourses designed.

TRAINING CONTINUED: Rangers, wardens (especially Park Ecology & Law Enforcement) and assistants trained in protocol refinements. Two new ABRU volunteers trained. One new ranger trained in elephant monitoring protocol.

OTHER: Topographical maps for MNP digitised (multiple layers) and distributed to stakeholders.

Discussion meetings with Senior Park staff on progress and use of facilities. Park Ecology Resource Centre built in first year of project fully furnished. Vehicle for Park Ecology ordered and processing implemented

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?

UNEXPECTED DEVELOPMENTS, all with positive impacts on project but no implications for overall timetable or funding from Darwin Initiative: (1) TANAPA funded solar power for Park Ecology Resource Centre. (2) Opportunity to advise and support Tanzanian graduate student from SUA (University in Morogoro). (3) IT expertise donated to launch project website (www.mikumi.org). (4) Support from Toyota-Tanzania allowing upgrade of vehicle for Park Ecology Department.

NOTABLE PROBLEMS: impacts on project outcomes so far minimal and not discussed specifically with DEFRA but mentioned in Annual Report (1) Participation from Undergraduates from Tanzanian Universities continues to be more limited than planned. (2) Staffing issues within TANAPA have lead to (a) progress of Park Ecology Warden masters project (now scheduled to arrive in UK in Feb 2004); (b) transfer of two Rangers trained in first year of project to other Parks. Transfer of Rangers to other Parks helps disseminate project outputs but these transfers were slightly premature to be ideal in this respect.

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

Darwin Initiative support has not only enabled this project financially but has facilitated the achievements of its goals through the prestige and status it has given.

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