

Darwin Initiative for the Survival of Species

Half Year Report Form

Project Title	Biodiversity assessment of limestone karst dependent bats in Myanmar (Burma)
Country	Myanmar (Burma)
Organisation	Harrison Institute
Project Ref. No.	162/11/019
Report date	30 September, 2002

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

All key milestones were achieved. These included: [1] liaising with Yangon University on project implementation (selection of 4 trainees, workshop design, field work, permissions, sponsors, purchase of equipment); [2] training of 2 of 4 Myanmar Darwin trainees in UK (June-September); [3] attendance and presentation of Darwin project at two international conferences (at SCB conference at Univ. of Kent in July and at Bat Conservation Trust conference at Univ. of Reading in September); [4] publication of news sheet (June); [5] Paul Bates to Yangon (September) to finalise preparations for international bat workshop in Yangon University (23-27 October) - this will include students and staff from 15 local universities and 11 international contributors (from UK, Australia, India, Malaysia, and Portugal) and is co-sponsored by TotalFinaElf E&P Myanmar, Thai Air and Myanmar Airways International.

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?

No notable problems were encountered.

However, the UK staff component was simplified prior to the commencement of the project by reducing the number of staff members from 3 to 2 (Dr Paul Bates and Dr Iain Mackie) and by increasing the time spent by these two scientists on the project. DEFRA were notified of this change by e-mail (26/4/2002) and in the subsequent final electronic submission of the project proposal.

The project began one month earlier than originally planned to ensure maximum progress in the first year (notified 26/4/2002). This has no effect on the budget.

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

None of substance.

Completed forms to: Rose Clarkson, Darwin Initiative M&E Project Manager, John Muir Building, Kings Buildings, University of Edinburgh, Mayfield Rd., Edinburgh EH9 3JK, Scotland. Email: R.Clarkson@ed.ac.uk