



Project Ref No. 162/12/023

Darwin Initiative Coastal Assessment of the Biodiversity of Anegada, BVI

Annual Report April 2004



Darwin Initiative for the Survival of Species

Annual Report

1. Darwin Project Information

<i>Project Ref. Number</i>	162/12/023
<i>Project Title</i>	Darwin Initiative Assessment of the Coastal Biodiversity of Anegada, BVI
<i>Country(ies)</i>	UK, British Virgin Islands
<i>UK Contractor</i>	University of Exeter
<i>Partner Organisation(s)</i>	BVI Conservation and Fisheries Department BVI National Parks Trust Governor of the BVI H. Lavity Stoutt Community College, BVI Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, UK Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, UK
<i>Darwin Grant Value</i>	164,205
<i>Start/End dates</i>	1 October 2003 - 31 March 2006
<i>Reporting period (1 Apr 200x to 31 Mar 200y) and report number (1,2,3..)</i>	1 October 2003 to 31 March 2004
<i>Project website</i>	www.seaturtle.org/mtrg/projects/anegada
<i>Author(s), date</i>	A. McGowan 29 April 04

2. Project Background

- *Briefly describe the location and circumstances of the project and the problem that the project aims to address.*

This project is being carried out on Anegada, British Virgin Islands. It is one of the largest unspoilt islands in the Caribbean and is under extreme development pressure. It hosts a globally important coral reef system, regionally significant nesting and foraging populations of marine turtles, is of regional importance to birds and supports globally important endemic plants. The project aims to carry out a detailed assessment of the coastal biodiversity of Anegada leading to a Biodiversity Action Plan.

3. Project Purpose and Outputs

- *State the purpose and outputs of the project. Please include your project logical framework as an appendix and report achievements and progress against it (or, if applicable, against the latest version of the logframe).*

As articulated in the project bid there are three fundamental objectives towards which much has been achieved in the first 6 months of the project:

Objective A. Integrated documentation and scientific monitoring of three important taxa:

Marine turtles:- We have begun surveying all possible nesting beaches but to date little nesting activity has been recorded as the project was launched immediately after the 2003 nesting season. With two of the local Anegadian fisherman as part of the project team an intensive in-water study has been successfully initiated. A total of 96 turtles (78 hawksbill, 18 green) being captured, tagged and released. In addition, biometric data have been collected from a further 8 turtles (1 hawksbill, 7 green) caught by local fisherman as part of the legal turtle harvest. Tissue samples, collected from all captured turtles, are currently undergoing genetic analysis in order to determine the nesting colony of origin the juvenile turtles living in the waters around Anegada. We have also established a turtle specimen reference collection which will be used a teaching aid in the local schools and college.

Plants:- We have completed classification and mapping of the different coastal vegetation types around the entire island. The plant checklist for Anegada now stands at 334 species and significant inroads have also been made towards construction of an island wide vegetation map. Voucher specimens have been collected and the Darwin Plant Reference Collection at JR O'Neal Botanic Gardens, Tortola, BVI was initiated. This has included the establishment of an herbarium at the J.R. O'Neal Botanic Garden to house the collections. Duplicate specimens were also collected in order to enhance the reference collection at RBG Kew. The Darwin Initiative / FCOEF Seed Bank was also established at the J.R. O'Neal Botanic Garden in Tortola. Seeds collected are sent to the Millennium Seed Bank at Kew, Wakehurst place for cleaning and drying. One set is then sent back to BVI for storage in the local seed bank and the duplicate set maintained in the Millennium Seed Bank at RBG Kew, Wakehurst Place. In addition, the locations of the critically endangered plant species and those plant species known to be invasive have been mapped. Extensive liaison has been made with local community members to gather data on common names and plant uses.

Birds:- All habitat types in Anegada were surveyed in November 2003 and March 2004 and the diversity and abundance of bird species present at those times of the year have been recorded. In total, 73 different bird species, from 23 families have been recorded and 15 of these species have been confirmed as breeding. Furthermore, a series of point count locations have been established around the island to allow ongoing systematic monitoring. We have also established a Darwin avian specimen reference collection and bird image library that will be added to throughout the duration of the project and function as a teaching aid for the local schools and college. Local common names have been gathered as part of liaison with local community members

Objective B. Institutional strengthening and capacity building.

Darwin Steering Group Meetings:- As this is very much a collaborative project steered and assessed locally through the input and discussion from the Darwin Project Steering Committee. During this period of reporting the steering group has met 4 times in the BVI and the UK project partners have met twice in the UK. As well as directing this Darwin project these meetings act as an excellent forum for

representatives from all three local biodiversity partners to discuss and strategise. All meetings are fully minuted and distributed to all on the Darwin Project Listserv.

Darwin Project Workshops:- Two Darwin project workshops have been conducted to date:

Workshop 1: "Methods for Assessing the Biodiversity of Anegada" consisted of two days of classroom sessions followed by 5 days of fieldwork where 15 project participants received hands-on practical training in the techniques used in the monitoring of plants, sea turtles, and birds.

Workshop 2: "Advanced botanical identification and mapping " consisted of a weeks field work and continued to help develop the field identification skills of the 3 workshop participants, as well as developing good botanical collection techniques. Plant specimens and seeds were collected and good field notes to accompany these are essential and training in these specialist skills was provided. Identification of habitat types was further developed in order to refine the habitat classification and mapping work.

Additional Training Opportunities:

The project has provided funding/support for the following:

1. Raymond Walker from the BVI National Parks Trust to achieve an International Diploma in Herbarium Techniques at RBG Kew
2. Clive Petrovic from H. Lavity Stoutt community College to attend the 14th Regional Meeting of the Society for the Conservation and Study of Caribbean Birds, and present a paper on house sparrows in the BVI
3. Arlington Pickering and Gary Frett from BVI Conservation and Fisheries department to attend the 25th International Sea Turtle Symposium 2004 in Costa Rica

Darwin Project Listserv

A project listserv has been initiated so that members from each of the project partner organisations (28 individuals in total) are involved in all aspects of the running of the project and provides a forum for raising any project related issues. It is used to circulate draft documents such as minutes, newsletter articles etc, subsequent comments on drafts and then final copies.

Engagement of Anegada Community Members

In the past there has been some resistance to biodiversity conservation projects in Anegada when they have been based in Tortola or overseas. To help redress this and achieve more community involvement in both this project and biodiversity conservation in general, community members have been involved in this project since its inception and are being consulted on an ongoing basis. Three community members are directly employed as fieldworkers and we have engaged as many of the service sector businesses as possible; sharing the spend of the project in all outlets. We feel that this is increasing good will towards conservation on the island and will facilitate the work of BVI project partners in the future.

Objective C. Increasing environmental awareness in the general public and key stakeholder groups.

Activities towards this objective have been diverse:

1. Public Meetings and Seminars

In the BVI

The project carried out a series of public meetings and talks aimed at increasing public awareness of the project and promoting community involvement.

We held public meetings in Anegada and Tortola where we gave presentations about the aims and objectives of the project and held an open question and answer session for members of the public.

We have given a variety of seminars throughout the BVI and a list of those to date is as follows:

1. Darwin Seminar St Mary's Community Centre, Virgin Gorda - "Aims and objectives of the Darwin project in Anegada"
2. Darwin Seminar St Mary's Community Centre, Virgin Gorda - "Plants of Virgin Gorda"
3. Darwin Seminar St Mary's Community Centre, Virgin Gorda - "Historical Sites in the BVI"
4. Darwin Initiative Seminar, HLSCC Lecture Series "Plants of the BVI"

In UK

To date we have presented two Darwin Seminars in the UK; "Anegada: a British Biodiversity Hotspot in the Caribbean" was presented to the Kew Mutual Improvement Society at RBG, Kew and "Darwin Initiative Assessment of the Coastal Biodiversity of Anegada, BVI" was presented at the Wider Caribbean Working Group meeting of the UK Overseas Territories Conservation Forum.

2. School Visits in the BVI

We carried out a several visits to the primary school on Anegada where we gave talks about the project and involved them in a plant common name competition for one of the local endemic plants, *Metastelma anegadense*. We also visited St Mary's Primary School on Virgin Gorda where we gave a talk about "Turtles in the BVI" with school staff and project partners having just as much fun as the children.

We visited the secondary school on Anegada and gave presentations about the project and on "Plant uses, invasives and exotics in Anegada". Project staff also lead an educational field trip with the children to look at the plants of Anegada and the threats they are under. These activities lead to the children writing a short descriptive piece on the native plants, some of which is available on the project website.

We have also been involved with the biology students at the H. Lavity Stoutt Community College and have given seminars on "Marine Turtle Conservation" and "Plant Ecology". Project staff have lead an educational field trip to Sage Mountain, Tortola as part of the "Environments in the BVI" course at the college.

3. Media

In the BVI

Over the course of this reporting period we issued four press releases in the BVI resulting in 10 national newspaper articles. Also in the BVI we achieved 7 main features on the national television VITV, four of which were the lead item on the National News, as well as 4 radio features on the national radio station.

In the UK

To date, in the UK we have issued 3 national and 3 local press releases. We have achieved press articles in the national and local press as well as some specialist media. The list of our UK press articles to date is as follows:

International Specialist Publication - On Course RBG Kew issue 7

UK Specialist Media - Newyddion issue 44

UK Specialist Media - Uni of Exeter Dept of Chemistry Newsletter, February 2004

UKOTCF Annual Report 2002/2003

UK Local Press article - The West Briton

UK National Press article - BBC news science / nature

We have also conducted two separate local radio interviews with Pirate FM and Radio Cornwall.

4. Darwin Project Newsletter

The first project newsletter "Darwin Anegada" has been circulated to every family on Anegada and local business, throughout the BVI, are freely distributing the newsletter to visiting tourists. Currently we have a circulation of 1500 copies of the newsletter in the BVI, 300 copies in the UK and 200 copies internationally. There has also been over 300 downloads of the project Newsletter from the project website.

5. Darwin Project Website

Since the launch of the project website in November 2003 we have had over 6900 visitors with over 60 individuals signing up for regular project updates. There have been over 8400 viewings of images from the Darwin Initiative project online photo library.

- *Have the outputs or proposed operational plan been modified over the last year, for what reason, and have these changes been approved by the Darwin Secretariat? (Please note that any intended modifications should be discussed with the Secretariat directly rather than making suggestions in this report).*

All objectives and milestones have been on or ahead of schedule. The only changes to outputs are the difficulties envisaged in completing 4a and 4b due to an unforeseen lack of boat facilities at HLSCC. We have made extensive efforts to redress this imbalance (2 lectures and 1 field trip with college students to date). The Darwin Secretariat has been informed and the suitability of these alternative activities has been approved.

4. Progress

- *Please provide a brief history of the project to the beginning of this reporting period. (1 para)*

For this reporting period the project has proceeded as planned with all objectives and milestones being achieved on or ahead of schedule. The project had therefore been a great success.

- *Summarise progress over the last year against the agreed baseline timetable for the period and the logical framework (complete Annex 1). Explain differences including any slippage or additional outputs and activities.*

The progress of the project over the last year has been excellent with all milestones being achieved on or ahead of schedule. The project has exceeded expectations in terms of outputs for this period (please see Appendix I for a full breakdown of outputs to date. NB this includes outputs over and above those in the agreed project bid).

- *Provide an account of the project's achievements during the last year. This should include concise discussion on methodologies and approaches by the project (e.g. research, training, planning, assessment, monitoring) and their consequences and impacts as well as results. Please **summarise** content on methodologies and approaches, and, if necessary, provide more detailed information in appendices (this may include cross-references to attached publications).*

We feel the achievements have been significant:

Research and Monitoring:

Sea Turtles

- Major involvement of local fisherman
- Completed survey of all nesting beaches
- Collected data from 104 turtles, 96 of which have been tagged and released
- Established Darwin turtle specimen reference collection

Plants

- Mapped and classified all the vegetative types for the entire coastline
- Established Darwin plant reference collection
- Established Darwin/FCOEF seed bank
- Mapped locations of endangered and invasive plants

Birds

- Surveyed all the available habitat types
- Recorded 71 species
- Established Darwin avian specimen reference collection
- Established online bird image library

Training:

- Held two Darwin Project workshops for a total of 18 people
- Raymond Walker from the BVI National Parks Trust has achieved an International Diploma in Herbarium Techniques at RBG Kew
- Clive Petrovic from H. Lavity Stoutt community College attended the 14th Regional Meeting of the Society for the Conservation and Study of Caribbean Birds

4. Arlington Pickering and Gary Frett from BVI Conservation and Fisheries Department attended the 25th International Sea Turtle Symposium 2004 in Costa Rica

Awareness raising:

- Held two public meetings
 - Held six Darwin Seminars both in the BVI and the UK
 - Visits to local schools and college giving presentations, seminars and leading educational field trips
 - In the BVI, four press releases, 10 national press articles, seven national TV features and four national radio interviews.
 - In the UK six press releases, 6 press articles, 2 local radio interviews.
 - Over 2300 copies of the newsletter circulated worldwide
 - Over 6900 visitors to the project website
- *Discuss any significant difficulties encountered during the year and steps taken to overcome them.*

It was expected that the H. Lavity Stoutt Community College would have significant boat resources available in order for the project to achieve outputs 4a and 4b. However, due to logistical and budget constraints of HLSCC this vessel has not been commissioned and there was unlikely to be such a vessel in the near future. The Darwin Secretariat has been made aware of this problem and the project has already undertaken two Darwin Seminars and a Darwin educational field Trip with the college students concerned. The project will continue to find other ways of involving and training the undergraduates.

- *Has the design of the project been enhanced over the last year, e.g. refining methods, indicators for measuring achievements, exit strategy?*

We have only now completed the first 6 month period so this is not yet applicable other than the involvement of HLSCC students as detailed above.

- *Present a timetable (workplan) for the next reporting period.*

The timetable for the next reporting period will be as negotiated:

Milestones April 2004-October 2004

Apr-04	Steering committee meeting 2	Achieved ahead of schedule
Jul-04	2 nd Darwin Newsletter 2	
Jul-04	2 nd Darwin workshop	Achieved ahead of schedule
Jul-04	Submitted 1 st Peer reviewed paper	
Oct -04	2nd year 6 month Project Report	

5. Actions taken in response to previous reviews (if applicable)

- Have you responded to issues raised in the review of your last year's annual report? Have you discussed the review with your collaborators? Briefly describe what actions have been taken as a result of recommendations from last year's review.

Not Applicable

6. Partnerships

- *Describe collaboration between UK and host country partner(s) over the last year. Are there difficulties or unforeseen problems or advantages of these relationships?*

The collaboration between the host country partner organisations (BVI Conservation and Fisheries Department, BVI National Parks Trust, Governor of the BVI, H. Lavity Stoutt Community College) and the UK partners:(Marine Turtle Research Group (University of Exeter), Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, and Royal Society for the Protection of Birds) has been excellent.

Although the majority of work is carried out during periods of intensive Darwin fieldwork when UK staff are present in the BVI, there is also additional fieldwork carried out in intervening periods. In addition, this project has managed to lever the involvement of additional partners in Steve Alton, RBG, Kew, Wakehurst Place, involved with the FCO/Darwin Initiative seed bank; Mike Gillman, Open University, who is involved in research on the role butterflies play in plant / pollinator interactions; Angela Easterling, an independent artist, Barrie Blewitt, and Pat Griggs of RBG, Kew who were all involved in creating images that will be used as part of an exhibition at the Chelsea Flower Show and in future publicity material of the project

- *Has the project been able to collaborate with similar projects (Darwin or other) in the host country or other regions, or establish new links with / between local or international organisations involved in biodiversity conservation?*

It is early days but this Darwin project has:

1. Fed genetics samples and marine turtle fishery data into the FCOEF/Defra funded Turtles in the Caribbean Overseas Territories.
2. Managed to secure the collaboration of Steve Alton from the Seed Conservation Department, RBG Kew whose is involved in the Millennium Seed Bank at Kew, Wakehurst Place. This has resulted in the establishment of a Darwin Initiative/FCO seed bank at the J.R. O'Neal Botanic Garden, Tortola, BVI.
3. Angela Easterling, an independent artist, Barrie Blewitt, and Pat Griggs both of RBG, Kew were all involved in creating images that will be used as part of an exhibition at the Chelsea Flower Show and in future publicity material of the project. It is hoped that exhibitions of Angela's work will be displayed in the BVI in the future.
4. We are also collaborating with Dr Mike Gillman from the Open University whose specific areas of research interest are butterflies and the role they play in plant / pollinator interactions. Dr Gillman identified all the butterfly species we encountered on Anegada so far and gathered data on their spatial distribution. This consisted of 17 species in total, two of which are endemic. Mike also recorded and identified a large number of different pollinators of a wide variety of plant species, including several of the Red Data Book plant species. This collaboration will enhance the multi taxa approach and add to the data to be used for the final biodiversity action plan.
5. Project partners have submitted a bid to FCO/DfID funded OTEP which will involve turtles and their habitats in a focus on promoting MEA's and the Environment Charter in the OT's. If this project is awarded then this Darwin project will harmonise with some of the planned educational outputs.

6. In addition to the Darwin Project Listserv used by personnel on this project we have, during the course of this project set up an e-mail dissemination list for those interested in this project, another for Darwin Project Officers and PI's.

7. We have also disseminated our Newsletter widely in hardcopy courtesy of UKOTCF and by online pdf. It is expected that this will help foster collaboration.

8. We are in discussions with Puerto Rican turtle researchers and US based iguana researchers about respective projects, dissemination outputs and possible collaboration.

7. Impact and Sustainability

- *Discuss the profile of the project within the country and what efforts have been made during the year to promote the work. What evidence is there for increasing interest and capacity for biodiversity resulting from the project? Is there a satisfactory exit strategy for the project in place?*

The profile of the project is exceptionally high in the host country. In the last 6 months we have achieved 7 National TV features in the host country and has been the lead item on the National News on 4 separate occasions. We have issued 4 National press releases which resulted in 10 National press articles and conducted 4 National Radio interviews. The project has also been solicited for a series of articles for the National Tourist Board Publication the *BVI Welcome*. The evidence for increasing interest and capacity for biodiversity is evidenced by additional field days in Anegada undertaken by local partners when there has been no UK partner presence in the BVI. The project has already been receiving requests from the community to work on the project and we are seeking alternative income streams to help increase this role. There have been over 6900 visitors to the project website over 8400 viewings of the pictures from our online image library. A proportion of visitors to the website have also signed up for regular project updates and our project newsletter, Darwin Anegada, has a global circulation of over 2300 copies. The exit strategy for the project is as planned.

8. Post-Project Follow up Activities (max 300 words)

This section should be completed ONLY if your project is nearing completion (penultimate or final year) and you wish to be considered to be invited to apply for Post Project Funding. *Each year, a small number of Darwin projects will be invited to apply for funding. Selection of these projects will be based on promising project work, reviews to date, and your suggestions within this section. Further information on this scheme introduced in 2003 is available from the Darwin website.*

- From project progress so far, what follow-up activities would help to embed or consolidate the results of your project, and why would you consider these as suitable for Darwin Post Project Funding?
- What evidence is there of strong commitment and capacity by host country partners to enable them to play a major role in follow-up activities?

Not Applicable

9. Outputs, Outcomes and Dissemination

- *Explain differences in actual outputs against those agreed in the initial 'Project Implementation Timetable' and the 'Project Outputs Schedule', i.e. what outputs were not or only partly achieved? Were additional outputs achieved?*

Considering that this project has only been underway for 6 months it has made remarkable progress towards output targets (Please see Appendix I for a detailed breakdown of all outputs to date). In summary the project has significantly over-achieved attaining 100% or greater of total project targets on outputs 3, 13a, 13b, 16b, 16c, 17a, 18a, 19a, and 19d. In addition, the project has achieved between 20%-90% of targets for outputs 6a, 6b, 8, 12a, 14a, 14b, 15a, 15c, 15d, and 16a. The outputs that we have not achieved yet are those that are the result of and integration of long-term efforts (e.g. 9, 11a, and 11b) and given that the project has only been underway for 6 months we would not expect to have achieved any of these outputs at present.

The only areas in which we are lacking are 4a and 4b, as mentioned above, and the Darwin Secretariat has been informed of the reasons behind this and the steps the project are taking to re-address the output imbalance.

Outputs achieved above and beyond the project proposal are as follows:

- 10 National Press Articles in BVI
- 1 Press Article in UK popular Media
- 2 Articles in UK Specialist Media
- 2 Articles in International Specialist Publications
- 2 Public Meetings in BVI
- 2 Darwin Seminars in the UK
- 1 Online Darwin Initiative Photo Library
- 1 Darwin Initiative/FCOEF Seed Bank
- 1 Darwin Initiative Plant Conservation Poster Series
- 3 Darwin Seminars the BVI
- 2 Darwin Initiative Project Educational Field Trips
- 1 Darwin Initiative Plant Common Name Competition
- 1 National Press Article in UK

- *Provide details of dissemination activities in the host country during the year, including information on target audiences. Will dissemination activities be continued by the host country when the project finishes, and how will this be funded and implemented?*

Members from each of the project partner organisations (28 individuals in total) are part of a dissemination network involved in all aspects of the running of the project.

The project has established a website, which has had over 6900 visitors so far, on which visitors can sign up for regular updates on the projects progress. Over 60 individuals have signed up to date. There has been over 100 downloads of the bird list, over 8400 viewings of images from the Darwin Initiative project online photo library and over 300 downloads of the project Newsletter. The newsletter has also been circulated to every family on Anegada and local business, throughout the BVI, are freely distributing the newsletter to visiting tourists.

The project has also been targeting the schoolchildren of the BVI and several school visits have already taken place, with more planned for the future. Darwin seminars to the local college undergraduates, local interest groups, and the general public have also taken place throughout the BVI.

All images and materials produced during the project are being stored online and presented on CD's to local biodiversity professionals to allow them to further disseminate the information in the future.

- Please expand and complete Table 1. **Quantify** project outputs over the last year using the coding and format from the Darwin Initiative Standard Output Measures (see website for details) and give a brief description. Please list and report on appropriate Code Nos. only. The level of detail required is specified in the Guidance notes on Output Definitions, which accompanies the List of Standard Output Measures

Table 1. Project Outputs (According to Standard Output Measures)

Code No.	Quantity	Description
3	1	Number of people to attain other qualifications
4A	0	Number of undergraduate students to receive training *
4B	0	Number of training weeks to be provided
6A	18	Number of people to receive other forms of education/training
6B	18	Number of training weeks to be provided
8	32	Number of weeks to be spent by UK project staff on project work in the host country
9	0	Number of species/habitat management plans (or action plans) to be produced for Governments, public authorities, or other implementing agencies in the host country
11A	0	Number of papers to be published in peer reviewed journals
11B	0	Number of papers to be submitted to peer reviewed journals
12A	2	Number of computer based databases to be established and handed over to the host country
13A	3	Number of species reference collections to be established and handed over to the host country(ies)
13B	1	Number of species reference collections to be enhanced and handed over to the host country(ies)
14A	7	Number of conferences/seminars/ workshops to be organised to present/disseminate findings
14B	1	Number of conferences/seminars/ workshops attended at which findings from Darwin project work will be presented/ disseminated.
15A	4	Number of national press releases in host country(ies)
15C	2	Number of national press releases in UK
15D	2	Number of local press releases in UK
16A	1	Number of newsletters to be produced
16B	1500	Estimated circulation of each newsletter in the host country(ies)
16C	300	Estimated circulation of each newsletter in the UK
17A	2	Number of dissemination networks to be established
18A	7	Number of national TV programmes/features in host country(ies)
18D	0	Number of local TV programmes/features in UK
19A	4	Number of national radio interviews/features in host county(ies)
19B	0	Number of national radio interviews/features in UK
19D	2	Number of local radio interviews/features in UK
20	0	Estimated value (£'s) of physical assets to be handed over to host country
22	>200	Number of permanent field plots to be established during the project
23	>130,000	Value of resources raised from other sources for project work

- In Table 2, provide full details of all publications and material produced over the last year that can be publicly accessed, e.g. title, name of publisher, contact details, cost. Details will be recorded on the Darwin Monitoring Website Publications Database. Mark (*) all publications and other material that you have included with this report.

Table 2: Publications

Type *	Detail	Publishers	Available from	Cost
(e.g. journals, manual, CDs)	(title, author, year)	(name, city)	(e.g. contact address, website)	£
Online	Birdlist		www.seaturtle.org/mtrg/projects/aneгада	
Online	Newsletter		www.seaturtle.org/mtrg/projects/aneгада	

10. Project Expenditure

- Please expand and complete Table 3.

Table 3: Project expenditure during the reporting period (Defra Financial Year 01 April to 31 March)

Item	Budget (please indicate which document you refer to if other than your project schedule)	Expenditure	Balance

- Highlight any recently agreed changes to the budget and explain any variation in expenditure where this is +/- 10% of the budget.

I paraphrase claim letter of 3rd March to Carrie Haloun (DI) from Mike Huggins, Accountancy Assistant, Research Accounting Section (University of Exeter). The following are worthy of note:

- Salary costs are overspent as the salary figures in the application were based on salary scales in operation at the time, but since superseded. I have had agreement from DI that the salary budget for future years can be revised in line with current pay scales.
- The overspends on the travel and printing budgets should be met from a virement from the unspent balance on the capital items budget. It should be noted that the estimated travel expenditure overspend is understated. The actual overspends are likely to be in the region of £5,500 (Dr McGowan, the Research Fellow, is in the British Virgin Islands presently), but we have opted to hold back some of these costs to meet them from the year 2 budget. The travel costs have been in excess of the year 1 budget because we have made better than expected progress on the project.

11. Monitoring, Evaluation and Lessons

- *Discuss methods employed to monitor and evaluate the project this year. How can you demonstrate that the outputs and outcomes of the project actually contribute to the project purpose? i.e. what are the indicators of achievements (both qualitative and quantitative) and how are you measuring these?*

We are only 20% of the way through the project but have made a flying start. We can measure this based on progress towards agreed Darwin output measures, the positive attitude and morale among project partners in the field; with fieldwork being carried out when UK partners are not in the BVI. The progress of the project has been assessed at 4 steering group meetings in the BVI and 2 meetings of UK project partners. All meetings are minuted, reviewed by all partners before finalisation and circulation via project e-mail listserv. On a more ad hoc basis, in Anegada we are in touch with the community through their extensive involvement with the project and are able to gauge local feeling as the project progresses.

The project is carefully designed with the project segments integrally building towards a sound Biodiversity Action Plan, given that we are very much on target based on all the building blocks of this project i.e. Darwin output measures.

- *What lessons have you learned from this year's work, and can you build this learning into future plans?*

Collaboration and consultation among local partners and local community is key. A sound media strategy yields dividends. Our press releases in BVI have been accompanied by a CD of attractive images that have been used by press and TV to illustrate stories.

12. OPTIONAL: Outstanding achievements of your project during the reporting period (300-400 words maximum)

The most outstanding achievements of this project to date have been:

1. A tremendous synergy has been created as a result of the involvement of such a diverse group of organisations in the UK and BVI. We are confident that this will ensure that this multi taxa approach of this project will be a great success.
2. Our approach to data collection and the employment of islanders in all aspects of the fieldwork has created an extensive feeling of community involvement and a willingness to help the project be successful.
3. The extensive media coverage that the promotion of biodiversity has received has been due to the broad range of project objectives in combination with effective imagery.

■ **I agree for ECTF and the Darwin Secretariat to publish the content of this section**

In this section you have the chance to let us know about outstanding achievements of your project over the year that you consider worth highlighting to ECTF and the Darwin Secretariat. This could relate to achievements already mentioned in this report, on which you would like to expand further, or achievements that were in addition to the ones planned and deserve particular attention e.g. in terms of best practice. The idea is to use this section for various promotion and dissemination purposes, including e.g. publication in the Defra Annual Report, Darwin promotion material, or on the Darwin website. As we will not be able to ask projects on an individual basis for their consent to publish the content of this section, please note the above agreement clause.

Annex 1 Report of progress and achievements against Logical Framework for Financial Year: 2003/2004

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2003-Mar 2004	Actions required/planned for next period
<p>Goal: To draw on expertise relevant to biodiversity from within the United Kingdom to work with local partners in countries rich in biodiversity but poor in resources to achieve</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The conservation of biological diversity, • The sustainable use of its components, and • The fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilisation of genetic resources 			
<p>Purpose Carry out an assessment of the coastal biodiversity of Anegada and create the capacity for its future monitoring and conservation, increase environmental awareness</p>	<p>Increased knowledge of the patterns of biodiversity of Anegada.</p> <p>Effective management of biodiversity in Anegada</p>	<p>Knowledge greatly increased for all taxa</p>	<p>Fieldwork going very well</p>
Outputs			
<p>Two partner organisations able to undertake long-term monitoring & management of the biodiversity of Anegada</p>	<p>Minimum of 15 staff from 2 partner organisations trained in key biodiversity assessment techniques</p>	<p>Fieldwork underway</p> <p>2 workshops completed</p> <p>2 attendees at international training events</p>	<p>Generally going well.</p> <p>Expensive to operate so careful planning of UK partner fieldwork to optimise spend will be needed</p>
<p>Greatly enhanced knowledge of key biodiversity elements in Anegada</p>	<p>Habitat maps, Population assessments of key species</p>	<p>Habitat maps underway</p> <p>Population assessments underway</p>	<p>As planned</p>
<p>Publications and Presentations</p>	<p>Computer databases, biodiversity action plan, peer reviewed papers, conference presentations, website, conference, research seminars, press releases and articles, radio items, newsletter; teachers</p>	<p>4 databases established and shared with local partners</p> <p>Website established</p>	<p>Continue as planned</p>

	educational pack	Seminar series underway Numerous press releases and articles Newsletter distributed First 25 teachers educational pack distributed	
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Note: Please do NOT expand rows to include activities since their completion and outcomes should be reported under the column on progress and achievements at output and purpose levels.

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Appendix 1 Outputs of project up to 30th April 2004

Output Code	Specifics	Total No. required in 2.5 years	No. Achieved by 31 March 04	% Achieved by 31 March 04
3	Number of people to attain other qualifications (ie. Not outputs 1 or 2 above) *	1	1	100
4A	Number of undergraduate students to receive training *	20		0
4B	Number of training weeks to be provided	40		0
6A	Number of people to receive other forms of education/training (which does not fall into categories 1-5 above) *	20	18	90
6B	Number of training weeks to be provided	40	18	45
8	Number of weeks to be spent by UK project staff on project work in the host country	96	32	33
9	Number of species/habitat management plans (or action plans) to be produced for Governments, public authorities, or other implementing agencies in the host country	1		0
11A	Number of papers to be published in peer reviewed journals	6		0
11B	Number of papers to be submitted to peer reviewed journals	6		0
12A	Number of computer based databases to be established and handed over to the host country	3	2	67
13A	Number of species reference collections to be established and handed over to the host country(ies)	2	3	150
13B	Number of species reference collections to be enhanced and handed over to the host country(ies)	1	1	100
14A	Number of conferences/seminars/ workshops to be organised to present/disseminate findings	8	7	88
14B	Number of conferences/seminars/ workshops attended at which findings from Darwin project work will be presented/ disseminated.	4	1	25

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Output Code	Specifics	Total No. required in 2.5 years	No. Achieved by 31 March 04	% Achieved by 31 March 04
15A	Number of national press releases in host country(ies)	5	4	80
15C	Number of national press releases in UK	5	2	40
15D	Number of local press releases in UK	5	2	40
16A	Number of newsletters to be produced	5	1	20
16B	Estimated circulation of each newsletter in the host country(ies)	>500	1500	300
16C	Estimated circulation of each newsletter in the UK	>200	300	150
17A	Number of dissemination networks to be established	1	2	200
18A	Number of national TV programmes/features in host country(ies)	2	7	350
18D	Number of local TV programmes/features in UK	2		0
19A	Number of national radio interviews/features in host county(ies)	3	4	133
19B	Number of national radio interviews/features in UK	1		0
19D	Number of local radio interviews/features in UK	2	2	100
20	Estimated value (£'s) of physical assets to be handed over to host counrty(ies)	>3000		
22	Number of permanent field plots to be established during the project and continued after Darwin funding has ceased	>100	>200	>200
23	Value of resources raised from other sources (ie. in addition to Darwin funding) for project work	359,167	130,000	36
Additional Outputs in bid	Estimated International circulation of Newsletter	>200	200	100
	Darwin Project Website	1	1	100
	Darwin Teachers Educational Pack	100copies	25	25
	Darwin Project Literature Reference Collection	1	1	100
	Extra field days by local partners	100	71	71
Extra outputs achieved beyond bid commitments	National Press Articles in BVI		10	
	Press Articles in UK popular Media	0	1	

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Output Code	Specifics	Total No. required in 2.5 years	No. Achieved by 31 March 04	% Achieved by 31 March 04
Extra outputs achieved beyond bid commitments	Articles in UK Specialist Media	0	2	
	Articles in International Specialist Publications	0	2	
	Public Meetings	0	2	
	Darwin Seminar Series in the UK	0	2	
	Online Darwin Initiative Photo Library	0	1	
	Darwin Initiative/FCO Seedbank	0	1	
	Darwin Initiative Plant Conservation Poster Series	0	1	
	Darwin Seminar Series in the BVI	0	3	
	Darwin Initiative Project Educational Field Trips	0	2	
	Darwin Initiative Plant Common Name Competition	0	1	
	National Press Articles in UK	0	1	