

Darwin Initiative for the Survival of Species Annual Report



Steppe Forward Programme: Training Conservationists for Mongolia's Future

1. Darwin Project Information

Project Ref. Number	<i>162/12/029</i>
Project Title	<i>Steppe Forward Programme: Training Conservationists for Mongolia's Future</i>
Country(ies)	<i>Mongolia</i>
UK Contractor	<i>Zoological Society of London</i>
Partner Organisation(s)	<i>National University of Mongolia</i>
Darwin Grant Value	<i>£187,921 (£77,169 Year 1)</i>
Start/End dates	<i>1 May 2003 – 1 May 2006</i>
Reporting period (1 Apr 200x to 31 Mar 200y) and report number (1,2,3..)	<i>1 May 2003 – 31 Mar 2004 Report number 1</i>
Project website	<i>www.steppeforward.com</i>
Author(s), date	<i>Dr. Kate Oddie, Dr. Nigel Barton, 30 April 2004</i>

2. Project Background

Mongolia is a vast country containing an impressive variety of ecological zones from taiga forests and wetlands to high mountains, vast grasslands, steppe and desert, supporting a beautiful and diverse wildlife. However basic information on species biology, abundance and distribution, vital for conservation planning is sorely lacking. Unfortunately, so is the skilled manpower to assess and manage the country's wilderness and wildlife.

The programme is intended to significantly strengthen core skills and develop initiative amongst Mongolian professionals working in ecology and conservation (academic staff and park rangers), providing capacity for continued high standards of training and practical conservation projects needed in the country. A further component of the project aims to assess attitudes of local stakeholders in the Gobi towards wildlife and its use, spread awareness of wildlife and land use problems, involve local people in wildlife data collection, and encourage small-scale initiatives to diversify income from current unsustainable practices/land usage.

The Programme is intended to be a long-standing cooperative project continuing for many years. The first three years will serve as a training period for Mongolian counterparts to learn project management skills, with the aim of Mongolians ultimately managing an established programme once they have the necessary skills.

3. Project Purpose and Outputs

Purpose: The Steppe Forward Programme aims to empower Mongolians to create and manage conservation programmes by providing them with tools necessary to design and monitor their own conservation initiatives, assess wildlife populations and design ecological studies.

Outputs (see also App1: Original Logical Framework, for achievements and progress please see Annex 1 Logical Framework progress): The main output of the programme is in the form of human resources – biologists understanding of processes needed to assess wildlife distribution/abundance and design of conservation measures, and capable of implementing these studies. This is achieved informally through working with University staff and national park local offices, encouraging publication of collected field data, running a peer-reviewed scientific journal for Mongolia, and formally through three 3.5 week field courses annually (for undergrads and park rangers). We are also working on a Mongolian language version of Bill Sutherland's 'Ecological Census Techniques' field book, and a primary school wildlife book.

We aim to involve local peoples in the Gobi in conservation, through raising awareness of conservation issues and involving them directly in collection of data. We had planned to train Gobi rangers in instruction of field techniques in order to train locals as para-ecologists, generating baseline species distribution and abundance data. However, this has proved impossible to date due to obstruction by the Mongolian government. Instead we have run a workshop for secondary school teachers from rural Gobi villages, where we also distributed educational materials, in order to involve local communities in conservation activities (see also Q4 and Q9). Informal talks in southern Gobi have been initiated in order that local stakeholders analyse their own concerns over environmental and concurrent income-generation problems. One local community conservation project will be developed annually, which will likely address other development aims also, e.g. income diversification, involving where possible traditional resource use methods.

Community meetings are also held after each undergraduate ecology field course in three different geographical areas (Gobi, Hovsgol and Steppe), during which students present their field work and discuss wildlife issues with local residents.

At the University, student initiative is encouraged through the university conservation club, which runs one conservation activity and produce three newsletters annually. Students are encouraged to realise their full potential and apply for funding themselves through careers course guidance.

SFP runs an e-newsletter to inform individuals and institutions of current events pertaining to biodiversity and conservation in Mongolia, including potential job opportunities, workshops and collaborations, and preventing duplication of effort between parties. We have also established a monthly forum for conservation organisations/NGOs/researchers to meet, attend a talk, and discuss topical issues, and funding for this obtained from WCS. We encourage information dissemination through publications and presentations in order to generally raise awareness of conservation problems in Mongolia, both in-country and abroad, and to hopefully encourage collaborations.

Modifications of operational plan/outputs: The programme has got off to a very good start and we are continually adjusting and modifying according to the political situation and to maximise impact of the project given constraints:

1. Counterpart: We now hope to employ 2 Mongolian counterparts rather than one, to cope with the workload and provide support to each other. Salary for a second counterpart has been obtained from budget cutbacks and approved by DI. Finding a reasonable counterpart has proved extremely difficult because of the very problem our programme aims to address: lack of human resources, skilled personnel and initiative in Mongolia.

2. Co-operation with Mongolian government: This has proved impossible for SFP, as for all conservation organisations working in Mongolia, because of self-interest issues in the MNE - Ministry of Nature and Environment (and general disinterest of MNE staff in Mongolian environment; see Q4). Hence we have been unable to run a ranger training programme in the Gobi or co-operate with the MNE in any way. DI was notified; see also 6 month report. We are awaiting general elections this summer and hoping for change..... We have developed proposals with the mining company Ivanhoe to train a private ranger force that would in turn train local herders as para-ecologists. Ivanhoe have the financial clout to allow such training to be sanctioned by the Mongolian government. We are currently awaiting a decision from the Mongolian govt about this programme.

Instead of ranger training we ran a teacher training workshop to bring together all secondary school village teachers to the administrative capital in the Gobi, and teach ecology, environmental problems and solutions, teaching methodology and provide educational materials and classroom teaching aids. Some park rangers also attended.

3. Field course dates and attendants: Field courses will now be held in June, July and August, rather than April, July and August, since the University has semesterised to 2 x 16 week terms. We still plan 3 x 3.5 week field courses per year. No field course was held in July 03 due to the late announcement of DI funding, by which time all flights to Mongolia in July were booked (so the UK lecturers lined up could not attend). DI was notified; see also 6 month report.

Both Mongolian and UK University staff advised to keep student numbers to a maximum of 20, which would enhance training. Local National Park authorities were very keen to participate but might not always be able to send 5 rangers per course since rangers have other duties, particularly in summer months.

4. Publication dates for Mongolian Journal of Biological Sciences (MJBS): These were changed from March and September to January and June, in order to avoid trying to get papers refereed and articles ready for publication over summer months, when many biologists (authors and referees) are in the field themselves. DI was notified; see also 6 month report.

5. Gobi community work and surveys: Three meetings were held with local administrative officials in Nomgon town, Gobi. Regarding generation of local projects, we are working with IPECON NGO who have successful experience establishing similar initiatives in other areas of Mongolia. SFP hope to draw on this experience and we have developed proposals for additional funding submitted for a Whitely Award (£10,000 - £60,000). The projects to be developed will be decided by the stakeholders themselves, with SFP in a facilitatory role; local ownership in this way ensures greater chances of project success and sustainability.

6. Replacement of Project Leader (PL): In Nov 03 the PL became very ill and in Dec returned to UK for medical treatment. Due to the long-running nature of the illness Dr. Nigel Barton (already 50% working on project) took over as PL from Dr. Kate Oddie. DI were informed of this change, and the project is continuing as before. Dr. Oddie hopes to return to Mongolia and the project at the end of 2004 but for now must remain in UK.

6. Student careers course: This has been cancelled this year as the PL became seriously ill. The course will be run in year 2, and we hope to run a replacement course in 2005 for MNU staff rather than students. DI has been notified.

7. Publication date for primary school wildlife book. This has been delayed, again due to illness of the PL, since the book is half completed. It is now scheduled for completion in project year 2. DI has been notified.

4. Progress

Mongolia is one of the last areas on earth of vast wilderness, in past safeguarded from detrimental unsustainable practices by traditional herding methods. Soviet domination for 70 years (1920-1990) collectivised peoples and essentially removed these traditional practices. Since the collapse of communism in 1991 the country has been adjusting to a free market economy which has brought new pressures on an otherwise isolated land. These most prominent problems are over-grazing, illegal poaching of wildlife, unsustainable forest use and unregulated mining. Another significant problem is the lack of a trained, skilled workforce in order to investigate and research wildlife and environmental biology, and generate plans for environmental safeguarding. The SFP was developed in order to address this problem using an approach of skills transfer that would have a lasting impact.

The programme has achieved a tremendous amount in just one year, in a country with extremely difficult physical and political working environments. We have established a dedicated and enthusiastic steering committee at the University and good working links with the regional national parks offices, who receive little input either financially or otherwise from central government. A great deal of capital items have been purchased and donated and an SFP offices and garages with 4 field vehicles established within the University. We are training students, rangers, teachers and counterparts and have forged links with many other NGOs operating in Mongolia, organising monthly meetings and regular communication through the MongolBioweb e-newsletter. Publications are also being developed.

Progress over last year: See also Annex 1 Logical Framework Progress.

For slippage or additional outputs and activities, see Q9

Date	Milestone (from DI proposal)	Report on milestones	Additional milestones
May 03	Field course structure and content (steering committee)	Achieved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The following meetings explained our programme aims and activities and reviewed potential collaborations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mongolian Ministry of Nature and Environment World Bank GEF Biodiversity project, to collaborate on field courses 2004 onwards WCS, just setting up country office in UB IPECON community-based conservation consultancy working in Gobi GTZ German development agency working particularly on desertification WWF World Bank Biodiversity Director for Asia, Tony Whitten (visiting) Dalanzadgad (Gobi) local national park office, to collaborate on field courses and in community project development in Gobi
Jul 03	3 wk Field course (Hovsgol) 2 nd year students	Late funding from DI resulted in no possibility to fly lecturers from UK	
Aug 03	Dalanzadgad Community meeting	Achieved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Signing of co-operative agreement in Mongolian with Gobi national park staff for community projects and biological training of park staff and locals in Gobi - Agreement from Cambs Uni Press to

			use Sutherland's Ecological Census Techniques to translate into Mongolian
Aug 03	3 wk Field course (Gobi) 3 rd year students	Achieved	
Sep 03	1 wk Ranger training and practicals, Dalanzadgad	Unable to carry out ranger training due to govt obstruction	- Development of project website
Sep 03	Dalanzadgad Community meeting and report: Assessment of needs and identification of priority projects	Development of project working with experienced staff from IPECON NGO (Initiative for People Centred Conservation). Applications for funds.	- Obtained \$600 funding from British embassy to support ecology teacher training workshop - Editorial steering committee established for Mongolian Journal of Biological Sciences
Oct 03			- Attendance at 2 day international WCS conference on sustainable hunting of Mongolian gazelle - Steering committee meeting discussing 2003 Gobi field course, improvements, incorporating SFP courses as part of curriculum to obtain financial support from University - Presentations at 2 day biology student conference about how to get ahead in biological sciences – areas for improvement for Mongolian students - Submission of grant application to support Gobi community projects to Whitley Laing Foundation
Nov 03	University Conservation Club founding meeting	Achieved	- Submission of tender to carry out ranger training in Little Gobi protected areas with funding from Ivanhoe - Three day workshop organised with Peace Corps and Environmental Education Centre (part of University) training secondary school teachers from rural villages in South Gobi

			province in ecology and ecology teaching methodology (report and evaluation supplied to DI)
Nov 03 – Mar 04	Careers course teaching CV writing, interview and application skills	Delayed due to PL illness and replacement; to be held 2005	
Dec 03	University Conservation Club meeting 2	Achieved	- First monthly meeting of 'Biobeers', a forum for all environment/conservation organisations and biologists to meet in UB – aimed to enhance knowledge of other projects and foster co-operative projects
Dec 03	Meeting with MOSTEC to approve children's book content	Delayed due to PL illness and replacement; to be published 2005	
Dec 03	Contents agreed on Ecological Field Techniques undergraduate text	Achieved	
Jan 04	Dalanzadgad Community meeting	Development of project working with experienced staff from IPECON NGO (Initiative for People Centred Conservation).	- 2 additional meetings of University Conservation Club - Attendance and presentation at Cambridge Conservation Forum - Reception evening at ZSL London for sponsors and interested parties
1 Feb 04	University Conservation Club meeting 3	Achieved	- 3 additional meetings of University Conservation Club
Feb 04	Publication of 'Maral's Adventures', wildlife story and environmental activity book for primary schools	Delayed due to PL illness and replacement; to be published 2005	- Steering committee meeting
Feb 04	Dalanzadgad Community meetings and report: Project aims, actions and monitoring	Development of project working with experienced staff from IPECON NGO (Initiative for People Centred Conservation).	- Meeting with Peace Corps, Faculty Dean and University Vice President to complete proposal for faculty to host a PC volunteer to begin in September 2004 to teach 70% English and 30% time involved in other

			environmental/community/zoology projects. The volunteer will also attend the SFP field courses to assist with language
Mar 04	Dalanzadgad Community meeting and report: Community Land use and Social Survey	Survey carried out on 60 households	- 8 desktop computers, 2 laser printers, 2 flatbed scanners, software, LCD projector, whiteboards donated by UK company received and installed at university - £1,300 shipping for above obtained from British Embassy, Mongolia
Mar 04	University Conservation Club meeting 4	Achieved	- Steering committee meeting
Apr 04	3 wk Field course (Steppes) 3rd year students	Now to be held Jun 04	- Counterpart Jargal Jamsranjav listed in final 8 applicants for a Whitley Award: in London 1 week for interviews, media meetings and talks - Steering committee meeting

SFP trained 20 undergrads and 4 park rangers in ecological field techniques on a field course with 2 foreign staff, Prof David Houston and Dr Lluís Brotons (report supplied to DI). Field course included taught lessons and a research project carried out by students in groups of three. All equipment was purchased and registered for this and future field courses, including 4 vehicles, garaging, cooking equipment, 6 laptops, 1 LCD projector, ger accommodation for kitchen, lecturing and lecturers rooms, undergraduate tents, water purifiers, as well as equipment for the SFP office. 2 cooks and 2 drivers were hired as casual staff for field courses. 6 lecturers and their flights, insurance, visas, accommodation have been organised for three field courses in Jun, Jul and Aug 2004, and 3 MNU lecturers agreed for each field course. In Nov 03 we teamed up with Peace Corps Mongolia and held a 3 day training workshop for teachers in rural villages in the Gobi, providing them with information, ideas and materials to teach ecology and environmental awareness to over 650 Gobi children. 3 meetings were held with local stakeholders in Gobi and 60 households were formally surveyed using a questionnaire approach about wildlife, land use and attitudes towards the national park. We are half way through preparing a primary school children's education book (dual English-Mongolian) and an undergraduate ecology text (Mongolian language), published issue 2 of a peer reviewed scientific journal and prepared the third issue articles for publication in June 2004. We have set up a bank transfer mechanism for subscriptions to the journal from UK, Germany, Japan and USA. Staff attended a 2 day international workshop on conservation of Mongolian gazelle. 53 notices were posted on the MongolBioweb e-newsletter and a new monthly forum to gather individuals and NGOs working in conservation in Mongolia (BioBeers) was established. 5 proposals were submitted to lever additional funding, ranging from £600 - £70,000, and £2,000 additional funding was received to date. Co-operative programmes with another NGO (IPECON) and commercial organisation (Ivanhoe) were developed, and Biobeers is run as a co-operation with the Wildlife Conservation Society USA (WCS). 8 computers, 2 laser printers, 1 LCD projector, 2 flatbed scanners, significant (40+) programmes of legal software and office furniture were acquired for the project through donation from a UK computer training company, shipping covered by the British Embassy in Mongolia. These have been donated to the university, along with several publications for the University library arranged as swaps for the Mongolian Journal of Biological Sciences (see Appendix 2). We made an agreement with the University to provide ~£4,000 per year towards field course expenses. Several newspaper articles about SFP were printed in UK and Mongolia (7) as well as a UK radio interview, poster exhibition in the British Embassy, poster exhibition at the University, and an article in the University newsletter.

Difficulties: The three most significant difficulties:

1. Mongolian disorganisation! It is extremely difficult to organise anything in Mongolia as Mongolians have a complete lack of understanding of planning anything in advance. This attitude will take an extremely long time to change and is probably a consequence of Soviet rule removing any personal initiative: people wait to be told what to do without being pro-active, and do not understand commitments, forward planning, timetables etc. Even organising a steering committee meeting can be tricky and people need to be continually chased. Leaving any organisation until the last minute may work in Mongolia, but is impossible and not acceptable for an international programme employing UK lecturers. We emphasise this attitude difference to MNU staff and counterparts in order that they are able to plan and organise field courses in the future.
2. Counterpart. See also 6 month report. It has been extremely difficult to find a skilled counterpart with a biological background to work with us. Partly this is due to the lack of initiative and organisational skills mentioned above, and partly due to the fact that whatever human resources exist are so few that they are quickly snapped up by large international NGOs such as the World Bank and UN. The levels of poverty in Mongolia are high and hence we lose out on potential counterparts who would rather work with SFP but are enticed elsewhere by salaries of US\$600-

800pcm (lecturers salary in Mongolia = US\$100pacm, our counterpart received ~US\$300). A further problem with our counterpart is that there are very few Mongolian biologists who speak good English. The general capabilities are lower than expected (see above) and hence the workload managed by Mongolians is much lower than we originally planned. Because of this we have decided to employ 2 counterparts rather than 1 – this should also help with project exit, with 2 counterparts providing support for each other rather than feeling isolated. We cut back on spending this year in order to provide extra funding for salary in years 2 and 3. This change was approved by the DI in Nov 2003. Unfortunately, one of our counterparts then became severely ill with hepatitis and hence we are again searching for another suitable counterpart, a surprisingly difficult job.

3. A government commitment to nature conservation is lacking (please treat this section with discretion). The govt Ministry of Nature and Environment (MNE) employs nobody with a background in biology, instead appointments are political/family driven. Activities are driven by self-interest with little concern for natural resources save for their acquisition by government-lead initiatives (e.g. MNE obtains funding from illegal sale of IUCN red data species, has tried to de-gazette protected area and pass bills to allow mining in protected areas etc.). MNE officials are keen to maintain power and control over activities, resources and personnel in the countryside, hence will not issue permission for ranger training or make obtaining access permits to certain areas difficult. Official funding from large international donors is unaccounted for. All of this is widely accepted but difficult to change and extremely difficult to co-operate with. Any NGOs working within Mongolia are subject to extortion of project funds by the MNE, hence we currently go about our project with as little interaction with the MNE as possible. This is obviously not an effective way to influence change, however we feel it is wise not to draw attention to the SFP for now. The MNE have already tried to close down a UN biodiversity project on the grounds that the UNDP themselves privately pocketed between US\$6 and US\$12 million allocated to the biodiversity project. They discontinued a foreign initiative to train rangers 3 years ago and will not allow any park staff to be trained by foreigners unless a hefty fee is paid. This appears to be in order that the government have control to access of resources in the countryside, particularly minerals (they have issued over 600 mining licenses now).

This is a very difficult problem to overcome, and obviously impossible for a project of our scale to battle. It is a very tricky time to be working in the environment/conservation sector in Mongolia, with some foreign staff being refused entry to the country after public declarations concerning wildlife mismanagement or poaching. For Mongolians it is even worse, with at least one academic who spoke out 'mysteriously dying', and all others losing their jobs/ being run out of the country.

Given that the SFP is making excellent progress, is hugely appreciated by the Uni and local park staff for making a significant difference in student/ranger training and knowledge, and is highly regarded by university staff and other NGOs, we feel that the best way forward is to continue to lie low and carry on with the project as we do. We hope for a change of government at the general elections this year, however I opposition MPs are often jailed or exiled and there is no free press. Nearly all newspapers and TV are state controlled. This problem has been discussed amongst the 'green' community in Mongolia, and we feel it is extremely important that a foreign presence be maintained in Mongolia. Personally, SFP staff feel one way to address this problem is to increase knowledge internationally about the degradation of environment and loss of species that is supported by the Mongolian government. In future we hope to spread as much information internationally about these problems as possible (e.g. through MongolBioweb), and encourage involvement and studies in Mongolia by international conservation organisations.

Timetable (work plan) for the next reporting period.

Date	Milestone (from DI proposal)	New Milestone plan
Apr 04	3 wk Field course (Eastern Steppes) 1 st year students	Delayed to Jun 04
May 04	University Conservation Club meeting	University Conservation Club meeting
Jun 04	Dalanzadgad Community meeting	Plans for community projects dependent on Whitley Award May 04
Jun 04		3 wk Field course (Gobi) 1 st year students
Jul 04	3 wk Field course (Hovsgol) 2 nd year students	3 wk Field course (Hovsgol) 2 nd year students
Aug 04	Dalanzadgad Community meeting	Plans for community projects dependent on Whitley Award May 04
Aug 04	3 wk Field course (Gobi) 3 rd year students	3 wk Field course (Steppes) 3 rd year students
Sep 04	1 week Further Ranger Training and Evaluation meeting	
Sep 04	Dalanzadgad Community meeting	Plans for community projects dependent on Whitley Award May 04
Oct 04	University Conservation Club meeting	University Conservation Club meeting
Nov 04 – Feb 05	Careers course teaching CV writing, interview and grant application skills	To Feb - Apr 05
Dec 04	University Conservation Club meeting	University Conservation Club meeting
Dec 04	Dalanzadgad Community meeting and project monitoring	Plans for community projects dependent on Whitley Award May 04
Jan 05	University Conservation Club meeting	University Conservation Club meeting
Feb – Apr 05		Careers course teaching CV writing, interview and application skills
Feb 05	Dalanzadgad Community meeting, project monitoring and report	Plans for community projects dependent on Whitley Award May 04
Feb 05	Publication of Ecological Field Techniques book	Publication of Ecological Field Techniques book
Apr 05		CV writing and grant applications course for MNU staff
May 05		Publication of primary school wildlife story/exercise book

Additionally:

- Monthly Biobeers meetings
- We are currently seeking funding to produce a Mongolian Bird Guide
- We are arranging ranger training with Ivanhoe mining company, pending agreement with the Ministry of Nature and Environment

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

Not applicable.

6. Partnerships

We have enjoyed a very successful collaboration with the MNU, who are extremely supportive of our programme and demonstrate this not only in giving their time, but also providing us with office space and facilities and pledging £4,000 annually (more than half of the faculty budget) to support our field courses. The project is also collaborating with IPECON to develop people-led conservation initiatives in the Gobi, with Ivanhoe mines to develop ranger training, and with a World Bank biodiversity project in Hovsgol, whose researchers will help to teach on our 2nd year field course. We are also placing students with RSPB/WCS surveys this summer. The project directly links many organisations and individual biologists working within and outwith Mongolia through running the e-newsletter MongolBioweb, and by organising the new BioBeers conservation forum. The project is well recognised within Mongolian biology/conservation circles.

7. Impact and Sustainability

The project is well recognised within Mongolian biology/conservation circles, particularly as we are a focal point of contact for other conservation NGOs and biologists, through organisation of the MongolBioweb and Biobeers. Our work has been promoted during the year by 4 local paper articles in UK, 1 local BBC radio interview, 3 national press articles in Mongolia, 2 MongolBioweb notices about SFP activities, a 3 month poster display on Darwin Initiative at British Embassy in Mongolia, a permanent SFP notice board at the biology faculty, 2 articles about SFP activities in the University Newsletter, a talk at ZSL for sponsors in London presentations at conferences at Oxford University and Cambridge Conservation forum (copies of all articles supplied to Darwin). Reports from our field course and teacher training have been supplied to ZSL, DI and 'The Resource Centre' in Mongolia, a library and information sourcing room for environment and conservation in Ulaan Baatar. Informally we have spoken with many NGOs and individuals working in Mongolia, and emailed many UK staff about the SFP programme as potential UK lecturers.

Direct evidence for increasing interest and capacity for biodiversity is difficult to find. Conservation club activities are going well and feedback from field courses and teacher training (included in reports) was extremely positive. We also receive quite a few enquiries from overseas biologists as to the possibility of working in Mongolia and whether we might be able to assist them with field work. Mongolia is at such a very basic stage with wildlife conservation that it will be a huge job to develop skilled manpower and the will to stand up and tackle conservation problems. As expressed before, we consider a foreign presence in Mongolia not only vital directly through our training activities, but also through raising awareness of environmental/conservation problems amongst Mongolians and bringing the government under the international spotlight.

This year we will begin developing an exit strategy by planning expenditure required to continue the field courses after DI funding ceases, ascertaining revenue needed to be generated through foreign students fees when attending field courses.

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

Not applicable.

9. Outputs, Outcomes and Dissemination

For actual outputs against those agreed in the initial outputs in the proposal, please see the table below:

Date	Outpt No.	Planned in proposal	Actual Outputs
Apr 03	15C	1 national press release in UK	Press releases to Times, Telegraph, Independent, Guardian – none taken up. 1 news article on BBC web-page
Apr 03	15D	1 local press release in UK	4 newspaper articles: Worcs Evening News, Carmarthen Journal, South Wales Evening Post The Western Mail
Apr 03	19C	1 local radio interviews in UK	Jun 03 interview BBC Radio Hereford and Worcester
Apr 03	U		Talk on SFP at Oxford University-British Ornithologists Union conference
Apr 03 – Apr 04	5	Training 1 Mongolian counterpart in project cycle and management, budgeting, acquisition of grants, organisation and communication skills to administer project in long-term	Training 1 counterpart Jul – Nov; unfortunately she contracted hepatitis and could no longer work Training 2 nd counterpart Sep – present Currently interviewing for new counterpart
Apr 03 – Apr 04	8	90 – 97 weeks annually spent by UK academic staff on project	93 weeks on project by UK staff (K Oddie 34 weeks; N Barton 52 weeks; 2 UK field course lecturers 7 weeks)
May 03	15A	1 national press release in Mongolia	Sep 03 - 2 Media articles in national Mongolian newspapers, 1 English, 1 Mongolian
May 03	U	Steering committee meetings and reports	Steering committee formation at NUM – very positive
May 03	23		Acquisition of free first aid kits from DFID/FCO value ~£400
Jun 03	U		Text-editing and voiceover for Mongolian National University promotional video to encourage foreign collaborations
Jun 03	U	Introductory seminar for other NGOs, govt organisations and consultants in Mongolia	Individual meetings with Mongolian Ministry of Nature and Environment, World Bank GEF Biodiversity project, WCS, IPECON community-based conservation consultancy, GTZ German development agency working particularly on desertification, WWF, World Bank Biodiversity Director for Asia, Gobi local national park office, to collaborate on field courses and in community project development in Gobi
Jul 03	U	1 community meeting after each field course where students present their work to locals.	July field course cancelled due to delayed DI funding approval
Jul 03	4A/4B 5C/5C 6A/6B	Annual 3.5 wk Field course (Hovsgol) for 25-28 2 nd year students and at least 2 MNU lecturers and 5 national park rangers (i.e. 10.5 weeks total)	

Jul 03	U		One week trip to Hovsgol field site to meet national park director and staff and make co-operative agreement; view field site and meet with World Bank GEF researchers
Aug 03	U	Community meetings with Gobi locals to supervisor rangers training locals as para-ecologists and to establish, develop and monitor local community conservation projects in the Gobi	Signing of co-operative agreement in Mongolian with Gobi national park staff for community projects and biological training of park staff and locals in Gobi
Aug 03	U	1 community meeting after each field course where students present their work to locals.	Aug course held in Gobi and students presentations in Nomgon town 18 students plus 4 park rangers trained
Aug 03	4A/4B 5C/5C 6A/6B	Annual 3.5 wk Field course (Gobi) for 25-28 3 rd year students and at least 2 MNU lecturers and 5 national park rangers (i.e. 10.5 weeks total)	
Aug 03	U	Students field course reports	From July course, therefore not completed
Sep 03	6A/6B	1 week Ranger training and practicals, Dalanzadgad, for 5-10 park rangers	Unable to complete due to lack of co-operation with Ministry. Submitted proposal to Ivanhoe mines to co-operate on training Gobi rangers and locals as para-ecologists
Sep 03	6A/6B	3 day supervised course where rangers train locals to collect biodiversity data throughout the year rangers will train locals, but unsupervised by project staff	
Sep 03	U	Students field course reports	Aug 03 course student write-ups completed and included in field course report
Sep 03	U	Biannual publication of the Mongolian Journal of Biological Sciences, a peer-reviewed scientific journal, ISSN registered	Moved to Jan 04
Sep 03	U	Community meetings with Gobi locals to supervisor rangers training locals as para-ecologists and to establish, develop and monitor local community conservation projects in the Gobi	Meeting with Nomgon town administrative officials
Sep 03 – Jun 04	5	Informal guidance on scientific methods, experimental design and data analysis Techniques to academic staff at MNU (at least 7 staff members)	Continuing, particularly encouraging analysis and writing of scientific articles
Oct 03	U		Launch of project website
Oct 03	U		Presentation at 2 day biology student conference
Oct 03	U		Steering committee meeting
Oct 03 – Jan 04	U		Poster exhibition on Darwin Initiative at British Embassy, Ulaan Baatar
Oct 03	U		Establishment of permanent SFP/Darwin poster board at Mongolian Nat. University
Nov 03	6A		Three day workshop training secondary

			school teachers from rural villages in South Gobi province in ecology and ecology teaching methodology; working with Peace Corps and Environmental Education Centre (part of MNU)
Nov 03	15A	1 national press release in Mongolia	Completed, Dec article in Mongol Messenger
Nov 03	19A	1 national radio interview in Mongolia	Solicited, no response
Nov 03	15B		Article in Mongolian National University magazine
Nov 03	U	Steering committee meetings and reports	Was in Oct 03
Nov 03 – Feb 04	4A/4B	70 undergraduates annually to receive training in CV writing, interview and application skills and sourcing funding, 10 week course 2 hrs per week	Not completed due to PL illness
Dec 03	U	Community meetings with Gobi locals to supervisor rangers training locals as para-ecologists and to establish, develop and monitor local community conservation projects in the Gobi	Proposal developed with Ivanhoe mines for US\$120,000 of funding from Ivanhoe, must first be approved by Ministry
Jan 04	U		Publication of Mongolian Journal of Biological Sciences, a peer-reviewed scientific journal, ISSN registered
Jan 04	U		Reception evening at ZSL for sponsors and interested parties
Jan 04	14B		Attendance and oral + poster presentation at Cambridge Conservation Forum
Jan 04	U		Meeting with World Bank and AC Black publishers to collaborate in producing a field guide to the Birds of Mongolia; AC Black will provide plates
Feb 04	7	Publication of 'Maral's Adventures', wildlife story and environmental activity book for primary schools; 80 pages in colour 1000 copies	Not completed due to PL illness Now due May 05
Feb 04	15A 15B	1 national press release in Mongolia	Press release, 0 resulting articles Article in Mongolian National University magazine
Feb 04	16A/1 6B	University conservation club newsletter, 7 copies total 100 copies to circulate in capitol, notably university and schools	UCC poster production for litter campaign
Feb 04	U	Community meetings with Gobi locals to supervisor rangers training locals as para-ecologists and to establish, develop and monitor local community conservation projects in the Gobi	Awaiting approval from Ministry
Feb 04	U		Steering committee meeting
Feb 04	23		Acquisition of several items of equipment from previous DI project operating in Mongolia now discontinued, value £3,000
Feb 04	23		Memorandum of Understanding between

			National University of Mongolia, SFP and ZSL signed, with MNU agreeing to contribute £4,000 annually
Feb 04	U		Application to Peace Corps for volunteer to teach English and some biology for 2 years at MNU
Feb 04	23		Receipt of 48 DVDs (free of charge) dubbed in Mongolian from BBC World series on environmental and wildlife issues for use in community and conservation club work. Donated by Roots and Shoots, value £670
Mar 04	11B	Submission of 1 peer-reviewed paper on Gobi community surveys	3 week field trip to Gobi to collect community surveys
Mar 04	U	Biannual publication of the Mongolian Journal of Biological Sciences, a peer-reviewed scientific journal	Now due Jun 04
Mar 04	23		8 desktop computers, 2 laser printers, 2 scanners, 1 LCD projector, various software and misc. office items donated free to University from UK company, value £4,000; grant from British Embassy of £1,300 covered freight costs
Mar 04	U		One meeting of the University Conservation Club
Mar 04	U		Steering committee meeting
Apr 04	15C	1 national press release in UK	Not completed as was intended to publicise children's book publication
Apr 04	15D	1 local press release in UK	
Apr 04	14B		Presentations by counterpart during 1 week visit to London as finalist for Whitley award, including talks at Whitley Laing Foundation, ZSL and Royal Geographical Society, plus press interviews
Apr 04	U		- 4 meetings of University Conservation Club and 2 video evenings organised
Apr 04	U		- University Conservation Club tree-planting in protected area
Apr 04	U		Steering Committee meeting
Apr 04	19A	1 national radio interview in Mongolia	Not completed as was intended to publicise children's book publication
Apr 04	U	1 community meeting after each field course where students present their work to locals.	To be held Jun 04
Apr 04	4A/4B 5C/5C 6A/6B	Annual 3.5 wk Field course (Eastern Steppes) 25-28 1 st year students and at least 2 MNU lecturers and 5 national park rangers (i.e. 10.5 weeks total)	
May 03 – May 04	17B	60 notices on MongolBioweb e-newsletter	53 notices sent out

Additional outputs (Darwin output no. in brackets):

- (17A) Biobeers: Monthly forum for conservationists/biologists working in Mongolia, talk followed by social gathering to raise awareness of problems, pool resources and encourage collaborations
- (23; value £700) Free staff member on field course in 2004, USA academic Dr Barry Rosenbaum interested in developing field courses in Mongolia for foreign students/integrating Mongolian students
- (23) Extra time on project by UK staff: Dr Nigel Barton originally to work 20% time, worked 100% time
- (U) Dissemination of educational materials (4 books and several posters) to rural schools in the Gobi
- (U) Development of proposal to produce bird guide for Mongolia
- (23, value £1,000) Journal exchanges with Mongolian Journal of Biological Sciences and private subscriptions to 5 scientific journals for University library, see appendix 2

Information on the SFP programme itself was disseminated during talks with individual NGOs, Biobeers talks, through the website, notice boards at MNU at British embassy and through public media. The University Conservation Club is disseminating information about litter through its activities, the target audience being the general population.

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

Code No.	Quantity	Description
		See table above
4A	18	Undergraduates
4B	3	Weeks
5	5 + 2	academic staff + counterparts trained
6A	4 + 17	Rangers + school teachers
6B	21 + 3	Days
8	93	Weeks spent on project by UK staff
14B	2 + 2	Conference attendances with presentations + other presentations in London
15A	3	Articles
15B	2	Articles
15C	1	Article
15D	1	Article
16A	2	Educational poster
16B	50	No poster circulated
17A	1	New dissemination network Biobeers
17B	1	Continued existing network MongolBioweb
19C	1	Radio interview local BBC
23	15,070	£ donated in kind to project (£400 + £3,000 + £4,000 + £670 + £4,000 + £1,300 + £700 + £1,000)

Table 2: Publications

Type *	Detail	Publishers	Available from	Cost £
(e.g. journals, manual, CDs)	(title, author, year)	(name, city)	(e.g. contact address, website)	
Journal	Mongolian Journal of Biological Sciences, Vol 1 Issue 2	Admon, Ulaan Baatar	Editors B Bayartogtokh & N Barton, Mongolian National University, Biology Faculty, Ikh surguuliin gudamj 1, PO Box 46/377, Ulaan Baatar 210646, Mongolia	Annual subs for 2 issues: US\$25 (approx £15)

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

Item	Budget	Expenditure	Balance

Approved changes: DI agreed to carry forward £5,147 from first year funding to second (£2183) and third (£3009) years for extra funding for Mongolian counterpart staff

11. Monitoring, Evaluation and Lessons

Regular steering committee meetings have monitored field course content, structure and discussed course improvements following the course. Students and foreign staff all completed questionnaires following the field course and these were discussed by the steering committee and presented in the field course report (supplied to DI). The success of the field course is also demonstrated by the financial commitment now made by the university in contributing to course costs, by the university officially crediting the course as teaching hours for lecturers, and by the fact that students from the course have now been selected to accompany RSPB/WCS survey teams in the field this summer. Similarly, questionnaires were completed by teachers at the end of the teaching workshop and the whole workshop evaluated – this report was also supplied to DI.

SFP counterpart has received formal appraisal of her work following 3 months and will undergo further written appraisals at 12 months in order to determine her progress/assure targets hit/select areas for development.

The conservation club has produced outputs and recent attendance at their video evenings, 50-60 people, demonstrates participants interest. Likewise, the new Biobeers meetings appear to be successful given that between 40 and 75 individuals attend monthly. The MongolBioweb is generating increasing interest as more messages are posted out.

These all demonstrate support for the general purpose of the project, to transfer skills to Mongolians in order that they can create and manage biology projects and conservation programmes. Development of human resources is a goal which obviously requires years of input and is long term, therefore measurable indicators of achievement are not always immediate or obvious. The programme is being constantly tweaked and refined to adapt to an extremely difficult working environment, and we are learning to overcome the difficulties mentioned in Q4. We consider the project has got off to an excellent start in achieving its purpose.

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</p> <p>To build capacity for Mongolians to create their own conservation programmes by providing them with tools necessary to design and monitor conservation initiatives, assess wildlife populations and design ecological studies</p>	<p>Mongolian undergraduates and rangers independently develop ecology projects and use data to successfully design and implement conservation measures. At least 2 projects initiated per year refereed by international scientists</p>	<p>This seems a long-term goal, to get students (indeed even Uni staff) and rangers to this level of independent capability.</p> <p>During this reporting period we ran one field course during which 2nd and 3rd year undergrads and 4 park rangers developed scientific projects, written up as papers in Mongolian. These students still have 1-2 more yrs of University left before the potential to begin Masters/conservation projects.</p> <p>Some park rangers are extremely interested in beginning conservation projects but receive no support from authorities (salary, capital for projects). Rangers who attended a school-teachers workshop in Gobi (Nov 03) are implementing some non-scientific projects in local community (awareness campaigns through notice boards and house-to-house visits in countryside, litter campaigns).</p>	<p>Students and rangers lack any initiative to begin own projects; students are entirely spoon-fed and are not self-starters. Most rangers are simply herders and are interested only in maintaining livelihoods, some can't read.</p> <p>We are continuing to run 3 field courses each year to train undergrads and park rangers. Hopefully this will turn out individuals capable of designing their own projects after 2 or 3 yrs of field courses and how to find grants.</p> <p>We also hope UK lecturers teaching on field course will be encouraged to begin projects in Mongolia, using Mongolian students. Dr Barton has arranged 3 teams of RSPB employees to come to Mongolia May – Sept 2004 for bird surveys, each taking a Mongolian student with them.</p> <p>The most beneficial, eye-opening training would be for Mongolian students to visit as research assistants on foreign projects.</p>
		<p>SFP ran workshop to train 18 schoolteachers from Gobi region in ecology, environmental awareness and sustainability, as well as teaching techniques for these subjects.</p>	<p>This teacher's workshop was extremely successful and is a very good way to reach a wide audience – not only all the children they teach but also parents of these kids. We hope to repeat it annually.</p>

	Baseline data on species and habitats collected	Few data are collected during field course projects. These are not yet of publishable standard.	Continue to teach the importance of and methods for writing scientific papers – not just for undergrads but for MNU staff themselves. Teach course for academics on how to obtain funding, and help with applications.
	Effective community schemes and implementation of measures for sustainable resource use. 1 community conservation project per year initiated	Several informal talks with administrative staff in focal Gobi town have taken place, as well as a formal survey of 60 households in Feb 2004. Schoolchildren in town (Nomgon) carried out a recycling programme over summer 2003. Slowly locals are becoming aware of environmental issues and their link to resource use and sustainable livelihoods. A very successful programme initiating community-led income diversification, addressing sustainable resource use and trying to work with National Park authorities has been set up elsewhere in Mongolia. We have been working with the organisers (IPECON – initiative for people centred conservation) to transfer skills from this programme to our focal Gobi area, as this seemed a very efficient way to promote similar groups and activities in southern Gobi, drawing on prior knowledge and experience.	SFP staff has spent several weeks liaising with IPECON staff and preparing proposals, given their pre-existing experience, of how to best go about creating community projects. A proposal was submitted by the SFP Mongolian counterpart to the Whitley-Laing Foundation. The counterpart is currently in UK for interviews having been selected as one of 8 finalists for a Whitley Award (£10,000 - £60,000) to support this work. We are awaiting the outcome of this decision before pressing forward as activities will depend on scale of funding and level of collaboration of IPECON staff. SFP staff have also been liaising with Ivanhoe, a private mining company operating in Gobi to work together on a project involving locals in baseline monitoring of biotic and abiotic indexes in southern Gobi. We will continue to work on this collaboration, but Ivanhoe are waiting for govt. permission to go ahead with such a scheme.
Outputs			
MNU staff, students and National Park rangers able to design, implement and monitor conservation programmes in Mongolia	Approximately 5 MNU staff, 80 students and 15 park rangers trained annually in ecological monitoring techniques and their application	We ran one field course training 198 undergrads and 4 park rangers. It was very successful and report and evaluation was supplied to DI. We ran only 1 of 3 field courses in the first period because (a) MNU semesterised so	Field courses will now all be held in summer instead of 1 in April and 2 in summer. The April 2004 field course will be held instead in June 2004. Three field courses are scheduled and already organised for June, July and Aug 2004.

		<p>there was no possibility of an April 2004 field course, and (b) Darwin funding was confirmed so late that we were unable to obtain tickets for foreign lecturers for July 2004 field course.</p>	<p>Both MNU and foreign lecturers have suggested 20 students as an absolute maximum to enhance learning, hence annually 60 students will be trained.</p> <p>National Parks will release 4 rangers per field course, hence 12 park rangers will be trained.</p> <p>MNU staff are reluctant to attend field courses since they can work for better pay over summer for NGOs/visiting researchers, or are carrying out their own research. This problem has been overcome by the MNU counting field courses as official hours of teaching for lecturers and providing reasonable salary. 1 lecturer will attend each course annually, and at least one further will organise running of courses, i.e. at least 4 MNU staff involved annually.</p>
<p>Establishment of regular and ongoing field course programme in ecology for undergrads and rangers</p>	<p>Participation in field course development by MNU and National Park staff steering committee</p>	<p>June 03, Oct 03, Jan 04, Mar 04 steering committee meetings at Uni to develop programme, identify weak areas in biology training, organise field courses.</p> <p>Very successful involvement of University, who are extremely grateful for external input given their own isolation and lack of resources and training.</p>	<p>Continue to develop field courses integrating MNU staff. Staff are currently helping with logistical organisation for 2004 courses, e.g. vehicle registration, student and staff selection, capital goods procurement and repair, casual staff employment (cooks, drivers) – i.e. how to organise future courses. For 2005 field courses we may involve MNU staff in recruitment of UK lecturers (demonstrate time scale and organisation required – usually appallingly underestimated).</p>
<p>Community awareness of ecology and conservation needs</p>	<p>Community meetings before and after field courses</p>	<p>Aug and Sep 04 held meetings with local town administration in Gobi before field course to explain course and after course for students to demonstrate their project work and talk about local conservation problems. The children particularly enjoyed learning about wildlife; all present</p>	<p>Extremely difficult to organise without a permanent presence in town! No commitment to agreed times or meeting places, a laissez-faire attitude omnipresent in Mongolia. Still we managed it and will continue this for all field courses, with more posters about town beforehand.</p>

		<p>were extremely happy to see something new and interesting in town.</p> <p>A great personal development activity - gave students confidence in public speaking.</p>	
MNU students and rangers are able to train local herders to act as para-ecologists collecting biodiversity data	Data collected by community groups	5 meetings with IPECON NGO and 3 meetings with Ivanhoe private mining company to develop plans for this.	<p>We are awaiting govt decision in summer 2004 to allow this to go ahead.</p> <p>To date we have been refused permission to train Gobi rangers directly by the Ministry for Nature and Environment, who insist SFP pays the government considerable sums to train rangers. See Q4 above.</p>
Gobi communities able to set up and run own conservation/alternative income initiatives	200 questionnaires collected on community needs and data analysed by rangers. 4 yearly meeting weeks with Gobi communities resulting in 1 local conservation project annually	<p>60 questionnaires collected to date in Feb 04. Data will be analysed by SFP counterpart with help from SFP staff.</p> <p>3 meetings with Gobi communities taken place but mainly with administrative authorities.</p> <p>Children of Nomgon school ran recycling initiative over summer 2003, cleaning up town and accumulating debris, particularly plastics.</p>	<p>Rangers are not capable of analysing data, and are better not involved in questionnaires as some individuals do not trust park authorities (e.g. giving data on stocking densities).</p> <p>Local conservation project will be decided upon by stakeholders themselves. This will be carried out in conjunction with IPECON consultants who have experience in working with such communities in other parts of Mongolia. We are awaiting a grant outcome on 3 May 2004 to determine funding for this programme component before beginning.</p>
MNU students able to source funding and successfully apply for conservation project grants	Undergrads successfully obtain funding or placements for biology projects, particularly in Mongolian National Parks	Dr Barton has arranged for 3 students to accompany 3 RSPB/WCS survey teams in Mongolia in summer 2004, a project run by WCS Mongolia. Students have not found funding themselves.	<p>It will take a long time for this level of self-sufficiency to develop, not only amongst students but also MNU staff. This follows decades of hand-outs and state managed communist systems that removed personal empowerment and destroyed initiative.</p> <p>A course in CV and grant-writing skills and personal development for undergrads was cancelled this year due to SFP staff illness. This course will be run in 2004,</p>

			and additionally we plan to replace the 2003 course with a similar one but aimed at MNU academic staff .
MNU students able to initiate and run own conservation projects, particularly with schools in the capital	2 conservation projects run and 3 conservation newsletters produced annually by students	<p>Litter campaign by MNU students, linked with Ulaan Baatar schools initiated.</p> <p>Video evenings initiated showing Attenborough DVDs through LCD projector – very popular, educational and a good way to enthuse students. Even staff attended (attending n=50-60). A way for the club to generate revenue, teaching them club organisation and budgeting.</p> <p>Apr 04 tree planting in Bogd Khan national park.</p> <p>New project being developed is use of MNU undergrads to teach ecology to lamas, who have requested to learn some ecology. A potentially good way to disseminate conservation information to public, through spiritual leaders.</p> <p>2 posters about club rather than newsletters printed.</p>	<p>Students had many good ideas but many lacked motivation and commitment to carry them out. They need constant attention and encouragement and cannot yet maintain group activities independently. Mongolians are too used to being organised by a higher authority (teachers, the state etc) and it's extremely difficult to get them to function autonomously.</p> <p>Conservation club will continue next year as planned.</p>
Primary school environmental story and exercise book produced and distributed	Publishers (Admon), publication date (Mar 2004) and distributors (Min of Science, Tech., Education and Culture) established. 800 copies produced/distributed	<p>Book half written.</p> <p>Publication delayed due to illness of PL and PL staff change.</p>	Book progressing well, will now be completed and published in 2005.
Ecology field techniques core text produced	Publishers (Admon), publication date (Mar 2005) established, distribution within MNU. 500 copies produced/distributed	<p>Book half written.</p> <p>Agreement by Bill Sutherland and Cambridge University Press obtained to translate 'Ecological Census Techniques' at no copyright cost.</p>	<p>Due for completion spring 2005.</p> <p>Difficulty in translation as many terms non-existent in Mongolian, hence many academics now collaborating on proof-reading/improving translations.</p>
Scientific journal for biology in Mongolia published	2 peer-reviewed issues of Mongolian Journal of Biological Sciences produced annually	<p>Issue 1 published Mar 03 (outwith SFP)</p> <p>Issue 2 published Dec 03.</p> <p>Issue 3 to be published Jun 04.</p>	A full time job getting articles in! Finally the collaborating MNU staff are realising that peer-reviewed actually means they must send the manuscripts out for refereeing. Still no appreciation of forward

		<p>Set up accounts (several currencies) to receive subscriptions so journal can receive some self-financing.</p> <p>Receipt of several other journals, bulletins and publications for Uni library through swapping with MJBS (e.g. Oryx, Biological Conservation, World Birdwatch, National Parks, conference proceedings etc.)</p> <p>Set up steering committee specifically for journal.</p>	<p>planning – i.e. articles must be sent in at least 4 months before publication – but realisation through example might take time.</p> <p>Publication dates changed from Mar and Sep to Jan and Jun to avoid problems of refereeing ms's over summer when many academics in field. Still 2 issues per year planned.</p>
<p>e-newsletter providing communication forum for all biology/environment/conservation bodies (govt, NGO, institutes, individuals) working in Mongolia</p>	<p>60 notices annually distributed to over 100 already established subscribers</p>	<p>53 notices distributed May 03 – present. 30 new subscribers.</p> <p>SFP initiated new conservation forum – Biobeers, a monthly meeting with format talk followed by social, to encourage distribution of information on environmental matters and collaborations between parties (NGOs, academies, universities, government, consultants etc.) operating in Mongolia. WCS Mongolia collaborate, providing funds for venue and beers. 5 meeting to date from Dec 03 – Apr 04.</p>	<p>MongolBioweb going very well and will continue as usual.</p> <p>Biobeers has been a great success and will also continue monthly. A big problem in Mongolia is many agencies acting independently and non-exchange of information, skills and ideas.</p>
<p>Publications and presentations</p>	<p>6 peer-reviewed scientific articles from field data (first by Jun 2004); 2 radio and 2 newspaper articles per year; 1 annual presentation and report to other NGOs working in Mongolia; 2 articles in popular magazines and 2 public presentations annually</p>	<p>0 peer-reviewed scientific articles from field courses.</p> <p>4 articles in local UK papers.</p> <p>3 articles in national Mongolian papers.</p> <p>Interview on local UK BBC radio.</p> <p>2 articles in Mongolian National University official newsletter</p> <p>Establishment of permanent SFP/Darwin poster board at Mongolian National University</p>	<p>Peer-reviewed scientific articles will be a long time coming given the lack of comprehension of the importance of publication and current haphazard data collection methods. This will be emphasised in the 2005 course for academics on CV writing and grant application.</p>

		4 month poster exhibition on Darwin Initiative at British Embassy, Ulaan Baatar Individual presentations and reports of SFP to 6 other NGOs in Mongolia Talk for sponsors and interested parties at ZSL, London	
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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.

APPENDIX 1: ORIGINAL LOGICAL FRAMEWORK

Please enter the details of your project onto the matrix using the note at Annex B of the Guidance Note.

Project summary	Measurable indicators	Means of verification	Important assumptions
<p>Goal:</p> <p>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</p> <p>To build capacity for Mongolians to create their own conservation programmes by providing them with tools necessary to design and monitor conservation initiatives, assess wildlife populations and design ecological studies</p>	<p>Mongolian undergraduates and rangers independently develop ecology projects and use data to successfully design and implement conservation measures. At least 2 projects initiated per year refereed by international scientists</p>	<p>Independent field projects established. Ecological field techniques text in use</p>	<p>Undergrads and rangers use new knowledge and text book to develop field programmes in conservation</p>
	<p>Baseline data on species and habitats collected</p>	<p>Field reports and publications</p>	<p>Students and rangers actively participate in courses, locals become involved in data collection</p>
	<p>Effective community schemes and implementation of measures for sustainable resource use. 1 community conservation project per year initiated</p>	<p>Community residents working as para-ecologists. Project reports and records of meetings</p>	<p>Motivation amongst communities to create jobs, income and protect environment</p>
<p>Outputs</p> <p>MNU staff, students and National Park rangers able to design, implement and monitor conservation programmes in Mongolia</p> <p>Establishment of regular and ongoing field course programme in ecology for undergrads and rangers</p> <p>Community awareness of ecology and conservation needs</p> <p>MNU students and rangers are able to train local herders to act as para-ecologists collecting biodiversity data</p>	<p>Approximately 5 MNU staff, 80 students and 15 park rangers trained annually in ecological monitoring techniques and their application</p>	<p>Field ecology course project reports and biodiversity data; field ecology course assessment reports; participants attendance and assessment records; copies sent to Darwin Initiative</p>	<p>Students and rangers attend courses, staff teach on courses, rangers continue in present employment</p>
	<p>Participation in field course development by MNU and National Park staff steering committee</p>	<p>Attendance at course development meetings and records of steering committee meetings</p>	<p>Staff incorporate new ecology teaching in curriculum and show full involvement in steering meetings</p>
	<p>Community meetings before and after field courses</p>	<p>Attendance by locals and records of meetings</p>	<p>Local herders motivated to attend meetings</p>
	<p>Data collected by community groups</p>	<p>Database established and maintained and annual project report</p>	<p>National Park rangers continue employment and are motivated to initiate local conservation projects and teach local herders</p>

Gobi communities able to set up and run own conservation/alternative income initiatives	200 questionnaires collected on community needs and data analysed by rangers. 4 yearly meeting weeks with Gobi communities resulting in 2 local conservation projects annually	Questionnaires collected and analysed. Community meeting reports. Various community activity reports depending on projects	Community members sufficiently motivated to begin new community and conservation initiatives
MNU students able to source funding and successfully apply for conservation project grants	Undergrads successfully obtain funding or placements for biology projects, particularly in Mongolian National Parks	Several undergrads entering employment with National Parks and furthering study abroad	Students motivated to find jobs, placements at national parks exist
MNU students able to initiate and run own conservation projects, particularly with schools in the capital	2 conservation projects run and 3 conservation newsletters produced annually by students	Reviews and feedback on newsletters; copies sent to Darwin Initiative	Students motivated to run own club, schools willing to participate in activities
Primary school environmental story and exercise book produced and distributed	Publishers (Admon), publication date (Mar 2004) and distributors (Min of Science, Tech., Education and Culture) established. 800 copies produced/distributed	Reviews and feedback, copies sent to Darwin Initiative and every primary school in Mongolia	Publishers and distribution method identified
Ecology field techniques core text produced	Publishers (Admon), publication date (Mar 2005) established, distribution within MNU. 500 copies produced/distributed	Reviews from UK scientists, copies sent to Darwin Initiative	Publishers and distribution method identified
Scientific journal for biology in Mongolia published	2 peer-reviewed issues of Mongolian Journal of Biological Sciences produced annually	Annual subscription to MJBS records, copies sent to Darwin Initiative	Publishers and distribution method identified, people willing to subscribe
e-newsletter providing communication forum for all biology/environment/conservation bodies (govt, NGO, institutes, individuals)	60 notices annually distributed to over 100 already established subscribers	Newsletter files held at MongolBioweb site (yahoo groups site)	Interested parties subscribe to MongolBioweb
Publications and presentations	6 peer-reviewed scientific articles from field data (first by Jun 2004); 2 radio and 2 newspaper articles per year; 1 annual presentation and report to other NGOs working in Mongolia; 2 articles in popular magazines and 2 public presentations annually	Copies of all publications and recordings sent to Darwin Initiative	High quality of scientific work, acceptance of popular articles/interviews

Activities	Activity Milestones (Summary of Project Implementation Timetable)
Ecological field course programme in 3 ecosystems	Annual field course curriculum meetings/steering committee meetings and evaluations May and Nov, reports to MNU and Darwin Initiative Years 1,2 and 3: July field course in Hovsgol, August course in Gobi, Mar/Apr course in Eastern Steppes, all 3.5 weeks long involving 2 imported UK lecturers teaching ecological field techniques, scientific method, statistics, survey methods, encouraging independent thought and generating biodiversity data. Jun 03 introduction to field courses and activities talk to other NGOs in Mongolia, updates 04, 05
Training undergrads and rangers to lead community conservation groups	At each field course (above) students present work to local communities. Specific training of locals by undergrads 1 week during Gobi course (August 2003, 04, 05) Ranger training week Sept 03, 04, 05
Community meetings at three ecology field course sites	Before and after each field course at each site (Jul, Aug and Mar/Apr)
Community meetings in Gobi	Annually Sep, Dec, Feb, May (also Aug before ecology field courses) Sep 03 assessment of community needs and identification of priority projects, Feb 04 report on community land use/social surveys, Feb 04 report on community projects: aims, actions and monitoring, Sep 04 community first annual report, hereafter Feb and Sep progress reports
Careers course for MNU biology undergrads	Annually Nov – Feb teaching CV writing, interview and application skills, sources of funding Nov 03 directory of funding sources for MNU established, job list of upcoming field asst and further education vacancies established
University Conservation Club	Year 1: Nov 03 founding meeting of UCC, Dec 03 meeting 2, Jan 04 meeting 3, Feb 04 newsletter 1 and UCC undergrads visit UB schools to begin recycling schemes, Mar 04 meeting 4, May 04 meeting 5 and newsletter 2, spring and summer term continued visits to schools Year 2: meetings and activities as above with newsletters Nov 04, Feb 05, May 05 Year 3: meetings and activities as above with newsletters Nov 05, Feb 06
Production of 2 educational text books and one scientific journal	Primary school environmental activity book: Jun 03 contents agreed, Jun-Dec 03 writing, Dec 03 meeting with MOSTEC to approve contents, Feb 04 publication Tertiary ecological field techniques text book: Contents agreed by Dec 03, Jan-Dec 04 writing and reviewing, Feb 05 publication Sep and Mar publication of Mongolian Journal of Biological Science issues, year-round review of papers and editing
Running e-newsletter	Annually directing and redirecting postings on the internet, at least 60 articles/notices annually
Producing publications	Jun 04 two scientific peer-reviewed publications, repeated annually Publications associated with community projects throughout 04-06
Publicity material	2 radio and 2 newspaper articles annually 2 articles in popular magazines and 2 public presentations annually

APPENDIX 2: PUBLICATIONS FOR MNU LIBRARY COLLECTED BY SFP

Donations to the Steppe Forward Programme for use in the Biology Faculty, National University Mongolia (up to May 1 2004)

Title	Author	Donated by	
JOURNALS			
<i>Journal of Animal Ecology 2003 (6 issues)</i>	<i>British Ecological Society</i>	<i>Kotska Wallace</i>	
<i>Journal of Animal Ecology 2004 (6 issues)</i>	<i>British Ecological Society</i>	<i>Kate and Nigel</i>	
<i>Functional Ecology 2003 (6 issues)</i>	<i>British Ecological Society</i>	<i>Kotska Wallace</i>	
<i>Functional Ecology 2004 (6 issues)</i>	<i>British Ecological Society</i>	<i>Kate and Nigel</i>	
<i>Journal of Applied Ecology 2003 (6 issues)</i>	<i>British Ecological Society</i>	<i>Kotska Wallace</i>	
<i>Journal of Applied Ecology 2004 (6 issues)</i>	<i>British Ecological Society</i>	<i>Kate and Nigel</i>	
<i>Journal of Ecology 2003 (6 issues)</i>	<i>British Ecological Society</i>	<i>Kotska Wallace</i>	
<i>Journal of Ecology 2004 (6 issues)</i>	<i>British Ecological Society</i>	<i>Kate and Nigel</i>	
<i>Ibis 2003 (4 issues)</i>	<i>British Ornithologists Union</i>	<i>Kate and Nigel</i>	
<i>Ibis 2004 (4 issues)</i>	<i>British Ornithologists Union</i>	<i>Kate and Nigel</i>	
<i>Animal Conservation Vol 7 part1</i>	<i>Zoological Society London</i>	<i>MJBS exchange</i>	
<i>Oryx 2002 (2 issues July, October)</i>	<i>Fauna and Flora International</i>	<i>MJBS exchange</i>	
<i>Oryx 2003 (4 issues)</i>	<i>Fauna and Flora International</i>	<i>MJBS exchange</i>	
<i>Oryx 2004</i>	<i>Fauna and Flora International</i>	<i>MJBS exchange</i>	
BULLETINS			
<i>Natures Place</i>	<i>Population Action Intl</i>		
<i>Why Population Matters</i>	<i>Population Action Intl</i>		
<i>International Programmes</i>	<i>Wildlife Conservation Society</i>		
<i>TRAFFIC Bulletin Vol 19 no. 2</i>	<i>TRAFFIC</i>	<i>MJBS exchange</i>	
<i>TRAFFIC Bulletin Vol 19 no. 3</i>	<i>TRAFFIC</i>	<i>MJBS exchange</i>	
ANNUAL REPORT			
<i>ZSL Annual Report 01/02</i>	<i>Zoological Society London</i>	<i>MJBS exchange</i>	
<i>ZSL Annual Report 02/03</i>	<i>Zoological Society London</i>	<i>MJBS exchange</i>	
<i>2002 Annual Report</i>	<i>Wildlife Conservation Society</i>	<i>MJBS exchange</i>	
<i>Fauna and Flora Annual Report 2001</i>	<i>Fauna and Flora International</i>	<i>MJBS exchange</i>	
SCIENCE MAGAZINE/RESEARCH NEWSLETTER			
<i>National Parks Sep/Oct 2003</i>	<i>National Parks Conservation Association</i>	<i>MJBS exchange</i>	
<i>National Parks Nov/Dec 2003</i>	<i>National Parks Conservation Association</i>	<i>MJBS exchange</i>	
<i>World Birdwatch 2003 (Mar, Jun, Sep)</i>	<i>Birdlife International</i>	<i>MJBS exchange</i>	
<i>Together for Birds and People</i>	<i>Birdlife International</i>	<i>MJBS exchange</i>	
<i>Falco 22</i>	<i>Middle East Falcon Research Group</i>		
<i>Wildlife Conservation (3 issues)</i>	<i>Wildlife Conservation Society</i>		
<i>TRAFFIC Dispatches No. 20 Feb 2003</i>	<i>TRAFFIC</i>	<i>IUCN</i>	<i>MJBS exchange</i>
		<i>The Peregrine Fund</i>	
<i>The Peregrine Fund 2001 Annual Report</i>	<i>The Peregrine Fund</i>	<i>The Peregrine Fund</i>	<i>MJBS exchange</i>
		<i>The Peregrine Fund</i>	
<i>The Peregrine Fund 2002 Annual Report</i>	<i>The Peregrine Fund</i>	<i>The Peregrine Fund</i>	<i>MJBS exchange</i>
		<i>The Peregrine Fund</i>	
<i>The Peregrine Fund Newsletter Autumn 2003 No. 33</i>	<i>The Peregrine Fund</i>	<i>The Peregrine Fund</i>	<i>MJBS exchange</i>

<i>TERRA - Magazine of the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County Vol 30 No. 2</i>	<i>Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County</i>	<i>The Peregrine Fund</i>	
<i>Fauna and Flora magazine (Oct 2002)</i>	<i>Fauna and Flora International</i>		<i>MJBS exchange</i>
<i>Fauna and Flora magazine 2003 (Apr, Oct)</i>	<i>Fauna and Flora International</i>		<i>MJBS exchange</i>

MAGAZINE/NEWSLETTER

<i>National Parks Journal Vol 47 No 5</i>	<i>National Parks Association of New South Wales</i>		<i>MJBS exchange</i>
<i>National Parks Journal Vol 48 No 1</i>	<i>National Parks Association of New South Wales</i>		<i>MJBS exchange</i>

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

<i>Raptor Conservation Today</i>	<i>Meyburg and Chancellor</i>	<i>WWGBP</i>	<i>MJBS exchange</i>
<i>Raptors at Risk</i>	<i>Meyburg and Chancellor</i>	<i>WWGBP</i>	<i>MJBS exchange</i>

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<i>Biodiversity Support Programme</i>	<i>World Conservation Monitoring Centre</i>
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BOOKS

<i>Peregrine Falcon Populations - their Management and Recovery</i>	<i>Cade et al.</i>	<i>The Peregrine Fund</i>
<i>Behaviour of Fledgling Peregrines</i>	<i>Steve Sherrod</i>	<i>The Peregrine Fund</i>
<i>Guide To Management of Peregrine Falcons at the Eyrie</i>	<i>Cade et al</i>	<i>The Peregrine Fund</i>
<i>Hacking - a method for releasing peregrine falcons and other birds of prey</i>	<i>Sherrod et al.</i>	<i>The Peregrine Fund</i>
<i>Enhancing Raptor Populations</i>	<i>Carl Marti</i>	<i>The Peregrine Fund</i>
<i>Birds of Prey Bulletin no. 4</i>	<i>WWGBP</i>	<i>WWGBP</i>
<i>WCMC Handbooks on Biodiversity Information Management 8 volumes</i>	<i>World Conservation Monitoring Centre</i>	