

Darwin Initiative

Half Year Report (due 31 October each year)

PLEASE NOTE: Due to the increased number of reports expected in 2005, we will not be able to confirm receipt of reports but will contact you individually should any questions arise

Project Ref. No.	162/13/005
Project Title	Community Conservation and Sustainable Development in the Awacachi Corridor, NW Ecuador
Country(ies)	Ecuador
UK Organisation	Fauna & Flora International, Americas Programme
Collaborator(s)	Sirua Foundation (formerly Awacachi Foundation)
Report date	October 31, 2005
Report No. (HYR 1/2/3/4)	2
Project website	<i>n/a</i>

1. Outline progress over the last 6 months (April – September) against the agreed baseline timetable for the project (if your project has started less than 6 months ago, please report on the period since start up).

- Butterfly farm infrastructure completed, planting of host plants completed and in process of establishment.
- Draft of the AC Management Plan completed and under revision.
- Sirua Foundation staff have received training in NGO management and GIS.
- Three weeks field training for rangers in biological monitoring techniques (taxa specific) completed.
- Biological monitoring system in development.
- Income generation projects (butterfly farming and cacao cultivation) established in two communities
- Strategic review of Sirua Foundation completed.
- First issue of the newsletter produced as an institutional triptych. Second issue is currently under development and planned to be released end of November 2005.
- Sirua Foundation web page under construction.
- A new person has been recruited (part time) by Sirua Foundation to support strategic and programme development, as well as to strengthen external relations.
- Final draft (awaiting completion of additional requested information) of bamboo feasibility study completed.

2. Give details of any notable problems or unexpected developments that the project has encountered over the last 6 months. Explain what impact these could have on the project and whether the changes will affect the budget and timetable of project activities.

- The North-western Ecuador area is passing a difficult moment because external actors (loggers, land traffickers and invaders) have been exerting more pressure on the forest and to the communities. They

