

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.	13/006
Project Title	DarwinNet – the Peru-Ecuador Dry Forest Clearing-house Mechanism
Country(ies)	Peru and Ecuador
UK Organisation	BirdLife International
Collaborator(s)	Naturaleza y Cultura Internacional – Ecuador Naturaleza y Cultura Internacional – Peru Fundación Probosque – Ecuador
Report date	20 October 2005
Report No. (HYR 1/2/3/4)	2
Project website	www.darwinnet.org

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).

Progress has continued to be positive. Although some outputs (project's newsletters and factsheets are behind schedule) other additional outputs have been achieved (community training workshops, posters, radio-dissemination of project, bird checklist for one protected area published, CD for schoolteachers, presentations for schoolchildren / university students, etc.). The project mail list now includes some 820 members. Some highlights have included: for International Day of Biological Diversity (May 22) and in collaboration with the CBD-CHM a poster was printed (adapted from the official CBD poster) and distributed throughout the region; a poster on the amphibians and reptiles of the region was also printed and distributed; poster on the threatened and endemic bird the Peruvian Plantcutter was distributed to teachers and schoolchildren in Talara; publication of the CBD Technical Report No. 17, which included an article on DarwinNet; as well as various press releases, presentations and meetings with local and national authorities / stakeholders. Development of and interest in the DarwinNet webpage continues to grow.

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 main notable problem over the last several months has been the time needed for the preparations of the VI National Ornithology Conference in Peru in October 2005, which was organized by the DarwinNet team of Naturaleza y Cultura Internacional-Peru (see www.darwinnet.org/vicno) and within the conference the organization of a DarwinNet workshop, which united experts throughout the region of both Ecuador and Peru. Fundraising and the logistics of this event were considerably more time consuming than originally planned. However, the conference proved a success for local partners, BirdLife International and the DarwinNet mechanism. The Darwin Initiative logo was included on all conference materials.

Also the II International Dry Forest Conference in Ecuador for November 2005, where again the

project is organizing a workshop through project partners is consuming more time than anticipated. The preparations of these events has absorbed staff time and has therefore complicated somewhat the delivery of certain outputs (mainly project's newsletter and factsheets). However with both workshops the project is aiming to produce valid results, with the participation of regional stakeholders and NFP personnel from both countries, which will strengthen the project in the longer term.

Have any of these issues been discussed with the Darwin Secretariat and if so, have changes been made to the original agreement?

No these issues have not been raised with the Darwin Secretariat as the project believes the longer term impact of these issues is minimal.

Discussed with the DI Secretariat: no

Changes to the project schedule/workplan: no

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

If you were asked to provide a response to this year's annual report review with your next half year report, please attach your response to this document.

Please note: Any planned modifications to your project schedule/workplan or budget should not be discussed in this report but raised with the Darwin Secretariat directly.

Please send your **completed form by 31 October each year per email** to Stefanie Halfmann, Darwin Initiative M&E Programme, stefanie.halfmann@ed.ac.uk. The report should be between 1-2 pages maximum. **Please state your project reference number in the header of your email message.**