

Darwin Initiative

Half Year Report (due 31 October each year)

PLEASE NOTE: Due to the increased number of reports expected in 2006, we will not be able to confirm receipt of reports but will contact you individually should any questions arise

Project Ref. No.	162/13/029
Project Title	Conserving Giant Clams Through a Community Reserve in the Lakshadweep Islands, India
Country(ies)	India, UK
UK Organisation	LEAD International
Collaborator(s)	Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS)
Report date	31 October 2006
Report No. (HYR 1/2/3/4)	HYR2
Project website	http://www.lead.org/page/89

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).

Project activities are on track, following the revised Year 2 timeline.

- Coral reef monitoring: Surveys in Kavaratti and Agatti revealed the presence of live and dead coral cover. Kavaratti: live 56.2 %, dead 27.2%; Agatti: live 60%, dead 27.4%. More in Attachment, page 2-6; 16-17.
- Reserve boundaries: Agatti has been identified as the first marine community reserve based on the project's ecological and socio-economic research. Attachment, page 12
- Reserve management plan: 6 community meetings and over 15 household surveys were completed in Agatti to collect the first set of baseline data for the first draft Community Reserve Management Plan. Attachment, page 12-15.
- Tourism Management Plan: Data collection has been continued. The draft plan will be ready for consultation in November 2006. Attachment, page 7-11.
- Education activities have been continued by organising a painting competition on sea turtle conservation in Agatti with the participation of over 100 children, and screening and discussing environmental education films as part of the Travelling Film Festival: view and download from <http://www.lead.org/page/199>
- Project video documentary: A four-minute promotional was developed and published video - view at: <http://www.lead.org/page/235> - to raise awareness, start the documentation process and also to attract further funding;
- Project website has been regularly updated: <http://www.lead.org/page/89>
- Publications: A full-colour book featuring Lakshadweep's marine biodiversity entitled 'Life on the Reef' has been drafted by project team members. Darwin Secretariat was approached to consider having the preface signed by UK Minister of Environment (in progress).

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.

No notable problems have occurred over the last six month, i.e. the first half of Year 2.

The only unexpected development was the departure of a local team member who was offered a highly desirable government job as a Fisheries Officer in Chetlat at the Department of Fisheries, Union Territory of Lakshadweep. He continues supporting the project as a committed and active volunteer, and widens the project's impact by promoting sustainable fisheries in his current job which gives him the opportunity to interact with both government officials and community members. His portfolio – education and tourism – has been successfully taken over by other team members.

The project team has been enriched by several new Indian members: Download 'Project Team in India' at <http://www.lead.org/page/94>

These changes are not expected to impact either the timeline or budget of the project.

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

A revised Year 2 timeline (no financial implication) was discussed and accepted by Darwin Secretariat.

Discussed with the DI Secretariat: Yes **no/yes, in...**4 May 2006..... (month/yr)

Changes to the project schedule/workplan: Yes **no/yes, in** June-Nov 2006(month/yr)

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.**