

Darwin Initiative for the Survival of Species

Half Year Report (due 31 October each year)

Project Ref. No.	14018
Project Title	Capacity Building for Managing Eastern European High Conservation Value Forests: Romania
Country(ies)	Romania
UK Organisation	Buckinghamshire Chilterns University College
Collaborator(s)	Transilvania University, WWF-DCP, Fundatia Carpati, OS Zarnesti, ProForest, OEI
Report date	31.10.2006
Report No. (HYR 1/2/3/4)	2
Project website	http://www.unitbv.ro/silvic/eng1.html

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).

- Created and updated database of current forest ownership rights in Romania
- Developed protocols for forest habitats
- Revised manual on HCVF identification and management to include ownership diversity
- Organised and ran workshops on HCVF identification and management/conservation
- Published article entitled “The Romanian forestry sector: privatisation facts”, in International Forestry Review, Vol 8, Issue 3
- Disseminated news bulletins on the project outputs
- Presented a paper entitled “ High Conservation Value Forests (HCVF) in Romanian private forests: Identification, Management and Monitoring” at the International Seminar Forestry and Sustainable Development, 27 October 2006, Brasov, Romania

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 forest restitution process is not finished in Romania and so the database requires continual updating. New sensitive areas with potential HCV value are often identified.

<p>Have any of these issues been discussed with the Darwin Secretariat and if so, have changes been made to the original agreement?</p> <p>No change is needed at this stage, however the overall database and map will be completed during the final year of the project.</p>	
Discussed with the DI Secretariat:	no /yes, in..... (month/yr)
Changes to the project schedule/workplan:	no /yes, in.....(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?

The financial audit was not conducted due to the excessive fee quoted by BCUC's internal auditors. The Secretariat was informed and it was suggested that this audit will now be conducted towards the end of this financial year.

Response to this year's annual report review

The financial section contained in last year's annual report only presented the Darwin Initiative's financial contribution. However, the total value spent amounts to £. This includes partners' participation (see grant claim forms) and a £excess towards local field activity which was also covered by project participants. The Darwin grant has been balanced on expenditure with partners contribution (eg if an article had £over spend from the grant it was covered by participants contribution and vice versa).

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.**