## **Darwin Initiative**

## Half Year Report (due 31 October each year)

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

Project Ref. No. 14 -036

**Project Title** Conserving the Southeast Asian Guano Bat – Sustaining Livelihoods Across

Borders

**Country(ies)** Myanmar (Burma), Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam

**UK Organisation** University of Aberdeen

**Collaborator(s)** Prof. Daw Tin Nwe, Dr S. Bumrungsri, Mr J. Walston, Dr Vu The Long

Report date October 2005

Report No. (HYR

1/2/3/4)

**Project website** Under construction

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).

This project started on the 1<sup>st</sup> of June 2005 and so will only be have been running for 4 months at the half year report deadline. The Darwin Fellow was appointed in June 2005 as agreed and the project launch workshop has been organised at Prince of Songkla University, Thailand for the 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> October as agreed in the baseline timetable. Additionally I spent two weeks in Thailand and Myanmar in June and July selecting trainees and project planning with in-country collaborators.

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 most notable development is the rapid establishment of research groups in different countries, all requiring travel and training. This differs from our original concept at stage 1 of a base in Thailand which would be furnished with a 4x4 vehicle to travel to field sites. After consultation with the project partners the best way forward was identified through budget restructuring. In effect a vehicle would not be purchased but the funds instead used for project travel costs.

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

This issue has been discussed and agreed with the Darwin Secretariat which means that funds requested for a 4x4 have been transferred to the travel budget line and divided between years.

Discussed with the DI Secretariat: no/yes, in August/Sept 05 (month/yr)

Changes to the project schedule/workplan: no/yes, in September 05 (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 <u>planned</u> modifications to your project schedule/workplan or budget should <u>not</u> 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, <u>stefanie.halfmann@ed.ac.uk</u>. The report should be between 1-2 pages maximum. <u>Please state your project reference number in the header of your email message.</u>