

Darwin Initiative: Half Year Report

(due 31 October 2007)

Project Ref. No.	14-060
Project Title	Sustainable Management of Ornamental Fish Species in Mamiraua, Brazil
Country(ies)	Brazil
UK Organisation	Zoological Society of London (ZSL)
Collaborator(s)	Sociedade Civil Mamiraua (SCM)
Project Leader	Alison Shaw
Report date	25 October 2007
Report No. (HYR 1/2/3/4)	HYR 3
Project website	

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 implementation timetable - Progress April - September 2007		
Date	Key milestone	Progress
Dec 05	Collect additional information necessary for Collection Area Management Plan (CAMP).	100% complete. Data collection is on-going as new information is uncovered through interviews and government records. This will be a constantly evolving management plan.
Dec 05	Potential communities and individuals identified for involvement in the project.	100% complete. The biological surveys have been completed and those communities who have confirmed their interest in being involved in the project have been identified. This includes 12 riverine communities on the shores of Amana lake.
May 06	Determine protocol to establish extraction procedure (collection areas and no-take areas expected to relate to MSDR management plan). List of suitable species determined	95% complete. A list of suitable species for collection has been produced. This is a 'working list' that will need to be regularly appraised as biological and economic data are gathered and processed. Further biological surveys are being carried out to target specific families of fish that maybe unrepresented in the existing survey protocols such as Loricarids. Fishing areas have been defined.
May 06	Socio-economic situation of community explored through participatory meetings, interviews and information gathering. Details obtained on desired community collection methods and association structure to feed into CAMP.	100% complete. Interviews and baseline socioeconomic status of the riverine communities in Amana and Mamiraua has been completed and the report produced.
June 06	Biological survey findings report produced and information disseminated to community.	The biological results have been analysed and the findings reported to the communities through a series of meetings. The report is being finalised as it is being produced as series of papers and as part of a PhD. The results will be incorporated into the CAMP.
August 06	Working biological monitoring protocol documentation prepared	70% complete. This is being progressed and will be built into the CAMP. Further research on fish reproductive biology is being undertaken as planned to build into the model to ensure to develop a maximum sustainable yield (MSY) and minimum (or maximum) size limit. This being undertaken on up to 20 species of fish many of whom have never been studied before.

Sept 06	Collection scheme set-up designed to reflect community requirements. Socio-economic report completed and protocol in place to monitor socio-economic indicators of project	The final socioeconomic indicators have been agreed and the collection scheme set up to suit community requirements such as reflecting existing village fishing areas.
Sept 06	Organisation of association, registration and membership ascertained (all sectors of community considered).	Progress has been made towards establishing the Fishing Association. The communities have been supported in gaining their fishing licences, which also enables them to receive social benefits. There is currently a debate initiated by the communities whether an all encompassing fishing association will be established with sub-sets for the different fisheries on the lake, such as pirarucu fishing, food fishing and ornamental fish. This is being led by the Village leaders and is largely political as it will allow the leaders to stand for election for local office. The ornamental fishing communities are quietly getting on registering and it should not make a significant difference for the fishery management if this group becomes part of the larger association or is autonomous.
Aug 07	Develop a business plan (draft by Aug 06, amend and update following annual review, Aug 07).	The structure of the Business Plan has been developed and a draft version of the report produced. The business plan will continue to develop as we form business relationships.
Sep 07	Biological research survey team trained, annual refresher training, before survey season and ongoing.	Four undergraduate and graduate biologists trained in biological survey protocols including research into the reproductive biology of fish.
May 07	First biological monitoring survey at Mamirauá completed, input into database, information disseminated to community	As the baseline surveys took longer to complete due to including Amana reserve as well as Mamiraua, the initial surveys have only just been completed and so monitoring will not be undertaken as yet. Given the sheer volume of fish to be processed, annual monitoring is no longer financially viable and so a more realistic monitoring protocol is being built into the CAMP and Business Plan. Research is ongoing and the current studies include: <i>Taxonomy and distribution of Hyphessobrycon</i> ; <i>Reproduction of Apistogramma</i> ; <i>Reproduction of four species of Cichlidae</i> ; <i>Loricariidae diversity in Amana and Mamiraua</i> ; <i>Symphysodon aequifasciatus – aspects of ecology and management</i> . All studies will be used to inform the management of the fisheries.
Jul 07	Draft CAMP prepared and peer-reviewed comments received	The CAMP has been drafted and is currently being reviewed by the project team. The biological research findings are being included. The next version will be completed by January 2008 when it will be ready for peer review.
Dec 07	Annual reviews conducted at Mamirauá into research methodologies and protocols, implementation of CAMP, community needs etc.	An annual project review and planning workshop was held in Tefe, Brazil, in September 2007. This provides opportunity to review the methodologies, CAMP, community associations, species list and issues with trade.
Apr 08	Annual and semi-annual project review team meeting and reporting. Review of business plan, CAMP, guidelines and all other outputs and issues. Address grant reporting requirements	See above.
by May 08	Training of association in business management, accountancy, reporting	The training course has been scheduled and the preparation is underway.
by May 08	Training of fishers associations in sustainable exploitation, resource management, use of CAMP, safety, monitoring, reporting, husbandry and transportation techniques	A workshop was held in September in Amana bringing together the fishing communities to build skills in health and safety during fishing; fish handling and transportation; fish welfare issues; managing environmental parameters to minimise stress to fish; sustainable exploitation; species identification and how to keep and complete log books.

		Follow up and refresher training will be required. This will need to be built into the business plan/fishing association so that the communities can contribute towards the costs.
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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 project has encountered no notable problems or unexpected development over the past six months. In July, our Trade Advisor resigned to return to the US because of family commitments. It was decided to not recruit a full time advisor at this stage but to sub-contract the work as is necessary ensuring that we can recruit the most suitable person for the purpose e.g. arranging the logistics of transporting fish.

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

Darwin was informed of the change in personnel 27 July 2007. No changes have been made to the original agreement

Discussed with the DI Secretariat: **yes, in 7/07 (month/yr)**

Changes to the project schedule/workplan: **no/, 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?

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 email** to Eilidh Young, Darwin Initiative M&E Programme at Darwin-Projects@ectf-ed.org.uk . The report should be between 1-2 pages maximum. **Please state your project reference number in the header of your email message eg Subject: 14-075 Darwin Half Year Report**