



DARWIN INITIATIVE



Pre-Project Funding Report

This report should be completed and submitted with a Stage 1 Darwin Application

Project Title	The Waria Valley Community Conservation and Sustainable Livelihoods Programme
Country(ies)	Papua New Guinea
Project Ref No. (if known)	EIDPR27/ App1/748
UK Organisation	Coral Cay Conservation
Names / Titles of those who travelled to the host country	Dr. Craig Turner Mr. James Comley
Grant Value	£2914
Start and Finishing Dates	Aug 22 nd – Sept 2 nd 2005
Report Date	22/9/2005

1. Please provide a concise overview of the activities undertaken during the pre-project development visit. (Please also include relevant activities before and after, as appropriate). Please highlight those that were not planned.

August 23rd Arrive in PNG, met with British High Commissioner to outline project ideas.

24th – Met with Sasa Zibe, member of parliament for the Morobe District (and co-founder of VDT and MBK, and former environment minister). Discussed the project concept and plans for the pre-project trip. Mr Zibe outlined support (logistical) he had organised for the pre-project and would commit to for the full project. Then flew to Lae (north PNG) and met with representatives of FRI. Discussed and confirmed support that FRI would pledge to the project.

25th - Met with representatives of MBK (including Mr Ewa O'Soso) to confirm plans for the site visit to the Waria Valley, and confirm their commitment of in-kind support to the full project. Also met with various stakeholders (villager leaders, council representatives) from the Waria Valley to confirm their involvement and commitment to the project, and also ensure their expectations of the project were in line with the overall project objectives (and vica-versa).

26th – Met with Aung Kumal of VDT to reaffirm the role(s) of VDT in the project and confirm the in-kind support they would be prepared to commit to the project. Also met with the head of the Forestry Dept at Unitech, to agree and confirm how students would be involved through the proposed scholarship schemes.

27th to 30th – Travelled to the Waria Valley to meet relevant village heads, assess field locations for the proposed fieldwork components of the project, and also assess logistics. Meetings with village heads also confirmed support they would pledge (e.g. accommodation and subsistence for project staff, and better housing for teachers).

31st – Met with Representatives of the schools board for the schools of the Waria valley to discuss and refine the proposals for the education and training component of the project proposal. Final meeting with MBK, VDT, and FRI representatives, to distil outcomes from the week and refine the project proposal as necessary. Departed Lae, returning to Port Moresby. Updated BHC representative on project progress and also met with a representative from the DEC.

Sept 1st – Departed PNG.

2. Were any difficulties or setbacks encountered? If so, how did they impact on the intended achievements for the visit, and on the intended Darwin project proposal.

Very few difficulties were encountered. Some un-seasonal and extreme weather (heavy rain) required that some meetings and a field trip be slightly rescheduled, but these were still completed as planned.

3. Briefly explain how the pre-project funding has helped to confirm or change the planned project intervention – what difference did getting the grant make?

Meetings with all proposed project partners assisted in reaffirming agreed aims of the proposed project, and clarifying expected roles of each partner. No major changes were made to the proposal but clarifying detail was very useful as well as seeing the project area, enabling partners to better plan the logistical and cost elements of the project.

4. Briefly describe the outcomes and conclusions arising from discussions with the host institution(s). What is the value of the project to the host institution(s) and what will their intended contributions be. Have any other partnerships evolved as a result of the pre-project grant?

As stated above the major outcomes were in confirming the exact roles of each partner group, in terms of defining roles and responsibilities of project partners; agreeing milestones for the production of clear and quantifiable outputs; and the development of timetables of events linking with milestones and outputs.

The project visit also confirmed the need for the project and the commitment of local stakeholders to see the project realised. Whilst no other significant partnerships have evolved as yet from the project visit, the trip was hugely valuable in assessing and confirming the matching support in-kind to be pledged by the partners (as stated in the Stage 1 application).

5. Conclusion and lessons learned from the Pre-Project Grant

Briefly highlight the main conclusions (positive and negative) gained from the pre-project grant. Please also include any suggestions you may have for improving the impact of this funding scheme.

The Pre-project grant was hugely useful in terms of refining the overall project ideas, assessing logistics, managing expectations and making the project concept achievable.

Signed:

Name / Title: Craig Turner (Dr)

Date:

22/09/2005

Please restrict this report to no more than two pages in length and send the completed form to ECTF with your Stage 1 Application Form either via email to darwin-applications@ectf-ed.org.uk or by post to ECTF, Pentlands Science Park, Bush Loan, Edinburgh EH26 0PH.