

Darwin Initiative: Half Year Report

(due 31 October 2010)

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| Project Ref No | 162/16/005 |
| Project Title | Biodiversity inventory and monitoring for conservation of threatened Sumatran forest |
| Country(ies) | Indonesia |
| UK Organisation | The RSPB |
| Collaborator(s) | Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew FORRU FORDA Bogor Herbarium |
| Project Leader | Jeremy Lindsell |
| Report date | 31 October 2010 |
| Report No. (HYR 1/2/3/4) | HYR4 |
| Project website | www.harapanrainforest.org |

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).

Baseline biodiversity inventory – bird and mammal surveys continue, now as part of a systematic monitoring scheme covering the whole of the site. Camera trap surveys have generated large datasets for a number of important species and these data are being analysed for publication. No new bird or mammal species additions have been made to the site lists. Photographic records continue to be collected for butterfly species. Identification of these may now be possible through a new project partner, The Nature Society of Singapore. In August 2010, The Indonesian Institute of Sciences (LIPI) conducted a rapid survey of Lepidoptera and Coleoptera. This is part of their UNESCO project on the mitigation of climate change using arthropods as bioindicators. The results of this will be provided to the project.

Monitoring key biodiversity – methods used for surveying and monitoring birds and mammals are agreed and in use in site-wide biodiversity surveys. Each location is visited by the research team for bird, mammal and habitat surveys, and includes six mammal transects (direct and indirect surveys), 60-72 bird survey points and associated habitat plots, and 8-13 camera traps positioned for one month. Camera traps follow two basic survey designs: one for occupancy analysis and one for density estimation. Written guidelines for monitoring biodiversity beyond the Darwin project are being drawn-up. These will consider areas of different restoration activities within the site.

Focused ecological research – Additional funds have been raised for studying sun bears (habitat association; the second project specifically for sun bears). Basic habitat requirements of sun bears are being surveyed using a number of habitat plots both with and without indirect signs of bears. These data will be combined with camera trapping data to gain a better understanding of the distribution of sun bears within the site. The previous projects focusing on gibbons and hornbills have now finished and the end of project reports were submitted in September/October 2010. Presentations on the gibbon surveys and camera trapping of sun bears and tapirs were given at the Association for Tropical Biology and Conservation 2010 international symposium.

Training and capacity-building – The permanent team of five research assistants conduct all biodiversity surveys currently operated, having received full training in mammal, bird and habitat surveys. The project is now focusing on developing their theoretical understanding of the practical activities, including how the information is used and disseminated. In September 2010, the Wildlife Conservation Society – Indonesian Programme led an 8-day training course

4. Are there any other issues you wish to raise relating to the project or to Darwin's management, monitoring, or financial procedures?

No

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 LTS International directly.

Please send your **completed form by email** to Eilidh Young at Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.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: 17-075 Darwin Half Year Report**