

Darwin Initiative: Half Year Report

(due 31 October 2007)

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| Project Ref. No. | 16-014 |
| Project Title | Co-management of Forests and Wildlife in the Bi Doup-Nui Ba (BD-NB) Nature Reserve, Vietnam |
| Country(ies) | Vietnam |
| UK Organisation | International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) |
| Collaborator(s) | WWF Greater Mekong Programme – Vietnam Country Office |
| Project Leader | James MacGregor |
| Report date | 31 st October 2009 |
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| Project website | http://www.iied.org/natural-resources/key-issues/forestry/co-management-forests-and-wildlife-vietnam |

1. As has been communicated to Darwin on several occasions, the project has had some difficulties in the last six months which are now being actively addressed (more details below). As a result progress against the original workplan has been limited.

The major activities which have been carried out in the last six months are:

- A team of consultants were hired to prepare a report on the logistical and commercial feasibility of nature-based tourism in Da Chais commune of BDNB national park. This had positive results and developing a plan for tourism is now being pursued as a major activity
- The photo transect has been ongoing and is revealing considerable new commercial development along the road through the park
- Meetings have been held with local people in Da Chais commune to set up a tourism learning group
- The project co-ordinator and park deputy director went on a learning visit to Cambodia to learn about Management Oriented Monitoring from the sister WWF/IIED Darwin Initiative project at Srepok Wilderness. MOM will now be implemented in the remaining project period
- A team from IIED visited Vietnam for 10 days in October 2009 to meet with project partners and make plans for the remaining project period. This was an extremely positive trip and we now have a very clear workplan for the last 9 months of the project

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.

As mentioned above, the project has had some considerable difficulties in the past six months. These have occurred for two reasons. First, the original log-frame has proven difficult to implement due to unforeseen legal difficulties with collaborative management in Vietnam. This problem is being addressed through revisions to the log frame and work plan which were made during the recent IIED field visit to Vietnam, and which are being communicated to Darwin

