



## Darwin Initiative Annual Report



### Important note:

*To be completed with reference to the Reporting Guidance Notes for Project Leaders – it is expected that this report will be about 10 pages in length, excluding annexes*

**Submission deadline 30 April 2010**

### Darwin Project Information

Project Ref Number	17-018
Project Title	Management Programmes for Indigenous Voluntary Conserved Areas in Oaxaca, Mexico
Country(ies)	Mexico
UK Contract Holder Institution	Global Diversity Foundation
Host country Partner Institution(s)	CIIDIR-IPN, CONAFOR, CORENCHI, Geoconservación
Other Partner Institution(s)	
Darwin Grant Value	
Start/End dates of Project	1 April 2009 – 31 March 2012
Reporting period (1 Apr 200x to 31 Mar 200y) and annual report number (1,2,3..)	1 April 2009 to 31 March 2010. Annual report 1
Project Leader Name	Gary J. Martin
Project website	General updates on the project are available on GDF's UK website, <a href="http://www.globaldiversity.org.uk">www.globaldiversity.org.uk</a>
Author(s) and main contributors, date	Claudia Camacho, Carlos, A. del Campo, Gary, J. Martin, 28 April 2010

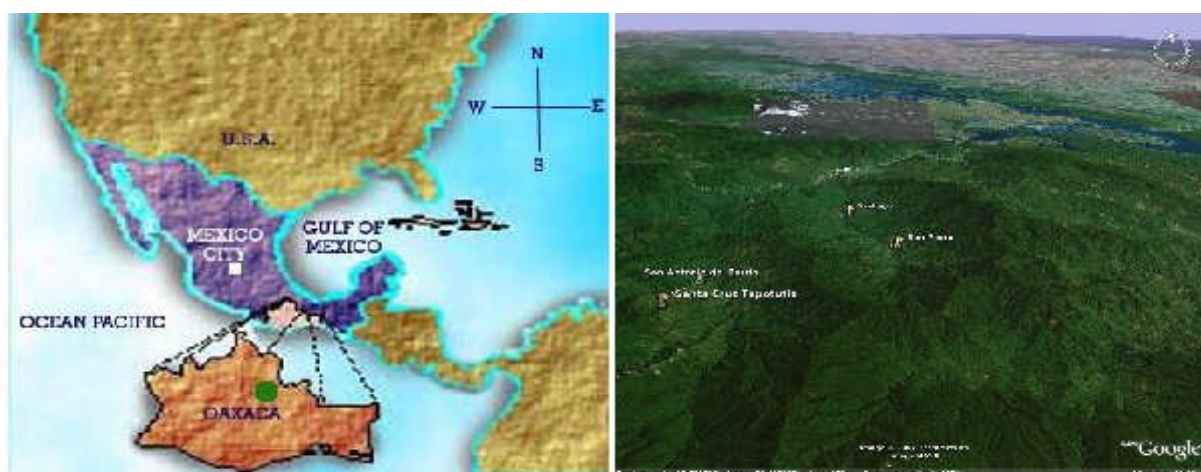
### 1. Project Background

In 2006, CORENCHI, an indigenous organisation comprising six indigenous Chinantec communities, requested GDF's assistance in building their capacity to manage voluntary conserved areas (VCAs). Certified by the National Commission of Natural Protected Areas (CONANP) in 2004, CORENCHI's VCAs encompass 26,770 hectares (Ha) of well-preserved primary cloud forest in northern Oaxaca, an area rich in biological, cultural and linguistic diversity. Since December 2007, GDF has collaborated with Mexican partners to build CORENCHI's ability to comply with their obligations under this certification scheme, providing an important period of fieldwork, documentation and analysis that allowed us to re-evaluate local needs and activities, identifying three top priorities: (1) a community management programme for the CORENCHI's VCAs; (2) continued capacity building required for its implementation; and (3) outreach to share the results to local, national and international audiences.

The initiative to recognise Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas (ICCAs) – of which the CORENCHI VCAs are one example – is a recent global phenomenon driven by local communities, NGOs, international organisations and a few governments. Due to its achievements and experience in community conservation, Mexico is an important case study of ICCA development. Indigenous communities of Oaxaca provide groundbreaking experiences of self-mobilised *in situ* conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity that do not require communities to relinquish their ownership and traditional management of natural resources. Mexican policy-makers have responded to these unprecedented developments by modifying federal environmental law on May 2008 to incorporate VCAs as an official category of protected areas, which require a clear management strategy.

Progress in certifying VCAs needs to be matched by building of infrastructure, human resources and capacities for long-term community management, as well as by conducting research on the VCAs' biological diversity, conservation potential and natural resource management. Our proposal responds to these developments and needs by promoting community-based VCA management programmes developed with our local partners and informed by UK expertise. Our action plan includes (1) capacity building for VCA personnel and associated researchers in biological inventories, community mapping, resource management, ethnoecological and social science methods, environmental education and biodiversity law; (2) practical experience for local people and outside collaborators in field research; (3) advanced seminars for university-trained colleagues from host country institutions; (4) dissemination of the project results to local, national and international fora.

In this first phase of the project, we have begun intensive fieldwork in two CORENCHI communities: Santiago Tlatepusco and San Pedro Tlatepusco, with a territory of 5,928 and 6,380 Ha respectively and that voluntarily protect 9,350 Ha as VCAs. We have conducted dissemination, outreach and training activities in the other four member communities of CORENCHI, thus extending the grasp of the project. The location of Oaxaca state and the six CORENCHI communities can be seen in the following maps.



Location of Oaxaca and CORENCHI communities. Green dot on the left map indicates the location of the enlarged section on the right.

## 2. Project Partnerships

### *Project partnerships:*

#### **CIIDIR-Oaxaca. The National Polytechnic Institute's Interdisciplinary Research Centre for Integrated Regional Development.**

As the main academic partner of GDF, the first year of the project began by planning future seminars together with Dr. Demetria Mondragón, lecturer and researcher for the CIIDIR-Oaxaca. However, at the beginning of 2010 Dra. Demetria started on a year's research at the University of Hawaii which no longer allowed her to follow up the development of the seminars closely. Nevertheless, she is able to supervise and monitor the development of community-based research in order to meet regional and local needs for natural resource management and conservation via electronic mail and will participate in the meetings to discuss planning as soon as she returns from Oaxaca in December, 2010.

#### **CONAFOR. The National Commission of Forestry**

During the first year of this project, Salvador Anta, head of CONAFOR's *Pacifico-Sur* region, has generously contributed a wealth of information and government statistics on conservation initiatives that provide the context needed for our efforts. He is also in charge of continuously reviewing our research focus and community management plan to ensure that it is in line with the national strategy for conservation. Collaboration with Salvador Anta has mainly been through meetings to review of the focus of the project.

#### **CORENCHI. The Committee for Natural Resources of the Chinantla (Comité de Recursos Naturales de la Chinantla A.C.)**

We have maintained a close relationship with CORENCHI, the primary recipient partner of the project, through frequent dialogues and meetings with its Heads, Mr Olivero Osorio in 2009 and Miguel Agustín Miguel, as of 2010, and the head of each member community. During this year, we are continuing with consultation to obtain free, prior and informed consent (FPIC). A draft agreement for collaboration has also been drawn up defining the terms for community research and training with the object of preparing a management programme for their voluntary conservation areas (VCAs). The responsibility of CORENCHI in the project has been to choose 18 local people willing to work and receive training for the three years duration of the project and form community research teams. They have also elected a council of ex-authorities committed to conservation, which will provide a follow up in the activities and project results. Community authorities and researchers decided that a greater percentage, approximately 80%, of the researcher's salary should be set aside as a community benefit fund. Continuous and active collaboration with CORENCHI allows for any adaptation of the focus and of the activities involved in the project to be made to keep in line with local conditions and needs.

#### **Geo-Conservation**

Geo-Conservation is our main civil partner. Our main contact is Fernando Mondragon, director of Geo-Conservation, with whom we coordinate field work as well as capacity building activities with authorities and representatives of CORENCHI. During this first year, we participated or co-organized three capacity building workshops at Santa Cruz Tepetotutla and San Antonio el Barrio. We are also planning future joint training sessions for community researchers concerning fauna collections and ethnozoology. The collaboration and coordination of activities is made easier as we share the same working region and similar objectives regarding training and development in CORENCHI. Work carried out is through frequent planning meetings in Oaxaca city or in the CORENCHI communities themselves.

## **The Anthropology Department of the University of Kent**

The Anthropology Department of the University of Kent (which comprises, *inter alia*, the Centre of Biocultural Diversity and Durrell Institute of Conservation and Ecology) is our main partner in the UK. During the first year of this project, Dr. Diana Pritchard, a former staff member and now associate researcher at the University of Sussex, was invited to make a 10-day visit to our field site to conduct a community workshop on ethnoecology and social science research methods for community teams, as well as share insights about various aspects of creating management programmes for community conserved areas. She also provided an advanced seminar on participatory research for postgraduate students. Dr. Gary Martin, the project leader and also a Kent lecturer, works continuously in conjunction with other researchers and lecturers of the Anthropology Department informing on the focus and preliminary results of the project. In 2010, we began to work on a joint research proposal with MSc. Tomás Ibarra, a student at present doing his Masters' degree in environmental anthropology in Kent, who will visit the study site in May and June 2010 to carry out work on his thesis on ethnozoology in the Chinantla.

### ***Other UK and regional partners:***

During the first year of the project, two new main links were made with two Mexican academic institutions which have supported the development of the project in many ways. The first of these is the Instituto de Ecología, A.C. (INECOL) and the second the Centro de Investigaciones en Geografía Ambiental (CIGA) of the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM). Based in Xalapa Veracruz, INECOL is an institute concerned mainly with research into ecology and its various branches, with very few opportunities for interdisciplinary research. For this reason, many researchers and postgraduate students are interested in receiving training and listening to conferences dealing with integral disciplines, such as ethnoecology and other methods of social research applying to environmental aspects. Thus, there is a great interest in topics that GDF is able to offer through advanced seminars as part of the project. Following this interest and owing to the difficulty of holding seminars at CIIDIR-Oaxaca, we have held the first two of these seminars at INECOL resulting in a large audience and an interest in taking part in future similar events.

Collaboration with CIGA is through the researcher Dr. Narciso Barrera, an ethnoecological specialist in traditional knowledge of soils. Dr. Barrera will provide continuous assessment in participative mapping and participative Geographical Information Systems (pGIS). At the same time, one of his Master's students, Andrés Basante, is at present carrying out a field study on local knowledge in Chinantec communities. GDF is providing him logistic and institutional support, while Andrés is providing workshops in participative mapping for community researchers and students.

A further two liaisons were strengthened during the first year with civil organizations. The first of these with Ojo de Agua, an organization in Oaxaca dealing with strengthening the processes and means of community communication in southern Mexico. Together with GDF, Ojo de Agua is in charge of primary training in information technology for community researchers in CORENCHI, with an emphasis in producing and editing community videos. The second partnership is with the Orientation and Support Centre for Indigenous Peoples (COAPI, Centro de Orientación y Apoyo a los Pueblos Indígenas), who offers constant legal advice in aspects of indigenous rights, territorial rights and community conservation areas through lawyers Xóchitl Zolueta and Guadalupe Espinosa.

### ***Other Collaboration***

The GDF regional programme in Mesoamerica, (GDF-MA), is constantly in touch with the GDF regional programme in South-East Asia (GDF-SEA), which is presently working on another Darwin project in Sabah-Malasia (Ref. No. 17-030), regarding the results, lessons learned and focus of the projects. GDF-MA is continuously learning from the GDF-SEA experience based on 6 years work with Darwin projects, including the post project on participatory monitoring and the earlier project on Ethnobiology of proposed traditional use zones of Crocker Range Park. Lessons learned in developing the Resource Catchment Assessment Team in Sabah have been particularly valuable for our approach to building the capacity of community research teams in Oaxaca.

GDF-MA is also continuously in touch with the Mexican Association of Ethnobiology (AEM in Spanish) and the Latin American Society of Ethnobiology (SOLAE in Spanish). This relationship permits continuous contact with other researchers and academics involved in biodiversity conservation with an interdisciplinary focus similar to this project.

A third link has been made with the South African non-profit organization NGO Natural Justice (NJ) through its director, Harry Jonas. NJ is a not-for-profit organization working with communities to develop their legal capacity to demand social and environmental justice. Its work promotes the full implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity. NJ is the main promoter "Biocultural community protocols" (BCPs), a scheme for research and strengthening of local legal capacity directed to biocultural diversity conservation. Harry Jonas visited GDF-MA team to dialogue on the potential of BCPs in this project and held a postgraduate seminar on the same topic.

### ***Link with CBD focal point***

Regarding the CBD focal point, we have a link with CONANP which is part of the SEMARNAT, the primary focal point for the CBD. We have contacted Ana Luisa Guzmán, Executive Secretary and José Sarukhan, Honorary National Coordinator of CONABIO, which is the secondary focal point.

## **3. Project progress**

### **3.1 Progress in carrying out project activities**

#### **Overview**

The first working year of the project (April 2009 to March 2010) was carried out successfully consolidating agreements of collaboration with the indigenous organization CORENCHI and specifically with two of their member communities. We carried out a thorough consultation which involved the integration of two community research teams initiating their training and local research towards the elaboration of a management programme based on traditional knowledge. The leader of the project, Dr. Gary Martin visited Mexico in August 2009 to assess and provide a follow up to activities. The institutional partnerships have been strengthened and have grown through local training programmes. Dissemination regarding the focus and preliminary results of the project was conducted through documents, the development of seminars, participation in conferences and the integration of local students.

## **Output 1. Management programme for CORENCHI's VCAs**

**Consultation.** We dedicated the first six months to consulting widely with CORENCHI community members and leaders in the form of visits, constant dialogue and formal meetings. We held 3 meetings to explore and obtain FPIC and establish research agreements and codes of conduct. Specifically, on the 18<sup>th</sup> May in San Pedro Tlatepusco and on 20<sup>th</sup> May in Santiago Tlatepusco, the GDF-MA team presented the project at community assemblies and began negotiations to recruit community researchers elected according to traditional community practice. An initial document signed by the local authorities attested that the communities are aware of and agree with the project including the need for community researchers. A council composed of ex-authorities committed to conservation was formed in each community to supervise GDF local activities and project development. On 30<sup>th</sup> May 2009, the GDF-MA team participated in CORENCHI's 2009 third ordinary assembly. We presented the project to the CORENCHI leaders and community delegates and we reported on progress in selecting community researchers. The continuous participation of the GDF-MA team at the CORENCHI assemblies (19<sup>th</sup> September 2009, 12<sup>th</sup> December 2009, 16<sup>th</sup> January 2010 and 27<sup>th</sup> March 2010) has kept the local authorities and delegates informed on the combined advances made and future activities planned.

**Capacity building.** 11 working sessions were held with the GDF-MA team and the community research teams at San Pedro Tlatepusco and Santiago Tlatepusco for the development of the local VCA management programmes in both communities. The research teams were elected by the community leaders in the first session (June 2009). During the sessions 2 to 9 (September to December 2009) a process of Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) was developed which provided information about the physical, social, cultural and environmental characteristics of the communities and their VCAs. The PRA used as a guideline the Mexican general environmental law (LGEEPA, Ley General del Equilibrio Ecológico y Protección al Ambiente), to create management programmes for natural protected areas. In the last two working sessions (February 2010), informative community assemblies were held to present results of the PRA and explain its relationship with the LGEEPA; community commitments acquired through conservation certificates in each community were revised, and a dialogue was held about how the management programme contributes to accomplish this. The details of each working session can be seen in Appendix I.1.

## **Output 2. VCA personnel in 6 Chinantec communities trained along with NGO researchers.**

**Training.** Working sessions 2-9 described in the previous output were also practical and continuous training sessions concerning qualitative and quantitative tools for community researchers, in particular for the development of the PRA. This training programme is complemented by specialized workshops to enrich the development of the management plan and local research. Dr. Diana Pritchard, lecturer at the University of Sussex, gave the first of these workshops. It ran for 3 days and was focused on socio-cultural research tools as part of the programme for the management of natural resources; it was held in February 2010 in San Pedro Tlatepusco, with the participation of 12 people (8 community researchers and 2 leaders) from Santiago Tlatepusco, San Pedro Tlatepusco, Santa Cruz Tepetotutla and Nopalera del Rosario, all communities belonging to CORENCHI. 4 training modules have also been developed for producing and editing videos in the communities of Santiago Tlatepusco, San Pedro Tlatepusco and Vega del Sol (June, September, October and November 2009) as the first training theme in the workshops dealing with information technology. These workshops were given by the civil organization Ojo de Agua, in conjunction with GDF-MA. Modules were taught to 8 local video technicians from Nopalera del Rosario, San Pedro Tlatepusco, Santiago Tlatepusco and Santa Cruz Tepetotutla. The last of the specialized workshops was the first session in community mapping and pGIS. It was held in San Pedro Tlatepusco from 14 to 26<sup>th</sup> March 2010, and coordinated by Andrés Basante and GDF-MA. 53 people participated, including 3 members of the local research team, 25 primary school students (from 8 to 12

years old) and a further 25 community representatives. A result of the workshop was the production of a three-dimensional map (3D map) of the territory of San Pedro Tlapeusco which will be used for future mapping sessions and research.

The first community assessment planned for December, 2009 was postponed until May 2010 due to intensive field work and training programmes.

### **Output 3. Active promotion of community-based research on local biocultural diversity and dissemination of results.**

**Community Field Research.** Community-based research on physical, biological and socio-cultural characteristics of the VCAs using participative and ethnoecological methods has been conducted successfully in the reporting period, as described in outputs 1 and 2. Community researchers were recruited, 4 in San Pedro Tlapeusco and 6 in Santiago Tlapeusco (June 2009) and from September 2009 to March 2010 local research was carried out through the PRA process. Continuous training of community researchers on qualitative and quantitative research produces positive results. Participatory GIS and 3D maps produced (See output 2) are based on local geographical knowledge and are slowly including biological and socio-cultural knowledge.

**Dissemination of results.** The two biodiversity fairs scheduled for this first year are to be postponed until the second working year due to the pressure of the intensity of training programmes and community-based research.

### **Output 4. Advanced training received by colleagues from research centres and academic institutions.**

2 advanced seminars were held in January and March, 2010. The first of these: "Bio-cultural Community Protocols (BCPs): A Community Approach Ensuring the Integrity of Environmental Law and Policy" given by Harry Jonas of the NGO Natural Justice took place on 22 January, 2010 with an audience of 27 postgraduate students, researchers and colleagues from NGOs. It was followed by a three hour discussion with a reduced group on the viability of applying BCPs in Mexico, particularly in the case of the project the GDF are developing with CORENCHI. The second seminar, "Community Participation in biodiversity studies: approaches, practice and implications" was given by Dr. Diana Pritchard and took place on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2010 with an audience of 31 postgraduate students, researchers and colleagues from ONGs. The seminar on ethnoecology and social sciences research methods, planned for September 2009, has been postponed until June 2010 to enable us to adjust to the time schedule of the lecturers, who will cover the topics of ethnozoological studies and fauna conservation.

### **Output 5. Experience and results shared with government, NGO and CBO representatives.**

**Dissemination.** We have prepared documents and public presentations for disseminating information on the project approach, including a manuscript in Spanish for the book on ethnobiology "Traditional Biocognitive Systems" edited by the Mexican Association of Ethnobiology (AEM). An oral presentation of "The Strengthening of Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas through Ethnobiology" and the poster "Biodiversity fairs: celebrating biological and cultural diversity" were presented at the VII Mexican Congress of Ethnobiology and the I Latin American Congress of Ethnobiology, celebrated simultaneously from the 2<sup>nd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> of November en Pachuca, Hidalgo; see <http://congmexetnob.blogspot.com/>. In addition, a summary of an oral presentation of "Community Management Programmes for Indigenous Voluntary Conserved Areas in Oaxaca, Mexico" has been prepared for presentation at the XII International Congress of Ethnobiology to be held in Tofino, Canada, from 10<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> May, 2010; see <http://www.tbqf.org/ice/>. Finally, we have submitted a manuscript on "Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas in Oaxaca, Mexico" for a peer-reviewed special issue on "Traditional agricultural landscapes and Community Conserved Areas" of *Management of Environmental Quality: An International Journal*, and an abstract on "Community designation of



Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas (ICCA) in Oaxaca, Mexico” has been accepted and for the upcoming issue of *Policy Matters*, and we are in the process of writing the full paper.

**Integration of children and young people of the community.** The integration of local students began in March 2010, when primary students were included in the participative mapping workshops (see output 2) with positive results.

**Assessment.** The first follow-up meeting between members of the project, planned for March 2010, has been postponed until July 2010 so that all members can be present and we can carry out an analysis with more complete information.

## **3.2 Progress towards Project Outputs**

### **Output 1. Management programme for CORENCHI's VCAs**

In order to formulate a management plan, the following is required: a) obtain effective community consultation and working plans, b) recruit community researchers and c) carry out joint working sessions for future development. The community consultations have been completed. 4 researchers were recruited in San Pedro Tlatepusco and 6 in Santiago Tlatepusco, 11 practical working sessions were held in which 20 people participated and through which information was collected for the management programme. Environmental and social conditions have been adequate to be able to collect sufficient information, and guidelines for strategic management based on the LGEEPA requirements have been available from the beginning of the project. The present progress in this output is approximately 30%, indicating that the objective to complete the management programme in the third year is considered to be realistic.

### **Output 2. VCA personnel in 6 Chinantec communities trained along with NGO researchers.**

The initial training of the local researchers was achieved through 9 practical working sessions (7 weeks) where training was through the development of a participative management programme. These were complemented by specialized workshops: 4 modules of a workshop for the production and edition of community videos, 1 workshop on tools for socio-cultural research and 1 workshop on community mapping. In addition to the 10 community researchers, 8 video technicians have received training, producing a total of 18 trainees. Training will be continued through further working sessions as well as through workshops concerned with legal and socio-environmental policies, ecotourism and conservation, community-based natural resources management and other aspects of information technology, so that the final proposal for training will be fully covered by the end of the project. The permanence of the community research team and other community representatives is assured by their own interest and the interest shown by the local authorities so that the project is completed successfully. Owing to distances and previous commitments, we have not yet been able to have an audience of NGO researchers present for training in the field. To overcome this deficiency, training of NGO researchers will be restricted to advanced seminars and to seminars relating to the dissemination of results and experience in the same aspects proposed under this output.



### Output 3. Active promotion of community-based research on local bio-cultural diversity and dissemination results.

The community researchers dedicated 7 months (September 2009 to March 2010) to the PRA process, which has allowed for the collection of information based on local knowledge of physical, biological, social and cultural characteristics of the communities and their conservation areas. Local researchers are motivated and GDF-MA team supervise their work on a monthly basis through working sessions. The production pGIS based on local knowledge through the participative mapping workshop (see output 2) with 53 people attending resulted in a significant advance. Improvement in the infrastructure of community-based researchers has been in the form of the purchase of computers and other equipment for collecting and registering information., Continuous community-based research and the systematization of information obtained will allow completion of all indicators proposed for years 2 and 3, including the biodiversity fairs proposed for the first year

### Output 4. Advanced training received by colleagues at Oaxacan research centres and academic institutions.

Two seminars (8 hours in total) were held with the participation of 58 researchers, postgraduate students and NGO colleagues from diverse institutions, centres and organizations (see appendix II), which surpasses our original expectations. The themes proposed for these seminars were adequate for the experience of those attending and can be adapted as the project develops. The experience of this year forms the basis for completing the three remaining seminars during future periods.

### Output 5. Experience and results shared with government, NGO and CBO representatives.

The dissemination and focus of the project and preliminary results began through the elaboration of one manuscript for a peer-reviewed journal, a chapter of a book on ethnobiology, 2 public presentations in national conferences and an abstract prepared for an international conference. The integration of children and young people of the community began with the successful participation of 25 primary students aging between 8 and 10 in participative mapping activities. The continuation of dissemination activities, integration of new students, assessment and meetings in the second and third year will permit the completion of this output according to schedule.

## 3.3 Standard Measures

**Table 1 Project Standard Output Measures**

Code No.	Description	Year 1 Total	Year 2 Total	Year 3 Total	Total to date	Number planned for this reporting period	Total planned from application
4A 4B	Short period of work experience for undergraduate students	0	Pending	Pending	0	0	2 undergrad students. 6 weeks
4C 4D	Short period of work experience for postgraduate students	0	Pending	Pending	0	0	2 posgrad students. 6 weeks
5	Research experience gained by field coordinator,	1 field coordinator Irma Juan	Pending	Pending	19 people; 7-8	18 people; 7-8	18 people, 36 months

Code No.	Description	Year 1 Total	Year 2 Total	Year 3 Total	Total to date	Number planned for this reporting period	Total planned from application
	community researchers and technicians	Carlos, Mexican; (8 months); 18 community researchers and video technicians, Mexican (7 months)			months	months	
6A 6B	Specialised training workshops for community researchers, technicians, authorities and other community representatives	12, ethnoecology and social science research methods; 8 Information Technology; 53 community mapping	Pending	Pending	73	18 people	18 people
7	Training manuals, poster of project approach and results	0	Pending	Pending	0	0	8 training materials
8	Time spent by UK (GDF, Kent and Sussex) personnel on training and research in Mexico	3.5 weeks (Gary Martin, Diana Pritchard)	Pending	Pending	3.5 weeks	3.5 weeks	10.5 weeks
9	CORENCHI's VCA ecosystem approach-based adaptive management programme	0	Pending	Pending	0	0	1 management programme
10	Ethnozoological field guide and ethnobiological field manual for San Pedro and Santiago Tlapepusco	0	Pending	Pending	0	0	2 field guides/manuals
11A 11B	Papers on community conservation in Mexico and on project approaches and results submitted and published on relevant peer reviewed journals	1	Pending	Pending	0	0	2 papers
12A	CORENCHI ethnobiological database	0	Pending	Pending	0	0	1 database
12B	CORENCHI ethnobotanical database	0	Pending	Pending	0	0	1 database
13A	Digital photography	0	Pending	Pending	0	0	1 collection

Code No.	Description	Year 1 Total	Year 2 Total	Year 3 Total	Total to date	Number planned for this reporting period	Total planned from application
	collection of ethnobiological resources						
13B	Community digital herbaria	0	Pending	Pending	0	0	1 collection
14A	Advanced seminars for postgraduate students researchers, CBOs, NGOs and government representatives. Biodiversity fairs. Workshops for local students	3 (2 advanced seminars, 1 workshop organised with Geoconservación)	Pending	Pending	3 seminars/workshops	4 seminars/workshop/biodiversity fairs	19 seminars/workshop/biodiversity fairs
14B	Conferences, seminars & workshops attended (Darwin project results presented, disseminated)	1 (VII Mexican Congress of Ethnobiology, I Latinamerican Congress of Ethnobiology)	Pending	Pending	1 conference	1 conference	4 conferences
15A	National press release in Mexico	0	Pending	Pending	0	0	1 national press release
15B	Local press release in Mexico	0	Pending	Pending	0	0	1 local press release
15C	National press release in UK	0	Pending	Pending	0	0	1 national press release
15D	Local press release in UK	0	Pending	Pending	0	0	1 local press release
16A	GDF e-Newsletters for projects dissemination	2	Pending	Pending	2 e-Newsletter	2 e-Newsletter	5 e-Newsletters
16B	GDF e-Newsletters circulated in Mexico	e-Newsletters cited above sent to over 1300 people each issue, including an unspecified number in Mexico,					
16C	GDF e-Newsletters circulated in UK	e-Newsletters cited above sent to over 1300 people each issue, including an unspecified					

Code No.	Description	Year 1 Total	Year 2 Total	Year 3 Total	Total to date	Number planned for this reporting period	Total planned from application
		number in UK					
17A	Mailing list of people interested in the project results and training activities	58 people in the contacts database	Pending	Pending	1 list with 58 people	1 list	1 list
17B	Previous mailing list of people interested in GDF activities	164 people in a previous contacts database	Pending	Pending	1 list with 164 people	1 list	1 list
20	Camera, computers and other data collecting equipment	£2,650	Nil	Nil	£2,650	£2,650	£2,650
21	Two community researcher teams in San Pedro Tlatepusco and Santiago Tlatepusco	2 community researcher teams	Pending	Pending	2 teams	2 teams	2 teams
23	Co-funding from GDF, CORENCHI, UNDP, University of Kent, CIIDIR, Inecol and CONAFOR and Geoconservación	£48,145	Pending	Pending	£48,145	£48,145	£90,871

**Table 2 Publications**

Type (eg journals, manual, CDs)	Detail (title, author, year)	Publishers (name, city)	Available from (eg contact address, website)	Cost £
* Book chapter	Support of Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas through Ethnobiology. Camacho-Benavides, C., G. J. Martin and C. del Campo García. 2010. In: Moreno Fuentes, A, <i>et al</i> (Eds.). Traditional Biocognitive Systems.	Asociación Mexicana de Etnobiología, México, D.F.	In press. Ángel Moreno Fuentes (main editor),	Free
* Conference Proceedings	Support of Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas through Ethnobiology. Camacho-Benavides, C., G. J. Martin and C. del Campo García. 2009.	Asociación Mexicana de Etnobiología; Sociedad Latinoamericana de Etnobiología. Pachuca,	Only print version available. Marco A. Vásquez (main editor),	Free

Type (eg journals, manual, CDs)	Detail (title, author, year)	Publishers (name, city)	Available from (eg contact address, website)	Cost £
		Mexico.		
* Conference Proceedings	Biodiversity fairs: celebrating biological and cultural diversity. Camacho Benavides, C., C. del Campo García and M. Glore.	Asociación Mexicana de Etnobiología; Sociedad Latinoamericana de Etnobiología. Pachuca, Mexico.	Only print version available. Marco A. Vásquez (main editor),	Free

### 3.4 Progress towards the project purpose and outcomes

Consultation, improving local capacity, community-based research, dissemination and community integration have made an active contribution to the two VCAs so that they are able to have better trained personnel and will, at the end of the project, be able to count on a management programme that incorporates local ecological knowledge and community-based research. We have shared these experiences with the other four CORENCHI communities through outreach, the first step to having a trainer of trainers approach in which community research teams from the two focal villages will assist the other communities in capacity building and elaboration of management plans. The assumptions made at the beginning of the project are still valid, as work depends to great extent on active community participation and support, adequate social and environmental conditions and external collaboration. We consider the indicators proposed to be adequate in verifying outcomes, as they summarize the results expected at the end of each year. Until now, according to the first indicator, 18 people have been trained as VCA personnel, forming two community teams (in total 10 researchers) plus a community video team (8 technicians). Their training began through practical working sessions to develop the management programme, as well as 3 specialized workshops: 1) social sciences and ethnoecological research methods, 2) production and edition of community videos and 3) community mapping, which has included the integration of children and young people of the community. The local teams carried out continuous research for 7 months, providing socio-environmental information based on local knowledge. A beginning was made to improve local infrastructure for research, with the purchase of computers and other materials for collecting and registering information. Two postgraduate seminars were given, attended by 58 researchers, students and colleagues from NGOs as part of the advanced training. The outcome of the dissemination of the approach and the preliminary results of the project, have become a chapter for a book on ethnobiology and 3 documents to be presented at future national and international conferences.

### **3.5 Progress towards impact on biodiversity, sustainable use or equitable sharing of biodiversity benefits**

During this first year, we have been supporting the conservation of 9,350 hectares in San Pedro and Santiago Tlapeusco, part of a total of 26,770 hectares under the responsibility of CORENCHI which include considerable extensions of Oaxacan cloud forest, a biodiversity-rich ecosystem endangered in Mexico and globally. Although they comprise less than 1% of the national territory, Mexico's cloud forests contain 11% of the country's plant species – many of them endemic – and a higher number of rare and endangered animal species such as jaguar, tapir, spider monkey, toucans and other fauna. Only 50% of Mexico's cloud forest remains and the Chinantla holds the largest contiguous area. The watersheds of the CORENCHI communities, which contain 20% of the Chinantla cloud forest, provide important hydrological resources for lowland ecosystems. Given the high degree of overlap between indigenous communities and biodiversity in Mexico, promoting the integrity of VCAs could have a significant impact on the conservation of plants and animals throughout the country.

To support local sustainable use of these ecosystems, we have already made a significant impact in developing local capacity to conduct participatory research using ethnobiological methods. This type of community-based research promotes reflection on and valorization of local resources and traditional ecological knowledge, which in the case of CORENCHI has assured the healthy state of the forests over the years. It is expected that this valorization will help resist some socio-economic external pressures with negative effects in the sustainable use of the biodiversity. The dissemination of the approach used and results obtained from the project allows for a greater recognition of the VCAs and traditional systems of ecological knowledge leading to effective conservation of the biodiversity and to the compliance with national commitments in the CBD.

## **4. Monitoring, evaluation and lessons**

During the first working year, we planned to assess results through a community evaluation process and a meeting with project partners to analyse the project outcomes. However, owing to the intense work in training sessions and research and the amount of time given to consulting legal advice regarding CORENCHI's VCAs (See section 6), we have postponed these activities to May and July 2010 respectively, once the first phase of the participative mapping has finished and information gathered has been partially systemized. On the other hand, the number of community and external participants in the training sessions, the number of sessions and aspects covered by these and in the working sessions, indicate that the outputs and outcomes are contributing positively to the overall objective of the project.

The main lessons learned through this reporting period are related to local dissemination of project activities. First, we have reaffirmed that in order to form consultative groups (i.e. council of ex-authorities), it is required to devote enough time to dialogue and reflection. Nonetheless, it is worthwhile insisting in these kind of community organisations, because they validate our work locally, allow sharing of objectives and results in formal and informal venues, and promote having local groups take responsibility for decisions and actions related to the project and local life.

The second lesson learned is that disseminating our work in public spaces, specially work related to technology management, elaboration of material, and dissemination of results, creates a great interest among local people, favouring the integration of marginalised social sectors (i.e. women and children) in the community-based research. Using public spaces, such as the community square, leads to equal dissemination of results and complements project presentations in community assemblies.

## **5. Actions taken in response to previous reviews (if applicable)**

Not applicable

## **6. Other comments on progress not covered elsewhere**

Until now, the design of the project has been as planned. However, the GDF-MA team has had to dedicate a significant amount of time providing support and channeling legal advice to the communities regarding their situation as VCAs in the face of a proposal by the Ministry for the Environment and Natural Resources (SEMARNAT in Spanish) to declare these areas as a separated official category of Protected Area (PA). A decree of this type implies that the SEMARNAT elects a manager of the PA and assumes responsibility for the implementation of its management programme. Since the territory under voluntary conservation by CORENCHI corresponds to indigenous territories belonging to the Chinatecos, who enjoy a certain amount of autonomy, particularly in the use and management of their natural resources, and this, in the first instance, has resulted in the healthy state of the forests, the communities do not approve the decree announced by the SEMARNAT. Under this situation, the CORENCHI requested GDF and Geoconservación for advisory sessions to provide an understanding of their options and legal situation. These sessions included: 1) a workshop on “environmental services as a strategy for sustainable regional development” given by Geoconservación from 24-26 August, 2009 in Santa Cruz Tepetotutla, accompanied by GDF; 2) a workshop on “Educational training process in CORENCHI”, given by Geoconservación from 17-19 September, 2009, accompanied by GDF and 3), a workshop informing on the LGEEPA regarding natural protected areas and on revision of their voluntary conservation certificates and compliance with community commitments. This workshop was held from 13 to 19<sup>th</sup> January, 2010 in Santa Cruz Tepetotutla and organized by GDF and Geoconservación.

Fortunately, because they hold voluntary conservation certificates, the SEMARNAT recognizes by law the CORENCHI VCAs as official PA with the right to receive official support. The CORENCHI and each community authority are planning a general assembly for 8<sup>th</sup> May to inform all their collaborators, including GDF and the project partners, of their position in the face of SEMARNAT’s decree.

## **7. Sustainability**

The profile of the project in Mexico is defined by the relationships and partnerships we have established with a wide range of people in the country: government institutions, academic and research centres, non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and community-based organizations (CBOs). The advanced seminars for students, researchers and NGOs, together with presentations at conferences and participation at meetings and the continuous creation of new links, allow for promotion of the work, including methodology, approaches and preliminary results. For example, thanks to our work, we have recently been invited to present our experience in the project at an event on “Biodiversity, interdisciplinarity and participation” to be held on 8<sup>th</sup> June, 2010 as part of the events organised at UNAM to celebrate the International Year of Biodiversity. This will be a high profile event which will permit us to disseminate the project to a large audience of organizations, universities and decision makers.

GDF-MA also participates in two relating projects: 1) “Recognition and Support to Indigenous and Community conserved Areas (ICCAs) in northern Mesoamerica” financed by the UNDP-Small Grants Program and 2) “Community Conservation: The role of local participation in conserving the biodiversity. Study cases in south-east Mexico” financed by the National Board for Science and Technology (CONACyT in Spanish) and the European Union. These projects have allowed the work we are doing under the Darwin Initiative to be extended to other forums and working networks in Mexico and Europe which tackle the theme of the role of voluntary conservation and management of biodiversity in Mexico.



Owing to the fact that we are still in our first year, no finishing strategy has been elaborated; however, the project will end when CORENCHI finalizes and implements the management programme required by the VCA Conservation certificates. This implies that they will have conducted initial community inventories of plants and animals, and have the skills to continue developing checklists of flora and fauna. They will have developed pGIS that allow them to define and indicate VCA limits and trails. Conservation and sustainable management of landscapes and resources will be underway. More broadly, they will have the skills and information needed to report to and facilitate visits of CONANP staff to verify the success of local conservation efforts. CORENCHI will know how to demonstrate their compliance with the policies, criteria and actions included in their original Community Technical Study. In addition, they will have the ability to request and manage government funds for their productive projects.

## 8. Dissemination

The chapter “Strengthening of Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas (ICCAs) through Ethnobiology” has been included in the book “Traditional Biocognitive Systems” (Sistemas Biocognitivos Tradicionales), edited by the Mexican Association of Ethnobiology as a document for dissemination on the focus of the project. The oral presentation “Strengthening of ICCAs through Ethnobiology” and the poster “Biodiversity Fairs: celebrating biological and cultural diversity” were presented at the VII Mexican Congress of Ethnobiology and I Latin American Congress on Ethnobiology, celebrated simultaneously from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> November, 2009 in Pachuca, Hidalgo, (see <http://congmexetnob.blogspot.com/>). In these conferences we were able to share the project and its achievements with an audience of researchers from Mexico and Latin America. A summary has also been prepared for oral presentation on “Community Management Programmes for Indigenous Voluntary Conserved Areas in Oaxaca, Mexico” at the XII International Congress on Ethnobiology to be held at Tofino, Canada from 10<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> May, 2010, (see <http://www.tbqf.org/ice/>). In this conference, the project will be disseminated before an audience of academics and community organizations who discuss the role of external participation in resolving local problems.

The project has also been featured in the Darwin Initiative Newsletter (issue 16) and informally, we disseminate information about our work through several key networks and mailing lists, including the IUCN Theme on Indigenous/Local Communities, Equity and Protected Areas (TILCEPA) Working Group, the IUCN Theme on Governance, Equity and Rights (TGER) Working Group and the CBD Alliance (described as a ‘loose network of activists and representatives from nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), community based organizations (CBOs), social movements and Indigenous Peoples' organizations (IPOs) advocating for improved and informed participation in CBD processes). This leads to dissemination of lessons learned from the project in publications prepared for Conference of Parties of the CBD and other policy venues. For example, we contributed an article on “Relating access and benefit sharing and article 8j to protected area governance”, inspired in part by this Darwin project, to *ECO* Volume 27, Issue 1, disseminated at the 8th Working Group on Access and Benefit Sharing to the Convention on Biological Diversity in Montreal in November 2009. Similar materials was included in Lassen, B., G.J. Martin and O. Rukundo. 2009. Bio-cultural Community Protocols and Protected Areas. Pages 52-56 in K. Bavikatte and H. Jonas, editors, *Bio-Cultural Community Protocols: A Community Approach to Ensuring the Integrity of Environmental Law and Policy*. Capetown, Natural Justice and Nairobi, United Nations Environmental Program. Both publications originally intended to include our Darwin case studies in addition to our general lessons learned but limitations of space prevented the inclusion of specific examples.

In addition, we give regular updates on the project in the GDF e-Newsletter, which is sent to more than 1300 people around the world several times a year. See, for example, our December 2009 issue, which announces the launch of this Darwin project in Mexico:

<http://app.e2ma.net/app2/campaigns/archived/20410/ec9f9de1c2313db490eb1611c7fcf9ef/>

## 9. Project Expenditure

**Table 3 Project expenditure during the reporting period (Defra Financial Year 1 April 2008 to 31 March 2009)**

Item	Budget (please indicate which document you refer to if other than your project application or annual grant offer letter)	Expenditure	Variance
Rent, rates, heating, overheads etc			
Office costs (eg postage, telephone, stationery)			
Travel and subsistence			
Printing			
Conferences, seminars, etc			
Capital items/equipment (specify)			
Camera			
Data collecting equipment			
Others (specify)			
Fieldwork operating costs (not travel)			
Community researchers			
Specialist consultants			
Salaries (specify by individual)			
GDF project coordinator			
UoK Lecturer			
GDF Auxiliar coordinator			
GDF Field coordinator			
TOTAL			

## 10. OPTIONAL: Outstanding achievements of your project during the reporting period (300-400 words maximum). This section may be used for publicity purposes

[I agree for LTS and the Darwin Secretariat to publish the content of this section](#)

## Annex 1. Report of progress and achievements against Logical Framework for Financial Year: 2008/09

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2009 - March 2010	Actions required/planned for next period
<p><b>Goal:</b> To draw on expertise relevant to biodiversity from within the United Kingdom to work with local partners in countries rich in biodiversity but constrained in resources to achieve</p> <p>The conservation of biological diversity,</p> <p>The sustainable use of its components, and</p> <p>The fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilisation of genetic resources</p>		<p>Support the conservation of 9,350 Ha. of cloud and tropical forests in Oaxaca, México</p> <p>Develop local capacity to conduct participatory research using ethnobiological methods to support the sustainable use of local ecosystems.</p> <p>Dissemination of focus and results of the project to wider audiences with the objective of promoting the importance of AVCs in biodiversity conservation and contributing towards an advance in compliance with the national commitments of the CBD.</p>	
<p><b>Purpose:</b> Oaxacan indigenous voluntary conserved areas (VCAs) enhanced by strengthening the capacity of indigenous people and collaborating researchers to produce a management programme that incorporates local ecological knowledge and community-based research of the cloud forest ecosystem.</p>	<p>VCA personnel and NGO staff selected; capacity building commenced by yr 1</p> <p>New knowledge on biological resources, distribution &amp; management; training advanced by yr 2</p> <p>CORENCHI VCA draft management programme and pGIS created; training finalised by yr 3</p> <p>VCA management capacity strengthened by project's end</p>	<p>Community consultation, formation and training of research teams and community technicians.</p> <p>Continuous research and work to provide socio-environmental information and develop the VCA's management programme .</p> <p>3 workshops on community training in social and ethnoecological research methods, video and community mapping .</p> <p>2 advanced training seminars for researchers and students.</p> <p>Local, national and international dissemination started.</p>	<p>Continuation of working sessions and community-based research to develop the management programme.</p> <p>Specialized workshops in information technology, pGIS, legal scope and sustainable management of natural resources.</p> <p>2 community evaluations, 2 analysis meetings with project partners and 3 biodiversity fairs.</p> <p>Advanced seminars on research methods and community management of natural resources.</p> <p>Local, national and international dissemination.</p>

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2009 - March 2010	Actions required/planned for next period
<p><b>Output 1.</b> Management programme for CORENCHI's VCAs</p>	<p>Development of CORENCHI's VCA ecosystem approach-based adaptive management programme</p>	<p><b>Progress</b></p> <p>Community consultation, the formation of two teams of community-based researchers and their training and continuous work to develop the management programme have all been successfully carried out during the first year of the project.</p> <p><b>Appropriateness of indicator.</b></p> <p>The objective to complete the management programme by the third year is an adequate guide for its development.</p>	
<p>Activity 1.1 Project implementation widely consulted with communities</p>		<p>Completed during the project's first six months (April to September 2009) by consulting widely with CORENCHI community members through workshops and meetings detailed in activity 1.2 and 1.3</p>	
<p>Activity 1.2 Three workshops to gain FPIC and reach community research agreements, codes of conducts and resource transfer accords</p>		<p>Workshops completed by conducting three meetings to explore and obtain FPIC and establish research agreements, codes of conduct and resource transfer agreements. (May 18, 20 and 30, 2009)</p>	
<p>Activity 1.3 Working sessions to develop community-based management programme</p>		<p><b>Progress</b></p> <p>11 working sessions completed with GDF project coordinator, field coordinator and 10 community researchers from two communities (June 2009-February 2010).</p> <p><b>Actions</b></p> <p>Development of 8 working sessions during year 2 and 8 during year 3</p>	
<p>Activity 1.4 Creation of a management programme document that follows the Ecosystem Approach and the LGEEPA</p>		<p>Document to be produced between June-December 2011</p>	

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2009 - March 2010	Actions required/planned for next period
<p><b>Output 2.</b> VCA personnel in 6 Chinantec communities trained along with NGO researchers</p>	<p>18 community members and 6 researchers trained in project development, ethnoecology and social science research methods, law &amp; policy, ecotourism and conservation, community-based natural resource management, and information technology</p>	<p><b>Progress</b></p> <p>Two teams of community-based researchers (4 and 6 in each community respectively) have been formed and these, together with a further 8 community video technicians, are the main recipients of the training. Training has progressed according to plan in the form of working sessions, one workshop given by a British expert on social and ethnoecology research, and workshops on video and community mapping.</p> <p><b>Appropriateness of indicator</b></p> <p>The number of community members to be trained is adequate; however, we have not been able to have an audience of researchers available at the training sessions.</p>	
<p>Activity 2.1 Training in participatory management programme development and monitoring for CORENCHI authorities and community team</p>		<p><b>Progress</b></p> <p>9 working sessions to develop community-based management programme mentioned in activity 1.3 as hands-on training in quantitative and qualitative techniques (September-November 2009)</p> <p><b>Actions</b></p> <p>Working sessions mentioned in activity 1.3 during year 2 and 3</p> <p>Two training sessions on management programme monitoring to be conducted in year 3</p>	
<p>Activity 2.2 Training in ethnoecology and social science research methods for community team</p>		<p>5-day community training workshop for 10 community researchers and 2 authorities from 4 communities, conducted by a University of Sussex lecturer in February 2010</p>	
<p>Activity 2.3 Training in national and international law and policies on biodiversity and conservation</p>		<p>Community training workshops to be conducted during year 2</p>	
<p>Activity 2.4 Training in ecotourism and conservation</p>		<p>Community training workshops to be conducted during year 3</p>	
<p>Activity 2.5 Training in community-based natural resource management</p>		<p>Community training workshops to be conducted during year 2</p>	

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2009 - March 2010	Actions required/planned for next period
Activity 2.6 Training in Information Technology (Open software, internet, database management) for community team		<p><b>Progress</b></p> <p>4 modules of community workshops on video production and editing for 8 local technicians from 4 communities (June, September, October and November 2009), delivered in collaboration with GDF-MA and Ojo de Agua.</p> <p><b>Actions</b></p> <p>Modules of community training in open software, internet and database management to be conducted during year 2</p>	
Activity 2.7 Training in community mapping and pGIS		<p><b>Progress</b></p> <p>First session of community mapping for community researchers (3), local students (25) and community participants (25) to develop a 3D map (March, 2010), delivered in collaboration with GDF-MA and CIGA postgraduate student</p> <p><b>Actions</b></p> <p>Development of 4 community mapping and pGIS sessions during year 2</p>	
Activity 2.8 Community project evaluations		<p>First community assessment planned for May 2010</p> <p>Second community assessment planned for December 2010</p> <p>Third community assessment planned for January 2012</p>	
<p><b>Output 3.</b> Active promotion of community-based research on local biocultural diversity and dissemination of results</p>	<p>New knowledge and information generated on local knowledge of the cloud forest ecosystem</p> <p>Improvement of infrastructure for community-based research; dissemination of results during six community biodiversity fairs</p> <p>Digital herbaria of at least 100 plant resources of subsistence or commercial interest</p>	<p><b>Progress</b></p> <p>The community researchers have carried out continuous research for 7 months in this first year, producing information based on local knowledge. A beginning was made to improve local infrastructure for research with the purchase of material needed for collecting and registering information.</p> <p><b>Appropriateness of indicator</b></p> <p>Community-based research continues and systemizing the information provided will allow for the completion of the three indicators proposed for years 2 and 3.</p>	

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2009 - March 2010	Actions required/planned for next period
Activity 3.1 Community research on physical, biological, social and cultural characteristics of the VCA using participatory and ethnobiology methods		<p><b>Progress</b></p> <p>Continued community-based research of information on physical, social and cultural characteristics of the VCA by community research teams of San Pedro and Santiago Tlatepusco (September 2009 – March 2010)</p> <p><b>Actions</b></p> <p>Continued community-based research during year 2 and 3</p>	
Activity 3.2 Community registering of biological resources through digital photography and collection of voucher specimens			Digital registering and voucher collections to be conducted during year 2
Activity 3.3 Production of pGIS based on local knowledge		<p><b>Progress</b></p> <p>3D map based on local geographical knowledge produced on March 2010</p> <p><b>Actions</b></p> <p>Inclusion of biological, cultural and social local knowledge in 3D maps during year 2</p> <p>Production of community pGIS during year 2</p>	
Activity 3.4 Organisation of 6 biodiversity fairs			<p>3 biodiversity fairs during year 2</p> <p>3 biodiversity fairs during year 3</p>
Activity 3.5 Working closely with local biological research station, nature refuges and community cultural centres to produce and deliver joint results		<p><b>Progress</b></p> <p>Infrastructure used for project activities. Capacity building of personnel.</p> <p><b>Actions</b></p> <p>Continuous using of infrastructure, capacity building of personnel and joint dissemination of results</p>	
Activity 3.6 Production of community digital herbaria of minimum 100 plant resources of subsistence or commercial importance			To be conducted during year 3



Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2009 - March 2010	Actions required/planned for next period
<p><b>Output 4.</b> Advanced training received by colleagues at Oaxacan research centres and academic institutions</p>	<p>5 seminars for 15 postgraduate researchers on ethnoecology methods, participatory research, biodiversity law and community agreements, ecotourism and conservation and community-based natural resource management</p>	<p><b>Progress</b></p> <p>Two advanced seminars with audiences much larger than expected (an average of 29 attending each seminar), including postgraduates and researchers.</p> <p><b>Apropriateness of indicator</b></p> <p>The themes proposed for the seminars are adequate as they adapt to those agreed upon throughout the development of the project and to audience needs. Experience from the first working year indicates that we can expect larger audiences at the seminars and thus widening the scope of the of the project and its approaches.</p>	
<p>Activity 4.1 Advanced seminar on ethnoecology and social science research methods for postgraduate students</p>		<p>To be conducted in June 2010</p>	
<p>Activity 4.2 Advanced seminar on participatory research for postgraduate students</p>		<p>1-day seminar for 31 postgraduate students, researchers and NGO colleagues at the Institute of Ecology (INECOL) on the approaches, practices and implications towards community participation and biodiversity research, conducted by a University of Sussex lecturer in March 2010</p>	
<p>Activity 4.3 Advanced seminar on biodiversity law and community agreements for postgraduate students</p>		<p>1-day seminar for 27 postgraduate students and NGO colleagues at the Institute of Ecology (INECOL) on Biocultural Community Protocols, conducted by Harry Jonas in January 2010</p>	
<p>Activity 4.4 Advanced seminar on ecotourism and conservation for postgraduate students</p>		<p>To be conducted in year 3</p>	
<p>Activity 4.5 Advanced seminar in natural resources community management</p>		<p>To be conducted in year 2</p>	

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2009 - March 2010	Actions required/planned for next period
<p><b>Output 5.</b> Experience &amp; results shared with Government, NGO &amp; CBO representatives internationally and locally</p>	<p>Promotion of VCAs' importance in the context of implementing the CBD in Mexico</p> <p>3 seminars given by GDFMexico team for 15 government, CBO and NGO participants from Oaxaca</p> <p>5 secondary and primary school workshops on local biodiversity values</p>	<p><b>Progress</b></p> <p>Dissemination of the focus, methodology and preliminary results of the project through 3 presentations at conferences and 1 publication.</p> <p>Participation of primary school students began through participative mapping.</p> <p><b>Apropriateness of indicator</b></p> <p>The indicators allow for an assessment of activities carried out mainly during the 2nd and 3rd year. A further indicator could be added regarding the number of documents and presentations produced.</p>	
<p>Activity 5.1 Preparation of documents, articles and public presentations for disseminating project results</p>		<p><b>Progress</b></p> <p>One book chapter, two conference abstracts and a poster prepared in August 2009- March 2010</p> <p><b>Actions</b></p> <p>Preparations of documents and public presentations for future events</p>	
<p>Activity 5.2 Presentation of project approach at the VII Mexican Congress of Ethnobiology</p>		<p>Presentation of project approach at the VII Mexican Congress of Ethnobiology (VII MCE) and I Latin American Congress of Ethnobiology (I LCE) in November 2009</p> <p>Presentation of biodiversity fair poster at the VII MCE and I LCE in November, 2009</p>	
<p>Activity 5.3 Presentation of preliminary results at the XII International Congress of Ethnobiology</p>		<p>To be presented in May 2010</p>	
<p>Activity 5.4 Presentation of results at the COP 10 of the CBD</p>		<p>To be presented in October 2010</p>	
<p>Activity 5.5 Presentation of results at the 2010 Society of Conservation Biology meeting</p>		<p>To be presented in July 2010</p>	
<p>Activity 5.6 Advanced seminar on community conservation for CBOs, NGOs and government representatives</p>		<p>To be conducted in year 3</p>	
<p>Activity 5.7 Advanced seminar on project results for CBOs, NGOs and government representatives</p>		<p>To be conducted in year 3</p>	

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2009 - March 2010	Actions required/planned for next period
Activity 5.8 Advanced seminar on promoting the articulation between NGOs and CBOs towards strengthening community-based conservation		To be conducted in year 3	
Activity 5.9 Hosting workshops on local biodiversity values for secondary and primary school students		<p><b>Progress</b></p> <p>Students integrated into participatory mapping sessions. See activity 2.7</p> <p><b>Actions</b></p> <p>4 workshops on biodiversity values during years 2 and 3</p>	
Activity 5.10 Meetings with all project partners to analyse development of management programme		<p>First meeting in July 2010</p> <p>Second, third and fourth meeting during years 2 and 3</p>	
Activity 5.11 External evaluations		<p>First assessment in September, 2010</p> <p>Second assessment in March, 2012</p>	

## Annex 2. Project's full current logframe

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
<p><b>Goal:</b></p> <p>Effective contribution in support of the implementation of the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Convention on Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), and the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species (CMS), as well as related targets set by countries rich in biodiversity but constrained in resources.</p>			
<p><b>Sub-Goal:</b></p> <p>Effective contribution to <i>in situ</i> conservation of cloud forest ecosystem and sustainable use of its components drawing on local ecological knowledge and practice</p>	<p>Long-term conservation and maintenance of the forest, its biological components and ecosystem services</p>	<p>Ecosystem approach-based adaptive management programme in use; trained stakeholders</p>	
<p>Purpose</p> <p>Oaxacan indigenous voluntary conserved areas (VCAs) enhanced by strengthening the capacity of indigenous people and collaborating researchers to produce a management programme that incorporates local ecological knowledge and community-based research of the cloud forest ecosystem</p>	<p>VCA personnel and NGO staff selected; capacity building commenced by yr 1</p> <p>New knowledge on biological resources, distribution &amp; management; training advanced by yr 2</p> <p>CORENCHI VCA draft management programme and pGIS created; training finalised by yr 3</p> <p>VCA management capacity strengthened by project's end</p>	<p>Evaluations, reports and participant lists from workshops, seminars, forums and exchanges</p> <p>Databases, reference collections and pGIS in use; reports on workshops and courses</p> <p>Management programme with georeferenced resource use strategy, codes of conduct and reference to regulations</p> <p>Evaluation of management programme implementation</p>	<p>Candidates for training proposed by community authorities and NGOs</p> <p>Environmental and social conditions adequate for collection and analysis of relevant information</p> <p>Community members, NGOs &amp; research centres participate in research activities and drafting of management programme as expected</p> <p>Continued community and NGO support for management programme &amp; scientific research</p>
<p><b>Outputs</b> (add or delete rows as necessary)</p> <p>1. Management programme for CORENCHI's VCAs</p>	<p>1. Development of CORENCHI's VCA ecosystem approach-based adaptive management programme</p>	<p>1. Management programme; maps; community workshop participant attendance, evaluation and assessment records; field research results</p>	<p>Environmental and social conditions adequate to gather and produce enough information; LGEEPA management strategy guidelines available</p>

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
2. VCA personnel in 6 Chinantec communities trained along with NGO researchers	2. 18 community members and 6 researchers trained in project development, ethnoecology and social science research methods, law & policy, ecotourism and conservation, community-based natural resource management, and information technology	2. Attendance, evaluation and assessment records of community workshops, forums and exchanges; field research results	VCA personnel and NGO researchers recruited and available throughout the project period
3. Active promotion of community-based research on local biocultural diversity and dissemination of results	3.a New knowledge and information generated on local knowledge of the cloud forest ecosystem  3.b Improvement of infrastructure for community-based research; dissemination of results during six community biodiversity fairs  3.c Digital herbaria of at least 100 plant resources of subsistence or commercial interest	3.a Databases & digital photos of natural resources; pGIS; voucher collections  3.b Community biological research station, nature refuges and herbaria strengthened and equipped; reports, records and digital photos from biodiversity fairs  3.c Digital herbaria distributed in Chinantec communities	VCA personnel motivated & well supervised; collections & pGIS well managed  Community cultural centres running and well managed; local people participate in biodiversity fairs  Negotiation of Free Prior Informed Consent and Mutually Agreeable Terms for work on plant resources
4. Advanced training received by colleagues at Oaxacan research centres and academic institutions	4. 5 seminars for 15 postgraduate researchers on ethnoecology methods, participatory research, biodiversity law and community agreements, ecotourism and conservation and community-based natural resource management	4. Participant attendance, evaluation and assessment records of advanced seminars; seminar syllabuses and readers	Postgraduate researchers, UK faculty and Mexican counterparts interested in and available for seminars

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
5. Experience & results shared with Government, NGO & CBO representatives internationally and locally	<p>5.a Promotion of VCAs' importance in the context of implementing the CBD in Mexico</p> <p>5.b 3 seminars given by GDF-Mexico team for 15 government, CBO and NGO participants from Oaxaca</p> <p>5.c 5 secondary and primary school workshops on local biodiversity values</p>	<p>5.a Documents produced; presentations at national and international conferences</p> <p>5.b Participant attendance records and evaluations of advanced seminars; course materials</p> <p>5.c Participant attendance, evaluation and assessment records of workshops; field research results</p>	<p>International interest in community conservation experiences</p> <p>Same 15 participants (or alternates) available for all 3 seminars; community venue found</p> <p>Students and teachers interested and available</p>

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
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<b>Activities</b> (details in workplan)			
1.1 Project implementation widely consulted with communities			
1.2 Three workshops to gain FPIC and reach community research agreements, codes of conducts and resource transfer accords			
1.3 Working sessions to develop community-based management programme			
1.4 Creation of a management programme document that follows the Ecosystem Approach and the LGEEPA			
2.1 Training in participatory management programme development and monitoring for CORENCHI authorities and community team			
2.2 Training in ethnoecology and social science research methods for community team			
2.3 Training in national and international law and policies on biodiversity and conservation			
2.4 Training in ecotourism and conservation			
2.5 Training in community-based natural resource management			
2.6 Training in Information Technology (Open software, internet, database management) for community team			
2.7 Training in community mapping and pGIS			
2.8 Community project evaluations			
3.1 Community research on physical, biological, social and cultural characteristics of the VCA using participatory and ethnobiology methods			
3.2 Community registering of biological resources through digital photography and collection of voucher specimens			
3.3 Production of pGIS based on local knowledge			
3.4 Organisation of 6 biodiversity fairs			
3.5 Working closely with local biological research station, nature refuges and community cultural centres to produce and deliver joint results			
3.6 Production of community digital herbaria of minimum 100 plant resources of subsistence or commercial importance			
4.1 Advanced seminar on ethnoecology and social science research methods for postgraduate students			
4.2 Advanced seminar on participatory research for postgraduate students			
4.3 Advanced seminar on biodiversity law and community agreements for postgraduate students			
4.4 Advanced seminar on ecotourism and conservation for postgraduate students			
4.5 Advanced seminar in natural resources community management			
5.1 Preparation of documents, articles and public presentations for disseminating project results			
5.2 Presentation of project approach at the VII Mexican Congress of Ethnobiology			
5.3 Presentation of preliminary results at the XII International Congress of Ethnobiology			
5.4 Presentation of results at the COP 10 of the CBD			
5.5 Presentation of results at the 2010 Society of Conservation Biology meeting			



Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
<p><b>Monitoring activities:</b></p> <p>Indicator 1 Number of people attending workshops, seminars, forums and exchanges</p> <p>Indicator 2 Progress of databases, reference collections and pGIS</p> <p>Indicator 3 Results from meetings with all project partners to analyse development of management programme</p>			

## **Annex 3. Onwards – supplementary material (optional but encouraged as evidence of project achievement)**

This may include outputs of the project, but need not necessarily include all project documentation. For example, the abstract of a conference would be adequate, as would be a summary of a thesis rather than the full document. If we feel that reviewing the full document would be useful, we will contact you again to ask for it to be submitted.

### Appendix I. Community Training Sessions and Workshops

1. Community training and research sessions report
2. Workshop on ethnoecology and social science research methods report
3. Workshop on community mapping and pGIS report
4. Workshop on community video production and editing report

### Appendix II. Advanced seminars for postgraduate students, researchers and NGO colleagues

1. Community Participation in biodiversity studies: approaches, practice and implications
2. Bio-cultural Community Protocols: A Community Approach to Ensuring the Integrity of Environmental Law and Policy

### Appendix III. Dissemination

1. Abstract of paper presentation at the VII Mexican Congress of Ethnobiology(CME) and the I Latin American Congress of Ethnobiology (CLE), Pachuca, Mexico
2. Abstract of poster presentation at the VII CME the I CLE, Pachuca, Mexico

### ***Checklist for submission***

	Check
<b>Is the report less than 5MB?</b> If so, please email to <a href="mailto:Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.uk">Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.uk</a> putting the project number in the Subject line.	√
<b>Is your report more than 5MB?</b> If so, please advise <a href="mailto:Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.uk">Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.uk</a> that the report will be send by post on CD, putting the project number in the Subject line.	N/A
<b>Have you included means of verification?</b> You need not submit every project document, but the main outputs and a selection of the others would strengthen the report.	√
<b>Do you have hard copies of material you want to submit with the report?</b> If so, please make this clear in the covering email and ensure all material is marked with the project number.	N/A
Have you involved your partners in preparation of the report and named the main contributors	√
Have you completed the Project Expenditure table fully?	√
Do not include claim forms or other communications with this report.	