



Darwin Initiative Annual Report



*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 2011

1. Darwin Project Information

Project Ref Number	17-021
Project Title	Restoring Tropical Forests: a Practical Guide
Host Country/ies	Thailand
UK contract holder institution	Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew
Host country partner institutions	FORRU, Chiang Mai, Thailand
Other partner institutions	
Darwin Grant Value	£81,200
Start/End dates of Project	01 April, 2009 – 31 March, 2012
Reporting period (eg Apr 2010 – Mar 2011) and number (eg Annual Report 1, 2, 3)	Annual Report number 3; 01 April, 2011 – 31 March, 2012
Project Leader Name	Kate Hardwick
Project website	www.kew.org and www.forru.org
Author(s) and main contributors, date	Kate Hardwick, David Blakesley, Stephen Elliott

2. Project Background

This project was designed to significantly strengthen the long term impact and legacy of two previous Darwin projects (162/11/23 and 14-010), by enabling the two manuals published on tropical forest restoration for biodiversity recovery (designed for use in Indochina) to be adapted and enhanced for wider use throughout the tropics.

There is now huge interest in restoring the world's tropical forest ecosystems for biodiversity recovery and for carbon storage. In any forest restoration project it is important that practices should be based on the best science available. Many tropical forest restoration projects are being hurriedly put together in anticipation of various schemes to mitigate global warming. To make a significant contribution to biodiversity conservation, these projects must be based on sound scientific methodology, which includes the conservation of biodiversity as one of the principle aims.

Chiang Mai University's Forest Restoration Research Unit (FORRU) has developed scientifically proven techniques – based on the Framework Species Method – to restore tropical forest ecosystems in Thailand (presented in the Darwin-funded manual "How to Plant a Forest") and it has also designed research protocols that can be used to develop effective restoration techniques for other tropical forest ecosystems in SE Asia (published in the Darwin-funded manual "Research for Restoring Tropical Forests"). The main objective of this project is to thoroughly rework this material into a third Darwin Manual, augmented with a lot of new information relating to projects and forests outside SE Asia and with case studies from around the world, to produce a standard global generic text that will make a major contribution to the efforts of many tropical countries to restore their native forests, and hence improve their ability to meet their obligations under the CBD.

The authors of the guide are based in England and the Forest Restoration Research Unit, Chiang Mai, Thailand. Case studies were based on accounts provided by various people as described under Output 1 in 4.1 below.

3. Project Partnerships

Project partnerships: This project is essentially a partnership between the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew (RBG Kew) and Chiang Mai University's Forest Restoration Research Unit, in collaboration with Dr David Blakesley (Wildlife Landscapes) who was the UK Project Leader for two previous Darwin projects (162/11/23 and 14-010) upon which this project is based. In its third year, the project has continued to be led by Dr Kate Hardwick (RBG Kew), in partnership with Drs Elliott and Blakesley. At RBG Kew, information for case studies has been provided by Drs William Milliken and Paul Smith; information on seed handling has been provided by Dr Kate Gold; and publication of the Guide is being overseen by Kew's Head of Publications, Gina Fullerlove. Project finances continue to be administered by George Sarkis. There have been no changes to the management structure of the project over the reporting period. The co-authors have maintained close contact by telephone, email and Skype on a weekly, and sometimes daily basis, and the Head of Publishing has been kept informed of progress.

Other collaboration: as described in Section 2, the co-authors have worked with colleagues at RBG Kew, and several external projects to compile case studies for the guide. Maps of tropical forest distribution across the world have been produced in collaboration with Val Kapos at UNEP-WCMC and Peter Ashton. When the book is published, one of the distribution points will be CBD focal points in the host country and other countries targeted for distribution. Discussions are being held with environmental institutions across the tropics to use the guide to help build their capacity to meet CBD commitments. This will be described in greater detail in the Final Annual Report, when the book has been published and distributed.

4. Project progress

4.1 Progress in carrying out project activities

Output 1 Information gathering from projects around the world

All the case studies have been completed and were based on accounts on: lowland tropical evergreen forest, Brazil, written by William Milliken of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew; *Albizia-Combretum* woodlands in Uganda, by Torunn Stangeland of the Norwegian University of Life Sciences; littoral forest in SE Madagascar, by John Rabenantoandro of QIT Madagascar Minerals; mosaic of forests in the Area de Conservacion Guanacaste in Costa Rica, based on information supplied by Daniel Janzen; Doi Mae Salong Treasure Tree Clubs in Thailand and the Forest Restoration Research Unit, Thailand, by Steve Elliott.

Output 2 Publication of guide

The focus of our work in the third year has been to complete the final manuscript; hand over to Kew Publishing; work closely with the publishers on the design and layout of the guide; undertake extensive and detailed copy editing and proof reading; and at the end of the year, focus on front matter and the indexing. In June 2011, discussions between the authors in the UK, Drs Hardwick and Blakesley, and Dr Elliott (visiting from FORRU-CMU), took place at a series of editorial meetings at Kew and other venues.

The next task is the translation of the manuscript, which will be undertaken in May to August, 2012.

Output 3 Distribution and dissemination of the guide

This will be undertaken after printing, towards the end of 2012-13. Discussion with partner organisations to establish distribution networks for the free copies in Asia, Africa and South America is already underway.

In summary, following the logical framework:

Output 1 Information gathering from projects around the world – complete

Output 2 Publication of guide – rescheduled for the fourth year of the project

Output 3 Distribution of guide - scheduled to begin at the end of the fourth year of the project

4.2 Progress towards project outputs

Writing tasks scheduled for the second year took much longer than anticipated, and as a result, the handover of the final manuscript took place during 2011. The amount of work required to get the manuscript ready for translation and printing was underestimated. It is now confidently anticipated that all the outputs will still be achieved by the end of the fourth year of the project, although the target date for publication is earlier, in December 2012. The measurable indicators for Output 1 have been achieved over the first two years of the project, and this can be verified by consulting the case studies included in the final manuscript.

The translation of the guide was rescheduled to take place in Year 4 rather than Year 2, as agreed following submission of a Change Request Form in January 2012. It was also agreed to carry forward £1,500 to 2012/13 for the final audit and to carry forward £5,000 to 2012/13 for translation of the book to French and Spanish. As publishing costs are higher than anticipated, it was also agreed to transfer £2,500 from the book launch and £3,000 from distribution to publishing costs. Launch costs will now be met by RBG Kew and additional funding for distribution has been pledged by the Millennium Seed Bank Partnership.

No feedback has been received on the Second Annual Report.

4.3 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 reporting period	Total planned during the project
Established codes							
6A	Number of people to receive other forms of education/training (which does not fall into categories 1-5 above)	3 FORRU-CMU staff (2 Thais + 1 British) trained in latest framework spp. methods and carbon markets in Australia.	8 FAO staff trained in the ANR techniques described in the book, providing feedback on book's methodology		11	Not specified	Not specified
7	Number of (ie different types - not volume - of material produced) training materials to be produced for use by host country			None		None	One guide
8	Number of weeks to be spent by UK project staff on project work in the host country	WM-2 MC-1	WM-1 PS-1	None	WM-3 MC-1 PS-1	None	WM-2 MC-2 PS-2
10	Number of individual field guides/manuals to be produced to assist work related to species identification, classification and recording			0	0	0	1 guide
11B	Number of papers to be submitted to peer reviewed journals	0	0	0	0	0	1 (if further funding available)
12A	Number of computer based databases to be established and handed over to host country	0	0	0	0	0	1

Code No.	Description	Year 1 Total	Year 2 Total	Year 3 Total	Total to date	Number planned for reporting period	Total planned during the project
15A	Number of national press releases in host country(ies)	0	0	1	0	0	1
15B	Number of local press releases in host country(ies)	0	0	0	0	0	1
15C	Number of national press releases in UK	0	0	0	0	0	1
17A	Number of dissemination networks to be established	0	0	6: 1 in each of Africa, Asia & S. America + 3 as per original application	0	0	3 (Kew website, FORRU website, Kew Publishing)
18A	Number of national TV programmes/features in host country(ies)	0	0		0	0	1
18D	Number of local TV programmes/features in UK	0	0		0	0	1
22	Number of permanent field plots to be established during the project and continued after Darwin funding has ceased						Unknown number of trials will be set up by practitioners using the book
23	Value of resources raised from other sources (ie in addition to Darwin funding) for project work	c. £XXX from Biotropica Australia Plc for FORRU member of staff	£XXX from John Ellerman Foundation for KH salary	£XXX from John Ellerman Foundation for KH salary; £XXX from Kew Restoration Ecology programme & £XXX from Millennium Seed Bank Partnership for translation & distribution			Unspecified
New –Project specific measures							

Table 2 Publications

Type (eg journals, manual, CDs)	Detail (title, author, year)	Publishers (name, city)	Available from (eg contact address, website)	Cost £

4.4 Progress towards the project purpose and outcomes

The purpose of the project is to publish and distribute a global generic guide to facilitate tropical forest restoration for biodiversity recovery and thereby significantly strengthen the long term impact and legacy of two previous Darwin projects. Progress towards the outcome of this purpose is described in Sections 4.1 and 4.2. As far as we are aware, all the important purpose level assumptions and measurable indicators still hold true.

4.5 Progress towards impact on biodiversity, sustainable use or equitable sharing of biodiversity benefits

The project is unlikely to make a major impact on biodiversity until the publication of the global generic guide towards the end of 2012-13. However, after publication it is anticipated that the guide will facilitate restoration of forest ecosystems for biodiversity recovery in tropical countries across the globe, thus making a very significant impact on tropical forest biodiversity.

5. Monitoring, evaluation and lessons

These essentially hold true from the Second Annual report, Monitoring and evaluation have primarily been achieved through peer review of book chapters, together with some useful comments made by the reviewer of the First Annual Report. All written material for the guide, including descriptions of the case studies was initially reviewed and edited by the other co-authors. This process frequently resulted in useful and detailed discussions between the authors. Revised versions of text were then peer reviewed both internally (by staff of RBG Kew) and externally.

Lessons: the writing and review process has been relatively straightforward and effective, although it has taken much longer than originally anticipated. With hindsight, we would have contacted reviewers earlier, to avoid the delay in handing over the manuscript to the publisher. We would have allowed more time in the first two years to write the manuscript, and allowed extra time for the review process.

Additions of further case studies and information on recent developments in restoration ecology thinking have meant that the book is longer than originally planned. This, along with the delay in going to print, have meant that production and translation costs are greater than planned and partners have had to contribute time in kind in the third year, that was not originally budgeted for. Future financial planning for a book should anticipate such possible increases in time and cost.

6. Actions taken in response to previous reviews (if applicable)

None available.

7. Other comments on progress not covered elsewhere

None

8. Sustainability

The project has a lower profile in Thailand than earlier Darwin projects, because Thailand is not intended to be the major beneficiary of the generic global guide. Thailand already benefits from two Darwin Guides published in English and Thai. Nevertheless, the new guide, with its global perspective should be of considerable interest to forest restoration practitioners in Thailand. Significant efforts will be made to promote the new Guide in wide range of tropical countries, particularly in Africa and South America. This will be undertaken following publication in approximately nine months time.

Of the initial print run of 4,000 copies, around 1,000 copies in each language (English, French and Spanish) will be distributed free of charge and around 1,000 copies in English will be sold to offset the increased publishing costs. If, as expected, there continues to be substantial interest, modern printing technology will enable subsequent smaller print runs to be made in direct response to demand. Furthermore, Kew is significantly increasing its restoration activities, with various fundraising initiatives to support this. As identifying Framework Species and developing protocols for using them is an important part of Kew's future restoration ecology programme, the web-based feedback will be of great relevance and Kew is likely to continue to fund it or seek further funding.

9. Dissemination

Initial discussion has begun with partners to establish dissemination networks in Asia, Africa and South America.

10. Project Expenditure

Please expand and complete Table 3.

Table 3 project expenditure during the reporting period (1 April 2010 – 31 March 2011)

Item	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
Rent, rates, heating, overheads etc			
Travel and subsistence			
Translation			
Publishing costs: layout and pre-printing			
Others (line drawings)			
Salaries: Blakesley			
Salaries: Elliott			
Salaries: Suttathorn			
TOTAL			

Highlight any agreed changes to the budget and explain any variation in expenditure where this is +/- 10% of the budget. Have these changes been discussed with and approved by LTS?

*£1,500 for auditing initially carried forward from Year 2 to 3 (Change request form – 2010) and then from Year 3 to 4, as project was extended for an additional year (Change request form – 2012)

** £31 for UK travel carried forward from Year 2 to Year 3 (Change request form – 2011) (NB the request to transfer £1000 from international travel to publishing was not implemented)

*** £5,000 for translation initially carried forward from Year 2 to 3 (Change request form – 2010) and then from Year 3 to Year 4 (Change request form – 2012)

**** £5,500 was added to original publishing budget of £12,600: £2,500 transferred from book launch and 3,000 from distribution (Change request form – 2012)

11. **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 (please leave this line in to indicate your agreement to use any material you provide here)

Annex 1 Report of progress and achievements against Logical Framework for Financial Year: 2011/12*

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2011 - March 2012	Actions required/planned for next period
<p>Goal: 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>Nothing to report at this stage</p>	<p>(do not fill not applicable)</p>
<p>Purpose Publish and distribute a global generic guide to facilitate tropical forest restoration for biodiversity recovery and thereby significantly strengthen the long term impact and legacy of two previous Darwin projects</p>	<p>Records of countries/ institutions in which guide is requested and distributed Number of countries in which methodology is adopted Demand for 2nd edition</p>	<p>Progress essentially as described in Outputs 1 and 2. As far as we are aware, all the important purpose level assumptions and measurable indicators still hold true.</p>	<p>Key actions include translation into French and Spanish, publishing, book launch and distribution.</p>
<p>Output 1. Information gathering from projects in partner countries, including lists of potential framework tree species for each site; and additional information sourced from the international literature and through other contacts.</p>	<p>Network established and functioning Information gathered on case study sites, including provisional lists of framework tree species</p>	<p>Information collected from Brazil, Uganda, Australia, Cambodia and Madagascar has been incorporated into Case Study accounts or the main text. The Indicators are still appropriate for this Output.</p>	
<p>Activity 1.1. Visit/gather information from Australia, Indonesia, Cambodia, Africa and South America.</p>		<p>Visits and information gathering complete.</p>	
<p>Activity 1.2. International editorial meeting at Kew</p>		<p>International meeting was held over several dates in June 2011, early in the third year of the project.</p>	
<p>Activity 1.3. Draft case studies</p>		<p>Case studies drafted and included in the manuscript handed over to the designer.</p>	
<p>Output 2. Publication of 'Restoring Tropical Forests: Practical Guide'</p>	<p>Peer review of manuscript by minimum of two external experts Feedback from experts within RBG Kew Manuscript ready for translation and publication by end Year 2 Guide translated and published at the end of Year 3</p>	<p>Drafting and reviewing the text of the guide was behind schedule in Years 2 & 3, causing the project to be extended for an additional year and the handover of the manuscript to be delayed until later in the fourth year of the project. The Indicators are still appropriate for this Output.</p>	
<p>Activity 2.1. Draft text of guide</p>		<p>All chapters drafted as planned.</p>	

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2011 - March 2012	Actions required/planned for next period
Activity 2.2. Internal and external peer review		Final comments of peer review received in 2011-12.	
Activity 2.3. Translation		Specimen chapter translated into French, but bulk of translation to be undertaken in May-August, 2012.	
Activity 2.4. Layout and design of guide		Year 3 – completed by end of year 3.	
Activity 2.5. Printing		Year 3 – delayed until December 2012	
Activity 2.6. Launch		Year 3 – delayed until after publication	
Output 3. Distribution and dissemination of guide in hard copy and electronically, including low graphics version	Number of copies and location sent to Guide accessible on RBG Kew and FORRU websites Numbers and quality of web response forms completed	Year 3. The Indicator is still appropriate for this Output.	

* Revised version of logframe incorporating amendments suggested by Darwin reviewer

Annex 2 Project's full current logframe*

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
Outputs (add or delete rows as necessary)			
1. Information gathering from projects in partner countries, including lists of potential framework tree species for each site; additional information sourced from the international literature and through other contacts	Network established and functioning Information gathered on case study sites, including provisional lists of framework tree species	Reports on visits and case studies Quality and comprehensiveness of information received from partners	Participants in Australia, Indonesia, and selected case-study countries in Africa and Tropical America provide sufficient information and host visits of project staff Case study partners remain motivated and committed to trial the methodology on publication of the guide
2. Publication of 'Restoring Tropical Forests: Practical Guide'	Peer review of manuscript by minimum of two external experts Feedback from experts within RBG Kew Manuscript ready for translation and publication by end Year 2 Guide translated and published in June Year 3	Peer and internal reviews, presented to Darwin Manuscript completed by end of Year 2 Guides published in three languages by June Year 3	Reviews do not bring up issues that require major time extension Book meets publication standards of Kew Publishing
3. Distribution and dissemination of the guide in hard copy and electronically, including low graphics version	Number of copies distributed and location sent to Guide accessible on RBG Kew and FORRU websites Numbers and quality of web response forms completed	Data supplied by Kew Publishing and RBG Kew by end Year 3 Reports from webmasters of hits, responses and downloads Analysis of completed forms	Expressed interest from regions other than SE Asia is maintained Kew delivers undertaking to maintain the websites and record and assess feedback post project Users of the book willing to record the results of their projects on Kew's web forms
Activities (details in workplan)			
1.1 Visit/gather information from Australia, Indonesia, Cameroon, Madagascar and Brazil 1.2 International editorial meeting at Kew 1.3 Draft case studies 2.1 Draft text of guide 2.2 Internal and external peer review 2.3 Translation 2.4 Layout & design guide 2.5 Printing 2.6 Launch event 3.1 Guide distributed 3.2 Guide published on web 3.3 Responses to web guide analysed – continues post project			
Monitoring activities: We will liaise closely with Kew Publishing during the production stage to monitor progress. Upon publication, project staff will manage and monitor the free distribution of the book while Kew Publishing will supply regular sales reports. Kew's IT department will monitor web downloads and project staff will record web-based feedback.			

* Revised version of logframe incorporating amendments suggested by Darwin reviewer

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.

It is important, however, that you include enough evidence of project achievement to allow reassurance that the project is continuing to work towards its objectives. Evidence can be provided in many formats (photos, copies of presentations/press releases/press cuttings, publications, minutes of meetings, reports, questionnaires, reports etc) and you should ensure you include some of these materials to support the annual report text.

Checklist for submission

	Check
Is the report less than 5MB? If so, please email to Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.uk putting the project number in the Subject line.	✓
Is your report more than 5MB? If so, please advise Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.uk that the report will be send by post on CD, putting the project number in the Subject line.	
Have you included means of verification? You need not submit every project document, but the main outputs and a selection of the others would strengthen the report.	✓ *
Do you have hard copies of material you want to submit with the report? If so, please make this clear in the covering email and ensure all material is marked with the project number.	
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.	

*Proof of final chapter attached