

# Darwin Initiative: Half Year Report

(due 31 October 2009)

<b>Project Ref. No.</b>	17-027
<b>Project Title</b>	Market Based Scheme for Conservation in La Primavera Forest Mexico
<b>Country(ies)</b>	Mexico
<b>UK Organisation</b>	University of Kent formerly University of York
<b>Collaborator(s)</b>	Arturo Balderas Torres
<b>Project Leader</b>	<i>Jon C. Lovett, Douglas MacMillan</i>
<b>Report date</b>	21 <sup>st</sup> October 2009
<b>Report No. (HYR 1/2/3/4)</b>	1, first report, year 1.
<b>Project website</b>	Still be be established. Reports about the project are available on the University of ITESO blog: <a href="http://blogs.iteso.mx/ambiental/?cat=35">http://blogs.iteso.mx/ambiental/?cat=35</a>

## 1. Outline progress over the last 6 months (April – September) against the agreed baseline timetable for the project (if your project has started less than 6 months ago, please report on the period since start up).

According to the timetable presented below, project is going according to schedule.

<b>Activities</b>	<b>Months</b>	<b>Q1</b>	<b>Q2</b>	<b>Q3</b>	<b>Q4</b>	<b>Comments</b>
1.1 Identify the biological corridors and delimit study area	1	X				Completed
1.2 Classify the study area according to land-use and tree crown	1	X				Completed to be updated when new satellite imagery is available.
1.3 Set carbon measuring points and field work logistics	1	X				Completed
1.4 Provide training to work team	1	X				Completed
1.5 Perform field work	7	X	X	X		Completed
1.6 Data analysis to determine carbon content and sequestration potential	3			X	X	On going
1.7 Writing and dissemination of the first part of the report	5					On going, Formally planned for 1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter Year 2.

April-September 2009. In April 2009, the team started planning activities and gathering relevant information about the study area: previous studies, literature, local policies and statistics and satellite imagery. An initial meeting with the project's partners took place in May to discuss with them planned activities for the first year, especially those related to forest inventories and carbon measurement. During this period relevant new contacts were established with the National Forestry Commission (CONAFOR), the University of Guadalajara, The Trust for the Administration of the Forestry Development Program in the State of Jalisco (FIPRODEFO), The Latin American and Caribbean Environmental Economics Program and the Mexican Carbon Program (PMC). The study area and potential biological corridors were delimited using GIS analysis. The methodology for fieldwork was defined. This was to study the oak-pine forests which are the prevalent vegetation in the area; stratification was made on the basis of tree crown cover in order to link plot information with GIS analysis and obtain regional figures of biomass and carbon content. In collaboration with personnel of La Primavera and Universidad de Guadalajara two teams were assembled and trained. 100 plots (900m<sup>2</sup>, 30x30m) within the Natural Protected Area of La Primavera were established. Currently eight undergraduate students from ITESO, two from Universidad de Guadalajara and one lecturer from ITESO have been trained and have participated in the project. Fieldwork sites where the rare *Mammillaria jaliscana* was found were recorded using GPS. This species is endemic to western Mexico and is classified as threatened according to national law.

