

Darwin Initiative: Half Year Report

(due 31 October 2010)

Project Ref No	17-030
Project Title	Participatory approaches to nominating Crocker Range Biosphere Reserve, Sabah, Malaysia
Country(ies)	Malaysia
UK Organisation	Global Diversity Foundation
Collaborator(s)	Sabah Parks, Pacos Trust, Buayan-Kionop JKKK
Project Leader	Gary Martin
Report date	30/11/10
Report No. (HYR 1/2/3/4)	HYR 2
Project website	None, although general updates on GDF's projects are available on www.globaldiversity.org.uk

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).

This report outlines project activities over the period 1 April – 30 September 2010. The project has progressed smoothly and in accordance with the projected activity timeframe over this period, with no significant setbacks or obstacles. The uncertainty created by rumours of a proposed 'Kaiduan Dam' has eased considerably amidst governmental denials of the project and dissipation of the rumours themselves.

Following on from a training course on the development of a Biocultural Community Protocol for Ulu Papar delivered by Natural Justice during February and March 2010 (see previous Annual Report for further details), we have conducted follow-up workshops and discussions with the Ulu Papar communities to develop the structure and content of the protocol. The protocol is now in the draft final stage, and encompasses community provisions for the management of natural resources and landscapes (based on customary laws and practices), provisions guiding community relationships and interactions with governmental and non-governmental organisations, recognition of the rights of indigenous peoples under state and international legal instruments, and a community "action plan" for awareness-raising and the dissemination of information regarding the Ulu Papar area and its indigenous inhabitants. A final draft is expected to be completed by early 2011, which will then undergo final review, revision and endorsement by the Ulu Papar communities. The protocol will be initially produced in hard-copy and soft-copy formats and disseminated amongst local communities and government departments, and a web-based version of the protocol will be produced later in 2011. In addition, Mr. Harry Jonas and Ms. Holly Shrumm of Natural Justice have recently relocated to Sabah, and are making substantial contributions to the finalisation and future development of the protocol.

On the 4th and 5th of May 2010, the Sabah Drainage and Irrigation Department (DID) conducted a visit to the community of Buayan, to discuss potential collaborative initiatives for the protection and management of Ulu Papar's water catchments. The visit was considered successful in establishing a link between the Ulu Papar communities and DID, and dialogues between the two are expected to continue with facilitation/mediation provided by GDF upon request by either party.

To contribute towards Conservation Education and Awareness Raising concerning Ulu Papar (project Output 4), GDF held a public Biocultural Photography exhibition in Kota Kinabalu from the 12th – 17th July. All photographs displayed were taken by Community Researchers, and depicted various aspects of traditional life, cultural practices, natural resource use and biodiversity values. The exhibition was officially opened by Datuk Masidi Manjun (Sabah State Minister for Tourism and the Environment), and was visited by hundreds of members of the general public. A new Participatory Video portraying customary values and traditional management practices in Ulu Papar has recently been completed, and is currently being prepared for dissemination in DVD format and via an internet media sharing site.

Further contributions towards Output 4 will be made in the form a training workshop on photography and the production of conservation education materials, to be delivered by Mr. Jollence Lee and Mr. Wendell Gingging (local freelance photographers) in November 2010. Materials produced during this workshop will then form the basis of a training course on conservation education and outreach, to be co-delivered by the Sabah Forestry Department's Rainforest Discovery Centre (RDC) and Sabah Environmental Education Network (SEEN).

Field research in Ulu Papar between April and September 2010 involved the continuation of activities instigated during an expedition conducted in January 2010. This included collecting GPS readings of agricultural and culturally-significant sites throughout Ulu Papar, and household interviews on livelihood sources and subsistence. In addition, resource-use monitoring initiatives begun during the Darwin Initiative post-project (2007-2009) have been continued, albeit at a significantly reduced intensity. Full details on research activities will be included as an annex to the 2nd Annual Report due in March 2011.

As part of wider dissemination of project outputs, Mr. Raymond Sipanis (Buayan-Kionop Community Researcher) and Mr. Adam Murphy (GDF SEA Field Coordinator) attended the 12th International Congress of Ethnobiology in Tofino, Canada from May 9th – 14th, where they presented GDF's Darwin Initiative-funded work from 2004-2010 to an international audience.

2. Give details of any notable problems or unexpected developments that the project has encountered over the last 6 months. Explain what impact these could have on the project and whether the changes will affect the budget and timetable of project activities.

The modification of expectations on Output 1 (Buayan-Kionop CBO established ...) which has been taken forward by different partners, and Output 2 (*Longkod Buayan* Biocultural Heritage Centre established ...), which has been postponed, were addressed in the FY1 annual report. GDF continues to support – through the participation of community researchers funded by the Darwin Initiative – the CBO (*Tinungkusan* or Heritage) established by our Sabah NGO partner PACOS, including its efforts to apply for native communal title for some lands outside the park boundary. The response to our proposal to the Japanese Grassroots Grants Programme (GGP) is still on hold, especially since the departure of the Japanese Vice-Consul to Sabah Mr. Yuki Okada. Both matters were discussed in a partners meeting on 29 November 2010 and it was agreed that neither are currently having an impact on the budget and timetable of project activities.

Have any of these issues been discussed with LTS International and if so, have changes been made to the original agreement?

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Discussed with LTS: no/yes, in..... (month/yr)

Formal change request submitted: no/yes, in.....(month/yr)

Received confirmation of change acceptance no/yes in.....(month/yr)

3. Do you expect to have any significant (eg more than £5,000) underspend in your budget for this year?

Yes No

If yes, and you wish to request a carryforward of funds, this should be done as soon as possible. It would help Defra manage Darwin funds more efficiently if you could give an indication of how much you expect this request might be for.

Estimated carryforward request: £

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

None

If you were asked to provide a response to this year's annual report review with your next half year report, please attach your response to this document.

Please note: Any planned modifications to your project schedule/workplan or budget should not be discussed in this report but raised with LTS International directly.

Please send your **completed form by email** to Eilidh Young at Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.uk. The report should be between 1-2 pages maximum. **Please state your project reference number in the header of your email message eg Subject: 17-075 Darwin Half Year Report**