

DARWIN INITIATIVE FOR THE SURVIVAL OF SPECIES

ANNUAL MONITORING FORM

Project Details

Project Reference No: 162/8/076.

Project Title: *Biodiversity conservation and sustainable use in Mexican cloud forest*

Institution: University of Edinburgh

Round 7

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE

- a) Outline progress over the last year (2000/2001) against the agreed baseline timetable for the project. If some milestones have not been achieved or have slipped, explain reasons for this.

All milestones on schedule as detailed below:

Two British staff have spent a total of six weeks in Mexico

Two trainees from Mexico received training in the UK for a period of three weeks each

Research work continued as planned

Field plots established as planned

One paper accepted for publication, three papers submitted for publication

- b) What progress has the project made in achieving its objectives over the last year? Is the project still expected to achieve all the original objectives which were specified? Explain any problems/difficulties which have been encountered to date in achieving the objectives of the project (or any which you envisage may be encountered in the future).

Progress towards all objectives has continued as planned. The project has achieved all the original objectives that were specified.

Some problems were encountered with the field sites. Local people commenced tree felling in one of the study areas, which meant that this had to be abandoned. However, this has not impacted adversely on the research programme, and has in fact provided an opportunity to evaluate the ecological effects of logging activity. Delays were encountered in the completion of theses by students, and for this reason the final project workshop was delayed until December 2002. However, the workshop has now successfully been held, with over 30 participants, and the project can now be closed.

- c) What lessons can be learnt from your experiences (both good and bad) over the last year?

It has proved difficult to ensure that all of the students undertaking research in connection with the project have finished their fieldwork and written their theses within the duration of the project.

d) If the project timetable has slipped or changed, provide an updated project implementation timetable for the remainder of the project. (Please note that projects are expected to adhere to their original timetable and that the timely completion of projects is an important factor taken into account by the Department when assessing project performance. However, from time to time projects may be delayed unavoidably due to circumstance beyond their control. Where a project is falling behind schedule, details on the revised programme of work should be provided below. This will need to be passed to the Department for approval) .

All of the fieldwork was completed on schedule. However some of the students took longer than expected to prepare their theses for submission, and this delayed completion of the final report for the project. The final project workshop was also delayed to ensure that the students were all able to participate, once their research was complete. The workshop was held during December 2002, six months later than originally planned, and the final report was then produced.

d) What is the estimated completion date for the project?

The project was completed by December 31st 2002

e) Is this different to the completion date set out in the original application form?

Yes, a delay of eight months in holding the final project workshop and producing the final report.

PROJECT OUTPUTS

- a) What outputs have been achieved by the project over the last year (2000/2001)? We would like you to work through the list of standard output measures which have been agreed for the Darwin Initiative and to report on those which are relevant to your project. All information provided should be referenced clearly to the appropriate project output reference number, and should provide the level of detail required (requirements are specified in the Guidance Note on Output Definitions which accompanies the List of Standard Output Measures).

Please note you are not expected to report against all the output measures which are listed. We only expect you to report on the outputs which were agreed for your project. However, if further outputs have been generated which relate to one or more of the standard output measures, these should also be reported below. Further outputs which do not fit easily into any of the standard output categories should be reported later in the section (see sub-section b).

Output ref no.	Description / commentary
4A	4 Mexicans receiving research training as part of their undergraduate courses
4B	Each of these students has received one years training this year (i.e. 4 x 52 weeks = 208 weeks)
4C	4 Mexican postgraduates have received research training towards MSc / PhD degrees
4D	Four students have received training for one year (total = 4 x 52 weeks = 208 weeks)
6A	2 Mexican received training in UK on assessment techniques
6B	3 weeks
6A	Two Mexican students / staff received training in PRA techniques in Mexico
6B	One week
22	10 x 0.1 ha plots established

23

This is difficult to estimate with precision but CONICYT funding has been obtained to support the research being undertaken by one of the postgraduate research students (Negrete), worth approx. £13000 / year; stafftime of senior Mexican researchers, students and research assistants has been met from other sources (worth a total of approx. £44,200 / year).

- b) Please provide details on any further outputs generated by the project over the last year which do not fit easily into the standard output categories for the Darwin Initiative.

Two manuscripts have been submitted for publication detailing the research results

A video as completed for communicating results to local communities

- c) Explain any problem encountered to date in achieving the output targets specified for this project or any problems you envisage in achieving these outputs in the future.

No problems achieved to date apart from the delay to completion

- d) If the project timetable has slipped or changed, provide an updated output timetable for the remainder of the project. *(Please note that projects are expected to adhere to the original output timetable which was agreed with the Department and this is taken into account when assessing project performance. However, some projects may be delayed unavoidably. Where a project is falling behind schedule a revised output timetable should be provided below. This will need to be passed to the department for approval).*

The project was completed by December 31st 2002

PROJECT EXPENDITURE

a)	2001/2002 Darwin Grant	£ 16950
b)	Overall Darwin Grant	£64950
c)	Grant expenditure 2001/2002	£16950
d)	Grant expenditure to date	£64950

Please provide a breakdown of grant expenditure using the main expenditure headings in the original application form.

NB These figures represent expenditure of the actual grant, not the actual total cost of the project

2001/2002

Expenditure to date (if different from 1999/2000)

f) Explain any variations in expenditure (+/-10%) from the original application form. There was a slight underspend on training fees (by £677) and books (by £183) but this was compensated for by increased spending on computer software (which totalled £860)

STAFF RESOURCES

a) Please provide details on the staff who have worked on the project over the last year (2001/2002).

Name	Institution	Grade/Position	Input During 2000/2001
Dr Adrian Newton	UNEP WCMC	Lecturer	20%
Dr Richard Ennos	IERM, UK	Senior Lecturer	5%
Philip Bubb	UNEP WCMC	Research assistant	15%
Dr Rafael F. del Castillo	CIIDIR, Mexico	Researcher	100%
Dr Jose Antonio Vargas Mendoza	CIIDIR, Mexico	Researcher	10%
Dr Miguel Angel Briones Salas	CIIDIR, Mexico	Researcher	40%
Sonia Trujillo Argueta	CIIDIR, Mexico	Research assistant	100%
Nahum Sanchez Vargas.	CIIDIR, Mexico	Research assistant	100%
Martha Angelica Bautista Cruz	CIIDIR, Mexico	Research assistant	100%
Raul Rivera Garcia.	CIIDIR, Mexico	Research assistant	100%

b) Please explain any variations in the composition of the project team or in the inputs of key staff from the details provided in the original application form.

Philip Bubb added to team to assist with integrating research with rural development

R:\kirsten\closed projects for upload\R7 (8-001 etc)\8-000 - 8-100\8-076\8-076 AR1 - edited.doc