

Darwin Initiative for the Survival of Species

Half Year Report Form

Project Title	Developing biodiversity management capacity around the Ramsar site in the Turks & Caicos Islands
Country	Turks & Caicos Islands
Organisation	CABI Bioscience / UK Overseas Territories Conservation Forum
Project Ref. No.	162/8/164
Report date	<i>October 2001</i>

1. Outline progress over the last 6 months against the agreed baseline timetable for the project.

There were few specific expectations (milestones / outputs) for the project over the last 6 months, according to the agreed baseline timetable (cf. Project Outputs / Project Implementation Timetable from the Project Schedule). Progress during the period has been largely as anticipated, most significantly:

- Extra resources were obtained from outside the Darwin Initiative for an additional visit in August 2001. This allowed valuable field observations to be made between the two main phases of biodiversity survey, extra ground-truthing of previously troublesome satellite imagery to be undertaken, and the translation of project results to practical conservation measures to be planned with local stakeholders.
- Arrangements for the second phase of biodiversity surveys have been put in place, mostly concentrated around two sets of visits by collaborating scientists in November 2001 and January/February 2002.
- The second and third project newsletters have been produced, combined into a 'double issue' (attached herewith, hard copy only, and shortly to be available on the UKOTCF web-site) as discussed in the Annual Report 2000/01.
- As well as ground-truthing, further progress has been made in electronically refining the habitat map of the study area (based on satellite imagery).

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 effect the budget and timetable of project activities. Have any of these issues been discussed with the Department and if so, have changes been made to the original agreement?

There have been no significant, unexpected problems in the last 6 months. Various issues discussed in the Annual Report 2000/01 remain relevant to the current and future operations of the project, such that some delays are anticipated to progress in specific areas. Conversely (also as noted in the Annual Report) progress in other areas is likely to continue to exceed expectations.

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

No.