

FINAL PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

I. BASIC DATA

Organization Name: Conservation International

Project Title: Conservation Assessment and Management Plan for Threatened Sumatran Species and Red List Assessment of Threatened Reptiles and Freshwater Fish

Project Dates: July 2002 – November 2003

Date of Report: April 8, 2004

II. OPENING REMARKS

Provide any opening remarks that may assist in the review of this report.

We are exceedingly grateful for the CEPF funding provided for this project, which was a critical first step toward CI's species outcome definition for Sumatra, and subsequently will shape definition of site- and landscape-level outcomes. We believe that the participatory approach used in this project (utilizing the knowledge of more than 100 scientific experts, including Ministry of Forestry staff), facilitated agreement on species priorities based on local input and using rigorous criteria of the IUCN Red List assessment process. Not only were previously un-assessed species assigned IUCN Red List categories of threat, but previously assessed species were re-evaluated and in some cases threat category changed based on the most recent information available from local experts. Distribution maps for each species evaluated allow us to now use these data as a baseline for both establishing site priorities, but also as a baseline for future monitoring.

III. ACHIEVEMENT OF PROJECT PURPOSE

Project Purpose: Key stakeholders/grantees propose and implement a coordinated set of projects to address threatened species research, responding to the strategic directions of the CEPF.

Planned vs. Actual Performance

Indicator	Actual at Completion
Purpose-level:	
1.1 CEPF grantees submit at least 3 proposals for threatened species research and management activities by September 1, 2003.	At least three proposals have been submitted: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Orangutans in Northern Sumatra – by CI Indonesia.2. Survey of orangutan distribution and Thomas' leaf monkey in the Seulawah Ecosystem – by Yayasan Ekologi Nanggroe Aceh (Yayasan EKONA), however the work has had to be postponed because of the security situation in Aceh.3. Anti-poaching patrols for rhinos, tigers and other megafauna in Bukit Barisan Selatan – by the International Rhino Foundation.

Describe the success of the project in terms of achieving its intended impact objective and performance indicators.

The project achieved its intended impact in terms of grant proposals generated. Whether these were a direct result of the CAMP process, however, is not clear. However, following discussions with other stakeholders during and after the workshop, we are confident that the CAMP process will lead to grant proposal submissions for threatened species in Sumatra both to CEPF and to other donors which are in line with the priorities established at the workshop.

Were there any unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?

No.

IV. PROJECT OUTPUTS

Project Outputs: Enter the project outputs from the Logical Framework for the project

Planned vs. Actual Performance

Indicator	Actual at Completion
<p>Output 1: Conservation Assessment and Management Plan (CAMP) workshop completed, including Red List assessment for Sumatra threatened freshwater fish and reptile species accomplished. Research and management priorities identified for all Sumatran threatened species (including mammals, birds, amphibians, reptiles and freshwater fish). This will be accomplished through convening a CAMP workshop, facilitated by IUCN's Conservation Breeding Specialist Group, of 30-60 specialists for these taxonomic groups. This 5-day workshop will be held in Sumatra (site to be determined). Outputs will entail a taxon-by-taxon assessment: (1) determining threats facing each taxon; (2) determining population and demographic trends if data are not already available; (3) mapping the distribution of each taxon; (4) assigning an IUCN Red List category of threat to freshwater fish and reptile species; (5) identifying past and current research initiatives including identifying gaps in the knowledge concerning each taxon; (6) making broad-based recommendations for necessary management activities to address limiting factors/threats; and (7) making broad-based recommendations, based on the best available science, for research activities needed to better understand basic biology, limiting factors, distribution, etc. Results of this assessment will be distributed to a wide range of stakeholders including local managers, field biologists, members of the academic community, decision-makers and other interested parties and will form the foundation for a Sumatran Red Data Book</p>	<p>The Sumatra Threatened Species Conservation Assessment and Management Plan workshop was conducted in Parapat, North Sumatra from 24-28 February 2003, after being postponed because of security issues. More than 80 people attended the workshop and participated in the Red List and other assessments and generation of recommendations, and an additional ~20 people who could not join the workshop participated in the review of the individual taxon data sheets after the workshops. A total of 266 species and subspecies in seven taxonomic groups were assessed: 41 mammals, 29 birds, 34 reptiles, 3 amphibians, 20 freshwater fishes, 49 butterflies and 90 angiosperms. For each taxon, participants identified existing and potential threats, population and demographic trends, IUCN Red List category, past and current research initiatives, and broad-based research and management recommendations. Distribution maps for each taxon also were prepared. The final results have been edited and compiled and distributed to workshop participants.</p>

1.1 Sumatran threatened species of reptiles and freshwater fish assessed according to the most recent IUCN Red List Criteria by March 1, 2003.	Completed by 28 February 2003. Species assessed included 20 freshwater fish and 34 reptiles.
1.2 Broad-based recommendations for research and management made for all threatened Sumatran species (mammals, birds, amphibians, reptiles and freshwater fish) by March 1, 2003.	Broad-based management recommendations for research and management of the 266 species reviewed completed 28 February 2003.
1.3 Draft report from CAMP workshop completed and distributed to selected participants for comment by June 30, 2003.	Draft Taxon Data Sheets distributed throughout period following workshop.
1.4 Final report of CAMP workshop produced, distributed and translated by August 21, 2003.	Final report produced and distributed by 30 October 2003 (per grant extension to 30 November).

Describe the success of the project in terms of delivering the intended outputs.

This project was successful in meeting all objectives: conducting IUCN Red List assessments for freshwater fish and reptiles, as well as revisiting the current IUCN Red List categories for species that already had been reviewed in earlier assessments. The project delivered all outputs as intended. Forty-one mammals, 29 birds, 34 reptiles, 3 amphibians, 20 freshwater fishes, 49 butterflies and 90 angiosperms were assessed during the CAMP workshop process. For each taxon reviewed, distribution maps were completed and broad-based management recommendations were made, as were recommendations for needed research. Additionally, the Ministry of Forestry has expressed interest in using the data generated by the CAMP workshop as a baseline from which to monitor species status in Sumatra.

Were any outputs unrealized? If so, how has this affected the overall impact of the project?

No. However, the translation into Bahasa is still in progress. We anticipate that it will be completed within the next few weeks, at which time the Bahasa version of the document will be printed and distributed.

V. SAFEGUARD POLICY ASSESSMENTS

Provide a summary of the implementation of any required action toward the environmental and social safeguard policies within the project.

None.

VI. LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE PROJECT

Describe any lessons learned during the various phases of the project. Consider lessons both for future projects, as well as for CEPF's future performance.

Multi-institutional initiatives require considerable coordination and it is extremely important to lay out clear shared objectives at the outset of a project of this type. We recommend that future initiatives of this kind conduct joint workplanning sessions well ahead of the workshop to delineate roles and responsibilities of each organization involved. We also have learned that this type of process, when mapping is involved, generates very large data files which often are cumbersome to transmit via email; therefore, a different method of file-sharing must be developed that allows all parties to easily access the data files.

Project Design Process: (aspects of the project design that contributed to its success/failure)

See below.

Project Execution: (aspects of the project execution that contributed to its success/failure)

While the project was a success in terms of delivery of the outputs, there were several aspects of the project execution that proved difficult. These did not contribute to success or failure, but more to unforeseen complexity in executing the project. Some of these were beyond our immediate control. For example, because of security concerns arising from the Bali bombing, the CAMP workshop had to be postponed from October 2002 to February 2003. Then in January 2003, the situation in Iraq led the US State Department to send out advisories warning against travel for US citizens to Indonesia. This then precluded participation by several core CBSG and CI-DC staff, as well as several outside taxonomic experts in the workshop. However, we were fortunate a staff member of CBSG-India was able to step in and facilitate the workshop as planned. This flexibility in terms of being able to utilize a competent replacement facilitator from another Asian country allowed the workshop to be conducted as scheduled.

The English version of the Sumatra Threatened Species CAMP report has been completed, printed and distributed. Because of the difficulty in transferring large data files between India, the US and Indonesia, the translation of the document into Bahasa has been slightly delayed. The anticipated completion and distribution of the translation is by mid-January

VII. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This project was an exceedingly valuable exercise in terms of taking the first steps needed to define species outcomes for Sumatra. By using a participatory process to come to agreement on threat status, research and management needs as well as distribution maps, we already have buy-in from local experts and stakeholders into CI's species outcomes. The species-level outcomes now will form the foundation for site- and corridor-level outcomes and prioritization of species and areas in need of future work needed in Sumatra. For example, the species data generated at the CAMP workshop now is being overlaid with socioeconomic data, which will help us to define the most threatened areas within the in Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam (NAD) and the North Sumatra province portions of the Northern Sumatra Corridor.

For more information about this project, please contact:

Susie Ellis
Conservation International
1919 M Street, NW Suite 600
Washington, DC 20036
Tel: 202-912-1000
Fax: 202-912-1046
E-mail: s.ellis@conservation.org
www.conservation.org