



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
RESEARCH & INNOVATION DG  
HUMAN RESOURCES AND  
MOBILITY

Mid-term Report

**Project No:** 237922

**Project Acronym:** THROUGHFLOW

**Project Full Name:** Cenozoic evolution of the Indonesian  
Throughflow and the origins of Indo-Pacific marine biodiversity:  
Mapping the biotic response to environmental change

## Mid-term Report

**Period covered: from to** 01/01/2012

**Date of preparation:** 22/12/2011

**Period number:** 1st

**Start date of project:** 01/01/2010

**Date of submission (SESAM):**  
22/12/2011

**Project coordinator name:**

Dr. Kenneth Johnson

**Project coordinator organisation name:**

NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM

**Version:** 1

# Mid-term Report

## PROJECT MID-TERM REPORT

<b>Grant Agreement number:</b>	237922
<b>Project acronym:</b>	THROUGHFLOW
<b>Project title:</b>	Cenozoic evolution of the Indonesian Throughflow and the origins of Indo-Pacific marine biodiversity: Mapping the biotic response to environmental change
<b>Funding Scheme:</b>	FP7-MC-ITN
<b>Mid-term period covered - start date:</b>	01/01/2010
<b>Mid-term period covered - end date:</b>	01/01/2012
<b>Project co-ordinator:</b>	
<b>Organisation PIC:</b>	999642037
<b>Organisation legal name:</b>	NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM
<b>Person in charge of scientific aspects:</b>	
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## OVERALL PROGRESS OF THE PROJECT:

### Comments:

#### Recruitment

We recruited a full cohort of 11 ESRs during the first year of the project. Seven were in place by July 2010 (month 7), with the remaining four in September and December 2010 (months 9 and 12). Recruitment of the final two ESRs was delayed by unforeseen personal circumstances and prior job commitments. An appropriate gender balance occurred (six female and five male ESRs). However, during June 2011 (month 18) two ESRs resigned (at RHUL and UGR). Both had made good progress in their training and research programmes but decided that they were not interested in continuing in this career track. Six months prior to their resignations, both had indicated that they had reservations about continuing with the research projects, and were provided with appropriate support to make informed decisions about their future. Neither stated that mobility requirements, work conditions, or a lack of institutional support were a factor in their decisions. Since leaving the project Bill Wood has started a career in the UK National Health Service, and Simone Arragoni is working towards a professional geologist certification in his home country. We have great respect for their ability to make the difficult decision to abandon this opportunity when it became clear that they no longer wished to pursue PhD-level research careers in the Earth Sciences. Both left their work in progress in a well-organised state and these projects will be taken forward by newly recruited ESRs. RHUL has made a new appointment in September 2011 and Granada is in the midst of selection and plans to recruit a new ESR in February 2012.

#### Training

ESR produced personal development plans and are working on individual research projects (see attached research report). Each ESR has participated in a range of training activities at their home institutions including research-directed training and complementary skills training (see attached training report). We have completed four of the planned NTAs, including both traditional "lecture/workshop" learning opportunities and practical field-based training. The field-based events were particularly successful both from a research training perspective and for building strong collaboration among the ESRs.

#### Management

Network management has been provided via a series of board meetings held during NTAs. The board includes a lead researcher from each partner and an elected ESR representative. In practice, all ESRs have participated in board meetings to facilitate network communication as each ESR is invited to present a brief progress report for discussion. Meeting minutes and presentations are available on our website.

#### Dissemination

Research results have been disseminated for a specialist audience via publications and at international conferences (see attached dissemination report). ESRs have participated in Public Engagement Activities in their host institution, including the NHM offer for "European Researcher's Night" in 2010 and 2011 and "live from the field" events via video-conferencing. The project website (<http://ipaeg.org/throughflow>) is also used for dissemination for both specialist and general audiences, and is based on the taxonomic content management software produced by the ViBRANT project (FP7 e-infrastructure).

#### Research

We are extremely pleased with this aspect of the project (see attached research report). Briefly, we are studying a series of new exposures of Miocene deposits in East Kalimantan, Indonesia and have collected large numbers of well-preserved fossils to describe the evolution of diverse coral reefs and other tropical shallow tropical marine ecosystems as they respond to regional and global environmental changes over the past 24 Million years.

# CONTRACT DELIVERABLES UPDATE

M - Months

RESR - Researcher

FAC B - Fixed amount contract B (%)

RECRUITMENT																																				
Participants	Early Stage Researchers (ESR)									Experienced Researchers (ER)									Visiting scientists (VS <10)									Visiting scientists (VS >10)								
	Foreseen			Implemented			Difference			Foreseen			Implemented			Difference			Foreseen			Implemented			Difference			Foreseen			Implemented			Difference		
	M	RESR	FAC B	M	RESR	FAC B	M	RESR	FAC B	M	RESR	FAC B	M	RESR	FAC B	M	RESR	FAC B	M	RESR	FAC B	M	RESR	FAC B	M	RESR	FAC B	M	RESR	FAC B	M	RESR	FAC B			
NHM	72	2	0	34.74	2	0	37.25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
CAU	72	2	0	35.74	2	0	36.25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	1	100	0	0	0	6	1	100		
NNM	72	2	0	31.9	2	0	40	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
RHUL	36	1	0	14.87	2	0	21.25	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
uni-HB	36	1	0	18.5	1	0	17.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
UGR	72	2	0	33	2	0	39	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
UU	36	1	0	15	1	0	21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Total	396	11	0	183.74	12	0	212.25	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	1	100	0	0	0	6	1	100		

**Comments:**

As discussed above in the "Overall Progress of the Project" section, two of our ESRs resigned during 2011 (in RHUL and UGR). RHUL recruited a new ESR in September 2011, and UGR is currently recruiting a new candidate ESR to start in February 2011. Despite these resignations we are currently on track to deliver the stated number of person-months by the end of the project.

## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES / EVENTS OPEN TO EXTERNAL RESEARCHERS

Event Number	Participant hosting the event	Type of Event	Month when the event took place	Start date of the event	End date of the event	Total number of researchers outside the network attending the event	Total number of researcher days for researchers from outside the network attending the event	Website of the event
1	RHUL	NTA-1. Introduction to the Geology of SE Asia	7	05/07/2010	09/07/2011	0	0	<a href="http://ipaeg.org/throughflow/nta-1">http://ipaeg.org/throughflow/nta-1</a>
2	NNM	NTA-2 Chronostratigraphy Workshop	11	15/11/2011	18/12/2010	6	150	<a href="http://ipaeg.org/throughflow/nta-2">http://ipaeg.org/throughflow/nta-2</a>
3	NHM	NTA-3 Geo-and biodiversity informatics workshop	14	28/02/2011	04/03/2011	0	0	<a href="http://ipaeg.org/throughflow/nta-3">http://ipaeg.org/throughflow/nta-3</a>
4	NHM	NTA-4 Paleoenvironments Workshop	18	12/06/2011	17/07/2011	6	150	<a href="http://ipaeg.org/throughflow/nta-4">http://ipaeg.org/throughflow/nta-4</a>

Total number of researchers outside the network attending the event	Total number of researcher days for researchers from outside the network attending the event
12	300

**Planned number of researcher days for researchers from outside the network attending the event: 0**

**Remaining number of researcher days for researchers from outside the network attending the event: -300**

**Comments:**

Please see attached training report for details on the completed and planned network training activities and symposium.

<b>Attachments</b>	training_report.pdf, research_report.pdf, dissemination_report.pdf
<b>Name</b>	
<b>Date</b>	
<b>Signature</b>	