

*Darwin Initiative for the Survival of Species*



*2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Report (2005-2006)*

**Developing a model for the conservation of Croatia's grassland biodiversity**

# *Darwin Initiative: Annual Report*

## **1 Darwin Project Information**

Project Ref. Number	162/13/004
Project Title	Developing a model for the conservation of Croatia's grassland biodiversity
Country(ies)	Croatia
UK Contractor	Fauna & Flora International (FFI), UK
Partner Organisation(s)	Institute of Grassland and Environmental Research (IGER), UK Žumberak-Samoborsko gorje Nature Park (Croatia)
Darwin Grant Value	£150,600 ( £55,193 in 2 <sup>nd</sup> year)
Start/End dates	May 2004 – March 2007
Reporting period (1 Apr 200x to 31 Mar 200y) and annual report number (1,2,3..)	April 2005 – March 2006; Annual report 2
Project website	<a href="http://www.ppzsg.org/darwin">www.ppzsg.org/darwin</a>
Author(s), date	Antonia Eastwood & Paul Hotham

## **2 Project Background**

Situated at the crossroads of four bio-geographical regions, Croatia, in the western Balkans, has an incredibly diverse range of ecosystems, habitats and species relative to its small size. Since independence from Yugoslavia in 1991, Croatia has undergone extensive social, economic and political change, including four years of regional conflict. As a newly emergent state, and in recognition of its rich natural heritage, Croatia established five new protected areas in 1999. Although Croatia now boasts a network of 18 protected areas, there is still a lack of capacity in areas such as management planning and stakeholder participation. There is also a recognised need to develop sustainable management and monitoring strategies for threatened habitats such as semi-natural grasslands. Croatia's semi-natural grasslands support a wealth of biological diversity including rare and threatened orchids, birds and butterflies but are under threat due to a rapid decline in traditional agricultural activities such as grazing and hay making.

## **3. Project Purpose and Outputs**

### **Purpose**

The purpose of the project is to build the capacity of the Žumberak-Samoborsko gorje Nature Park (ŽSGNP) in management planning and the conservation of grassland biodiversity, and in doing so, develop a model for the conservation of Croatia's grasslands. The model will be extended to other protected areas through the provision of management planning training to the Učka Nature Park (UNP) and training workshops for other protected areas in grassland management and conservation.

### **Outputs**

The main outputs of the project are summarised below:

- i) A ŽSGNP management plan
- ii) ŽSGNP staff trained in participatory management planning & conservation of grassland biodiversity
- iii) UNP trained in participatory management planning
- iv) Other protected areas trained in the conservation of grassland biodiversity
- v) Production of habitat and species action plans for ŽSGNP

vi) Public awareness of grassland biodiversity raised

The project has made excellent progress against the log-frame. The achievements and progress against it are outlined in Appendix 2 and below in section four. There have been changes in the operational plan and some outputs have had to be postponed including the training workshops for ŽSGNP in grassland management and monitoring. These are explained in more detail in section four below.

## **4. Progress**

### **Project History**

The first year of the project primarily focused on building the capacity of the ŽSGNP in participatory management planning and the surveying of grassland biodiversity. This was achieved through numerous training workshops, the professional development of key staff (international conferences, workshops and study trips to the UK) and the provision of mentoring/guidance by UK based project partners (FFI & IGER).

For the ŽSGNP management plan, the project completed a stakeholder participation plan, which included semi-structured interviews with over 70 individuals, 9 village meetings, several focus group meetings and a stakeholder workshop. The results of the stakeholder participation were analysed and incorporated into the developing management plan.

Despite the late start up of the project, preliminary grassland surveys and protocols were developed in the first year and the structure of a grassland biodiversity database was established.

The project was very successful in its public awareness raising campaign, with the printing of a project newsletter (for both local and international audiences), a project web-site, and radio and TV interviews.

### **Summary of this year's progress**

The project has made very good progress against the agreed timetable for this period and the logical framework, despite the inevitable knock-on-affect of the late start up in the first year. A summary of the main outputs is provided below.

#### *Training workshop in grassland surveying (postponed from first year):*

- The first quarter of the 2<sup>nd</sup> year focused on refining the grassland surveying protocols and providing training to ŽSGNP staff in four different surveying techniques (rapid biodiversity, rare plant, plant community surveying and farmer interviews).

#### *Grassland biodiversity database established:*

- A grassland biodiversity database has been designed and data collected from the above survey work is being entered.

#### *Training other PAs in grassland biodiversity and surveying:*

- In July 2005, training in grassland biodiversity and surveying, was extended to other protected areas and institutes in Croatia through the implementation of a four-day workshop in the ŽSGNP.

#### *Professional training of key staff:*

- The project provide further professional training to Park staff. Biljana Janev Hutinec, the ŽSGNP conservation manager, attended a workshop in the Peak District National Park on "Grassland management for Nature Conservation" and an international conference on "Landscape scale conservation" at the University of Wales, Bangor. In autumn, the Darwin scholar, Zrinka Mesić, spent three months on a study trip to IGER. Here she worked alongside Jerry Tallowin's biodiversity team learning new skills in ecological research, grassland biodiversity and management, and data analysis. Zrinka also attended a conference at Nottingham University on Landscape Ecology: Planning,

People and Practice, and visited grassland projects in Dartmoor and the Yorkshire Dales National Park.

#### *Draft Grassland Action Plan*

- In November a staff workshop was held in the ŽSGNP to develop a Grassland Action Plan for the Park.

#### *Training in participatory management planning to Učka Nature Park*

- Training was provided to the Učka Nature Park in participatory management planning. This included two staff workshops and one stakeholder workshop and ongoing mentoring in stakeholder participation.

*Production of the 'Grassland Biodiversity and Surveying: handbook' (English & Croatian).*

#### *Publicity and public awareness*

- The project has generated a lot of publicity through press releases, newspaper articles, several national radio broadcasts and a TV feature (see section 8 for details). The project has produced two issues of the 'Kosilica' newsletter and one issue of 'Grass-cuttings'.

### **Slippage**

Elements of the grassland management and monitoring activities planned for the ŽSGNP, including the establishment of permanent monitoring quadrats have had to be postponed until the spring of 2006. This is a knock-on-affect of the late start up of the project (as previously reported most of the field season in the first year was lost).

Similarly, the production of the surveying manual was behind schedule. This manual couldn't be produced until training had been provided to the ŽSGNP, this has now been achieved and the manual is now completed. Due to the technical complexity of the topic, the translation of the manual also took longer than anticipated and contributed to the delay in production.

The production of the management planning manual has also been delayed, primarily due to the additional training and support that has been given to ŽSG and Učka Nature Parks in participatory management planning. An English version of the manual does exist, however, this has still to be translated into Croatian. The Darwin Secretariat will be updated on the situation shortly.

### **Additional outputs**

- The bi-lingual project website continues to be updated and maintained.
- Additional training and support to ŽSGNP and UNP in participatory management planning.
- Additional professional training to Matija Franković, a biologist and former director of ŽSGNP, in biodiversity conservation and livelihoods (workshop attendance).
- A workshop to develop a Grassland Action Plan for the ŽSG Nature Park

### **Achievements**

#### *Capacity building in participatory management planning*

The project has made excellent progress in building the capacity of the ŽSGNP and UNP in participatory management planning. This has been achieved through facilitated workshops in management planning, staff training sessions on stakeholder participation and on-going mentoring in both fields. This dedicated capacity building has empowered the two Parks greatly and they are gradually emerging as experts in their own right on these topics. The ŽSGNP has almost completed its first draft management plan. The UNP is also progressing exceptionally well, as well. Feedback from the participants of the stakeholder workshops has been very positive and the project has been approached by other protected areas in Croatia for assistance in management planning.

### *Training and capacity building of ŽSG Nature Park in grassland biodiversity and conservation*

This has been delivered through workshops, professional staff development and mentoring. The workshop on grassland biodiversity and surveying, led by Jerry Tallwin from the IGER, outlined the ecological basis of grassland biodiversity and its maintenance and provided practical training in four different surveying methods (rapid biodiversity, rare plant, plant community and farmer interviews). Additional training on plant community surveying was provided to the Darwin scholar, Zrinka Mesić, through on-the-job training and mentoring throughout the fieldwork season.

The training has enabled the Park staff to start collecting data on the Park's grassland biodiversity. This will be used to assign conservation priorities and to set management objectives. Feedback from the Darwin Scholar and the Park Rangers indicate that further mentoring in the field is required to ensure consistency in data collection. The project team aims to provide this in due course. Although good progress has been made, the area of grasslands surveyed has been limited. This is an inevitable consequence of the limited staff time and their lack of capacity. The survey forms developed by the project are attached as appendices.

The Darwin Scholar spent three months of the year with Jerry Tallwin's biodiversity team as part of her professional development. Here she was exposed to and participated in a range of research projects on grassland biodiversity and conservation. Zrinka also conducted a preliminary analysis of the plant community data collected in the previous season. These experiences improved her practical skills in grassland surveying and provided her with the necessary skills to be able to design and implement applied research projects. This has proved to be invaluable as the ZSGNP has just received funding to develop a collaborative research project with the national Centre of Grasslands, University of Zagreb.

The project team has also facilitated, through workshops, the Park staff to develop a Grassland Action Plan. Although still in draft form, the plan has a main objective, targets and actions all outlined.

### *Extending training in grassland biodiversity and surveying to other PAs*

In July 2005 a workshop was organised for other Croatian protected areas on the topic of grassland biodiversity and surveying. The workshop was led by Jerry Tallwin of IGER and was opened by the Assistant Minister, Mr Zoran Šikić. The workshop was well received by the participants who came from the length and breadth of Croatia. The programme provided the participants with a thorough grounding in grassland ecology and the factors that create and maintain biodiversity. This was followed by practical training in grassland survey techniques. Feedback from the participants was very positive with many saying that they had learnt new skills, which they would now be applying in their protected areas. Recommendations such as the need for closer supervision in the field and working in smaller groups have been noted to improve future training workshops.

Workshop training materials, including four different surveying techniques, have been developed into a training manual on grassland biodiversity and surveying. It is anticipated that the manual will be well received. However, we are eagerly waiting the first feedback from recipients.

### **Difficulties**

Since November of last year there have been a number of significant changes in the ŽSGNP personnel. These include a change in director and the loss of the conservation manager. The project team were very sad to lose both people from these posts as they were key instigators and drivers of this project. Much of its success to date can be attributed to their dedication and hard work.

The positive news is that the former director is still working for Park as a biological advisor. The former conservation manager has taken up the position of conservation manager at Maksimir Park.

These staff changes have been further exacerbated by temporary loss of three other staff members, due to long term sick leave. These include the head ranger, geologist and education officer. These changes have inevitably slowed progress and reduced overall staff moral. Moreover, the Darwin scholar has had to assist the Park in some of its more general duties, ultimately reducing her time dedicated to the project. Collectively, these changes have impacted on the quality and efficacy of the work produced by our in country partners, with an increased workload for the project leaders.

Efforts are currently focused on supporting our partners through this difficult period. The project will also be working hard to build a good working relationship with the new members of staff as they arrive.

### **Timetable for next reporting period (2006-2007)**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Key milestone</b>
Apr 06	Annual report
May 06	Croatian management planning Handbook
May 06	Training workshop in grassland monitoring (ŽSGNP)
June 06	Training workshop in grassland management (ŽSGNP)
June 06	Training workshop in grassland management (other PAs)
Sept 06	Training workshop in grassland monitoring (other PAs)
Sept 06	Newsletter
October 06	Grassland management handbook
November 06	Grassland Action Plan
November 06	Management planning review workshop (ŽSGNP)
December 06	Poster
January 07	Management planning review workshop (UNP)
January 07	Grassland biodiversity monitoring plan
February 07	Draft Management plan ŽSGNP
March 07	Newsletter
March 07	Grassland monitoring handbook

## **5 Actions taken in response to previous reviews (if applicable)**

### **Evaluation of training/stakeholder engagement**

The two stakeholder workshops and the one grassland surveying workshops for other protected areas were evaluated using questionnaires. The workshops were highly praised, in particular for the quality of presentations, standard of lecturers, facilitation, organisation and the provision of ample opportunities for discussion/voicing of opinions. Feedback on improving the workshops has been taken on board by the project team and are being fed into future activities.

As an example, comments were made at that there were not enough local people represented at the ŽSGNP stakeholder workshop. We explained that, a lot of local people had been invited but failed to attend. We then resolved this issue by organising a series of village meetings throughout the Park, which were very well attended. This learning is now being used in the UNP, who is including informal village meetings in the stakeholder engagement activities.

Capacity building is a continuous and incremental process, with some activities being more measurable than others. To ensure full evaluation the project leaders planned an evaluation workshop with all the Park staff. However, this activity has had to be delayed, as a result of the recent staff losses and increased work burden on remaining staff, until the autumn of 2006. The project will also hold an evaluation workshop with the Učka Nature Park later in the management planning process.

### **Scientific methodology and rigour**

Examples of the grassland biodiversity surveying forms (rapid biodiversity, rare plant, plant community and farmer interview) are attached electronically with this report in the folder

entitled 162/13/004 Croatia Y2. The principles behind the survey forms and the associated step-by-step guidelines, for example, how to conduct a semi-structured interview, can be found in the 'Grassland biodiversity and surveying' handbook a copy of which can be found also in the folder.

The methodology used to develop the two participatory management plans in Croatia is based on a process developed by Fauna & Flora International, using the experiences gained during the development of management plans for three Romanian protected areas. The process follows the general format recommended by Eurosite and the Countryside Council for Wales, and takes into consideration internationally accepted best practice guidelines from IUCN (Appleton, M.R., 2002). Fauna & Flora International, as part of this project, is revising this manual, a copy of which will be shortly available. The management planning process is being facilitated by Paul Hotham, a protected area expert and member of the World Commission of Protected Areas.

## **6 Partnerships**

Collaboration with the ŽSG Nature Park has been affected by the loss of their key staff. In-country project co-ordination and implementation has been maintained by Zrinka Mesić, the Darwin scholar. However, there has been inevitable slippage in the quality of outputs and the meeting of work plan targets. The project leaders are building relations with the new conservation manager and Park Director and hope to build on the strong foundation left by their predecessors.

Relationships with Učka Nature Park have gone from strength to strength. The whole park team are fully engaged with and enthusiastic about the participatory management planning process. The management planning process at Učka Nature Park is being co-ordinated by the conservation manager, Marin Grgurev.

The project has been approached by the GEF Karst Ecosystem Conservation project and the CARDS project (Institutional strengthening of the State Institute for Nature Protection) to exchange expertise and knowledge of participatory management planning. The project team will be arranging to meet with the staff of these projects in the near future.

Fauna & Flora International has also been asked to assist in the development of Biokovo Nature Park's management plan (through recommendation by Učka Nature Park). Although this is beyond our capacity at the moment, we have already provided much needed guidance on stakeholder analysis and developing a stakeholder participation plan. The conservation manager, Diana Jurić, plans to visit Učka Nature Park in the near future to gain further guidance from their experience.

The project is actively trying to establish links with the department of agriculture with the aim of commissioning a farmer livelihoods study in the ŽSG Nature Park. This work forms part of the FFI 'Resources for Improved Livelihoods' programme. However, we have not been successful in advancing this, primarily due to the fact that there are few rural sociologists and economists in Croatia.

## **7 Impact and Sustainability**

### **Impact**

In the past year the project has been gradually receiving a larger profile within the national protected area and nature conservation network in Croatia. This has been achieved through word of mouth by our partners, press releases, the project newsletter 'Kosilica' and radio and TV broadcasts.

The Ministry of Culture through projects such as the Karst Ecosystem Conservation (KEC) Project and CARDS are currently developing guidelines on management planning for protected areas. The Darwin Project, through our partners the ŽSG Nature Park and Učka Nature Park, has been able to make significant contribution to the discussions on management planning and, in doing so, to shape the development of the national management planning guidelines. As detailed earlier, capacity building has empowered the staff of the two

Parks to perform a role as experts on participatory management planning. For example, the Ministry of Culture has approached, Matija Franković and Biljana Janev Hutinec, key project benefactors to act as advisors to other protected areas on participatory management planning. The project has also been directly asked to share its expertise and experiences with the KEC and CARDS projects. In addition, the project has also been approached by Biokovo Nature Park and a regional protected area in Istria to assist them in management planning.

The project continues to build on its successful stakeholder engagement plans at the ŽSGNP and UNP. In doing so, we are increasing the profile of the project locally and harnessing the support of local communities, local government agencies and businesses.

### **Exit strategy**

The development of management plans for the nature parks will ensure the sustainable and effective management of the habitats and species of these protected areas in the future. The process used to produce the plans is building relations between the parks and their local constituency. Moreover, as the plans are produced by the protected area team, and not drafted and imposed by consultants (as often happens), the plans are more likely to be used and the continuity of management secured, regardless of future staff changes. This, as we have seen at ŽSGNP, is critical to the sustainability and long term impact of our project.

From the beginning the project has focused on building the capacity of key protected area staff. This investment is a critical component of the project's exit strategy. Croatian staff seldom move away from their home regions and rarely abroad. As such, knowledge, skills and experience are being retained within the partner parks, and where not, e.g. the ZSG Nature Park, these people are moving to new protected areas within Croatia, thus ensuring that the project continues to make a significant contribution to the management of protected areas in Croatia.

## **8 Outputs, Outcomes and Dissemination**

As explained in section four, a number of outputs have been postponed or partly achieved. This includes the training workshop on grassland management and monitoring and the establishment of permanent monitoring quadrats in the ŽSG Nature Park. The handbook on management planning is also unfinished, as it is still to be translated into Croatian. Please see section four for more detail.

Additional outputs include:

- The bi-lingual project website continues to be updated and maintained.
- Additional training and support to ŽSG Nature Park and Učka Nature Park in participatory management planning.
- Additional professional training to Matija Franković, a biologist and former director of ŽSG Nature Park, in biodiversity conservation and livelihoods (workshop attendance).
- A workshop to develop a Grassland Action Plan for the ŽSG Nature Park

The project has conducted a number of dissemination activities, which have targeted different audiences. The dissemination activities and target audience are summarised below:

1. Article in Lovačka Vjesnik (Hunter's News) – 'Hunters and conservationist together' April 05. Hunting societies.
2. Local and national press release and posting on ŽSGNP website
3. Newspaper article in Samoborske Novine – 'Saving our mountains', April 05; general public in region
4. Project presentation, July 06; Representatives of Croatia's protected areas.
5. Interview on national radio, July 05: general public
6. Interview on local radio, July 06: general public in region



7. Interview on Croatia's popular TV programme "Good morning Croatia", August 05: general public
8. Article in Fauna & Flora Magazine, July 05; international conservationists
9. Newsletter "Kosilica", September 05; stakeholders of the ŽSNGP
10. Newsletter "Grass cuttings", September 05; UK and international academic and conservation organisations
11. Project presentation, October 06; scientists at IGER
12. Presentation of Darwin project at stakeholder workshop, November 05: stakeholders of Učka Nature Park
13. Local and national press release in Croatia, November 05
14. Article in regional newspaper 'Novi List', November 06; General public.
15. Article in local Istrian newspaper 'Glas Istre', November 06; General public.
16. Article in local magazine, January 06; Local communities in the ŽSNGP
17. Newsletter "Kosilica", March 06; stakeholders of the ŽSNGP
18. Project website, [www.ppzsg.org/darwin](http://www.ppzsg.org/darwin)

The ŽSNGP intends to continue producing a newsletter for the local community which live in the Park.

**Table 1. Project Outputs (According to Standard Output Measures)**

<b>Code No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Year 1 Total</b>	<b>Year 2 Total</b>
5	3 month study visit by Darwin scholar to IGER, plus continuous mentoring and training throughout Y1 and Y2.		1
6Ai	Training workshop (s) in management planning & stakeholder participation	12 (ŽSNGP)	12 (UNP)
6Bi	Weeks	4	4
6Aii	Training for ŽSNGP staff in grassland surveying	5	10
6Bii	Weeks	4	2
6Aiii	International workshops/conferences	2	3
6Biii	Weeks	1	1
6Aiv	Workshop for PA staff on grassland surveying		15
6Biv	Weeks		1
7	Training manual (Grassland biodiversity & surveying )		1
8	FFI & IGER staff weeks in Croatia	23	20
12A	Grassland biodiversity database established		1
14A	Project presentation	3	3
14B	Project presentation		1
15A	Local press releases, articles in magazines, newspapers	3	4
15B	National press releases	2	2
15C	National Press release (UK)	1	1
16A	Newsletter (s) targeting different audiences	2	3
16B	Newsletter "Kosilica"	2,500	2,000
16C	Newsletter "Grass cuttings"	200	200
18A	TV interview	1	1
19A	Radio interview	1	2

**Table 2: Publications**

Type * (e.g. journals, manual, CDs)	Detail (title, author, year)	Publishers (name, city)	Available from (e.g. contact address, website)	Cost £
<i>Newsletter</i>	"Kosilica", <i>Autumn 05</i>		<i>www.ppszg.org/darwin</i>	-
<i>Newsletter*</i>	"Grass cuttings", <i>Autumn 05</i>		<i>www.ppszg.org/darwin</i>	-
<i>Newsletter</i>	"Kosilica", <i>Spring 06</i>		<i>www.ppszg.org/darwin</i>	-
<i>Manual*</i>	<i>Grassland Biodiversity &amp; Surveying (English &amp; Croatian)</i>		<i>www.ppszg.org/darwin</i>	

## 9 Project Expenditure

**Table 3: Project expenditure during the reporting period (Defra Financial Year 01 April to 31 March)**

Item	Budget (approved by DS, April 05)	Expenditure	Balance

In year two the project under spent by £722 and expenditure between budget lines was within the accepted +/- 10%.

## 10 Monitoring, Evaluation and Lessons

The project is monitored and evaluated twice a year using Fauna & Flora International internal reporting cycle. In addition, the project partners have had regular meetings to monitor progress both in the UK and Croatia. The Darwin scholar also reports back to the UK partners on project progress on a regular basis.

As indicated in Annex 1 and detailed in other sections of the report the project has made considerable progress against the measurable indicators outlined in the log-framework, with clear demonstrable impacts on a local and national scale. The draft participatory management plan, draft grassland action plan, new data on grassland biodiversity, professional training and empowerment of leading conservationists, etc. already contribute significantly to the implementation of activities and processes which will ultimately lead to sustainable management systems and the conservation of grassland biodiversity.

## References

Appleton, M.R. (Compiler) (2002) Protected area management planning in Romania: a manual and toolkit.

Annex 1 Report of progress and achievements against Logical Framework for Financial Year: 2005/2006

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2005-Mar 2006	Actions required/planned for next period
<p><b>Goal:</b> To draw on expertise relevant to biodiversity from within the United Kingdom to work with local partners in countries rich in biodiversity but poor in resources to achieve</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The conservation of biological diversity,</li> <li>• The sustainable use of its components, and</li> <li>• The fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilisation of genetic resources</li> </ul>			
<p><b>Purpose</b> <i>(insert original project purpose statement)</i></p> <p>To build the capacity of the ŽSNGP and to initiate the development of sustainable management systems to conserve the biodiversity and wildlife riches of grasslands in Croatia.</p>	<p><i>(insert original purpose level indicators)</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. New data on habitats, species and agricultural practices in the ŽSNGP</li> <li>2. Stakeholders integrated into management/action plan (s)</li> <li>3. Restoration/maintenance of high conservation value meadows and pastures.</li> <li>4. Mosaic of landscapes/habitats maintained in park</li> <li>5. Other PAs initiate sustainable management systems for grasslands</li> </ol>	<p><i>(report impacts and achievements resulting from the project against purpose indicators – if any)</i></p> <p>Park staff trained in four grassland survey techniques (rapid biodiversity, rare plant, plant community and farmer interviews)</p> <p>Generation of new data on habitats, species and land management practices by Park.</p> <p>Establishment of biodiversity database for information management and analysis.</p> <p>Preliminary analysis of survey data.</p> <p>Field skills and knowledge base of staff in grassland biodiversity enhanced</p> <p>Management plan has a “Supporting the Local Community” section, a direct result of stakeholder participation.</p>	<p><i>(report any lessons learned resulting from the project &amp; highlight key actions planning for next period)</i></p> <p>Analysis of data to establish priority conservation objectives for grassland action plan.</p> <p>Training in grassland management and monitoring to park staff.</p>
<p><b>Outputs</b> <i>(insert original outputs – one per line)</i></p>	<p><i>(insert original output level indicators)</i></p>	<p><i>(report completed activities and outcomes that contribute toward outputs and indicators)</i></p>	<p><i>(report any lessons learned resulting from the project &amp; highlight key actions planning for next period)</i></p>
<p><b>1.</b> ŽSNGP Management Plan</p>	<p><b>1.</b> Production of management plan</p>	<p>A draft participatory management plan has been produced for the Park.</p>	<p>Draft management plan to be reviewed and refined.</p> <p>Consultation with stakeholders</p>

2. ŽSGNP park staff trained in management planning, surveying, monitoring and habitat management	2. No. of weeks in-country training, 4 Workshops, 2 Conferences, UK study visit, Course attendance.	Extensive training and professional development of staff in grassland biodiversity and surveying (workshops, international conferences, study visits and mentoring).	Training workshops in grassland management and monitoring
3. Other PAs trained in above	3. Additional management planning workshop for another PA, 4 training handbooks, 3 training workshops	Učka Nature Park has received training in participatory management planning and has made excellent progress in developing their management plan.  Production of two training manuals: i) Grassland biodiversity and surveying and ii) participatory management planning.  PA training workshop in grassland biodiversity and surveying.	Production of training manuals in grassland management and monitoring.  PA workshops in grassland management and monitoring.  Continued guidance and support in management planning to Učka Nature Park.
4. Production of habitat and species action plans.	4. Production of habitat and species action plans.	Production of a draft grassland action plan for the ŽSGNP.	Review and refinement of action plan. Consultation with relevant stakeholders on specific actions in the plan  Development of a grassland biodiversity monitoring plan
5. Public awareness of grasslands raised	5. Educational poster, press releases, TV or radio broadcast, 5 newsletters	Press releases have generated several newspaper articles, a TV interview on the ŽSGNP grasslands and two radio interviews.	Production of a further two newsletters and poster

**Note: Please do NOT expand rows to include activities since their completion and outcomes should be reported under the column on progress and achievements at output and purpose levels**

## Annex 2: Logical Framework

Project summary	Measurable indicators	Means of verification	Important assumptions
<p><b>Goal:</b></p> <p>To draw on expertise relevant to biodiversity from within the United Kingdom to work with local partners in countries rich in biodiversity but poor in resources to achieve: the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components, and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilisation of genetic resources.</p>			
<p><b>Purpose</b></p> <p>To build the capacity of the ŽSGNP and to initiate the development of sustainable management systems to conserve the biodiversity and wildlife riches of grasslands in Croatia.</p>	<p>New data on habitats, species and agricultural practices in the ŽSGNP</p> <p>Stakeholders integrated into management/action plan (s)</p> <p>Restoration/maintenance of high conservation value meadows and pastures.</p> <p>Mosaic of landscapes/habitats maintained in park</p> <p>Other PAs initiate sustainable management systems for grasslands</p>	<p>Biodiversity data base</p> <p>No. of stakeholders collaborating with Park</p> <p>Stakeholders integration in PAs management/action plans</p> <p>Habitat management and monitoring reports</p> <p>Annual reports, work plans</p> <p>Reports, correspondence and newsletters from other nature parks</p>	<p>Stakeholders (farmers, hunters, etc.) wish to participate</p> <p>The Government (central and local) supports the initiative and develops agri-environmental policies</p> <p>Traditional agricultural practices are economically viable for remaining stakeholders</p> <p>Supplementary income generation is feasible (eco-tourism etc.)</p>
<p><b>Outputs</b></p> <p>1. ŽSGNP Park Management Plan</p> <p>2. ŽSGNP park staff trained in management planning, surveying, monitoring and habitat management</p> <p>3. Other PAs trained in above</p> <p>4. Production of habitat and species action plans</p> <p>5. Public awareness of grasslands raised</p>	<p>1. Production of management plan</p> <p>2. No. of weeks in-country training, 4 Workshops, 2 Conferences, UK study visit, Course attendance.</p> <p>3. Additional management planning workshop for another PA, 4 training handbooks, 3 training workshops</p> <p>4. Production of habitat and species action plans</p> <p>5. Poster, press releases, TV or radio broadcast, 5 newsletters</p>	<p>1. Management plan</p> <p>2. Travel itineraries, Workshop attendance, Presentation of UK study visit and report, Conference/course summary presented to other park staff</p> <p>3. Handbooks distributed to PAs, A list of trainees attending workshops and assessment records/feedback, Preparation of additional management plan</p> <p>4. Habitat/species action plans</p> <p>5. Copies sent to Darwin Initiative</p>	<p>Management plan is adopted and implemented</p> <p>Prescribed management and monitoring is adopted and continues to be supported</p> <p>ŽSGNP Darwin scholar, staff motivated and responsive to training</p> <p>ŽSGNP staff able to train others</p> <p>Trainees motivated and responsive to training</p> <p>Trainees initiate sustainable management systems in other PAs</p>
<p><b>Activities</b></p> <p>1. Workshop, stakeholder assessment, surveys, data collation; 2. Workshops, on-the-job training, study visit, conferences; 3. Training workshops, handbooks; 4. Stakeholder participation, collaboration with experts, surveys, data collation; establishment of database 5. Press releases, poster, newsletters,</p>	<p><b>Activity Milestones (Summary of Project Implementation Timetable)</b></p> <p>1. Yr 1) Management planning workshop, Biodiversity/agriculture/policy and stakeholder assessment, consultations. Yr 2) Collation and analysis of data, Establishment of database. Yr 3) Management plan review workshop, Production of draft management plan. 2. Yr 1) Workshop in surveying techniques, DI scholar attends course, Conference attendance for 2 key staff. Yr 2) Workshops in habitat and species management and monitoring, UK study visit for Darwin Scholar, Conference attendance for 2 key staff. 3. Yr 1) - Yr 2) Workshop in Surveying, Production of 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> handbook, Management planning workshop for additional PA. Yr 3) Production of 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> handbook, Workshops in habitat management and monitoring, Management plan review for other PA. 4. Yr 1) Biodiversity surveys and consultations with experts, stakeholders etc, Literature reviews. Yr 2) Collation and analysis of data, Establishment of database. Yr 3) Production of habitat and species action plans. 5. Yr 1) Press releases, 1 newsletter, project on websites. Yr 2) Press releases, 2 newsletters. Yr 3) Press releases, 2 newsletters, educational poster.</p>		