



Darwin Initiative Annual Report



Important note:

To be completed with reference to the Reporting Guidance Notes for Project Leaders – it is expected that this report will be about 10 pages in length, excluding annexes

Submission deadline 30 April 2010

Darwin Project Information

Project Ref Number	17-011
Project Title	A Participatory Conservation Programme for the Comoro Islands
Country(ies)	Union of the Comoros
UK Contract Holder Institution	Bristol, Clifton and West of England Zoological Society (BCWEZS)
Host country Partner Institution(s)	The Ministry for Agriculture, Fishing and the Environment; the University of the Comoros
Other Partner Institution(s)	Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust; Overseas Development Group of the University of East Anglia
Darwin Grant Value	£238,805
Start/End dates of Project	01/04/09 – 31/03/12
Reporting period (1 Apr 200x to 31 Mar 200y) and annual report number (1,2,3..)	1 April 2009 – 31 March 2010 Annual report number 1
Project Leader Name	Neil Maddison
Project website	A new BCWEZS project website is under construction An internal wiki site to support project management has been set up
Author(s) and main contributors, date	Hugh Doulton, Adrien Brandon, Katie Green, Neil Maddison (all BCWEZS); Andrew Terry (DWCT) Partners in the Comorian government have been consulted about progress, problems and solutions, but cannot contribute to report writing due to lack of English.

1. Project Background

Bristol Conservation and Science Foundation (BCSF: an operating arm of BCWEZS), has been working in partnership with Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust (DWCT) in the Moya region of the island of Anjouan in the Comoro Islands since the beginning of 2008. Anjouan is the poorest and most densely populated of the islands, and has suffered from some of the highest deforestation rates in the world in the last twenty years according to the FAO. Poverty, lack of alternative economic options, population pressure, and poorly-adapted agricultural methods are the main factors contributing to ongoing deforestation. The deforestation puts at risk the endemic terrestrial biodiversity, including the flagship Livingstone's Flying Fox, and is causing acute problems for the human population, particularly through loss of water resources and soil fertility.



BCSF's project ('the project') works to engage communities living around remaining forest blocks in the implementation of an integrated landscape management process in order to contribute to improving the livelihoods of the human population and protect endemic terrestrial biodiversity and its forest habitat. Livelihood improvement at the individual level is focussed on agricultural support, with communal natural resource management centring on water resources – areas of support prioritised by local communities. The implementation of an ecological monitoring system will provide biodiversity data to support conservation zoning within the project intervention zones and more widely throughout the Comoros. Sustainability of the project is based around the creation of a local, independent and capable NGO. Key project co-funding comes through an agreement with the French Development Agency (FDA) for €750,000, signed in March 2010, in addition to partner commitments.

2. Project Partnerships

Management structure: An internal project organisational diagram is annexed. A Head of Administration and Finances has been hired under the FDA financing, and a financial audit will be completed every six months.

Local Partners: Following the change request submitted in September 2009 and accepted by Darwin, the project has changed the host country partner from the NGO Action Comores to the Ministry of Environment for the Union of the Comoros. The detailed reasons for this are outlined in the change request, but the Environment Ministry was chosen both because of its importance and role in project implementation, but also because of the paucity of civil society institutions in the Comoros with the relevant skills. This latter need is being addressed through one of the main project outputs which will be the creation of a new local NGO for sustainable development and conservation of biodiversity.

The Environment Ministry started off with a role of support and evaluation for the project. The relationship is managed through the highest civil servant, the General Secretary for the Ministry, Said Mohamed Ali Said, and the CBD focal point and Director of Forests and the Environment, Charaf Eddine Msaidie. Regular meetings are held in Moroni, Grande Comore, to keep the Ministry up-to-date on project progress and discuss management decisions, in addition to regular telephone calls and submission of reports.

Since January 2010, however, a more formal arrangement has been organised with the creation of a project steering committee. The committee has seven members: Said Mohamed (chair), Charaf Eddine, the Commissaire for the Environment in Anjouan, the Head of the University's Science Faculty, the Head of the National Centre for Scientific Research, the Head of Ulanga Ngazidja (an Environmental NGO on Grande Comore), and the Head of the Credit Institute on Anjouan. The committee meets every six months to validate the next six months' budget and workplan, and the report and accounts from the previous six months. This means that the committee is able to change actions on the ground. This is an important step forward for the project as it closely integrates key stakeholders into the delivery and success of the project. By chairing this steering committee, the Ministry now plays a much more active role in project management.

The project has also developed strong links with the University of the Comoros and the Head of the Science Faculty now sits on the steering committee. The Project has hosted a field visit from the new Master's Programme in Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Development, and we are currently discussing participating in lectures and supporting student research projects.

UK Partners: Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust supports the ecological monitoring work and the development of the local NGO. Dr Andrew Terry took part in the NGO analysis mission in April-May 2009 (report included), and Dr Jill Key in the NGO strategic planning workshop in March 2010. Dr Richard Young will be visiting in June 2010 as part of his role in supporting the ecological monitoring work.

Dr Oliver Springate-Baginski of the University of East Anglia visited at the start of Darwin funding in March 2010 to evaluate project strategy and management, and recommend methods for livelihood monitoring (report included).

Other Collaboration: The project collaborates with various agencies running environmental projects in the Comoros, including the UNDP and the FAO. Internationally, the project is now working with the IUCN through the head of their ecosystem approach, Dr Gill Shepherd, who is a consultant on the landscape management process under the French Development Agency funding. WWF-Madagascar, Conservation International-Madagascar and Birdlife International – Africa are all participating in the development of a sustainable local NGO. Dr Tim Brewer (Cranfield University) is supporting the development of habitat mapping using satellite images that have been supplied pro-bono through Planet Action.

3. Project progress

3.1 Progress in carrying out project activities

Output 1: Innovative participatory biodiversity conservation and community sustainable development model defined for the Comoro Islands, integrated into local policy, and publicised locally and internationally.

Year 1 Planned activities: 1.3 Launch of National Communication Strategy in 2nd Quarter

Progress: A communication strategy for engagement of new villages (see Output 2) and the raising of awareness of the project at the national level was developed early in the inception phase. Communicating the project's goals, its activities and its progress is an essential component of our approach to building national-level support for activities developed from the bottom up. One method involves communication through the media, and since its start in 2008, the project has developed close relationships with national and regional press, television and radio.

The Darwin project launch in April 2009, the AFD signature in March 2010, and the delivery of 270 computers to schools and associations working in the development sector in Anjouan in February 2010, which the project facilitated through Computer Aid International, all resulted in widespread media coverage, with four articles focussing on the project's activities published in the national papers, and two further mentions. In addition, one of the three main national

papers has made two field visits since the start of the Darwin project, resulting in another four articles about the project's approach and activities. The project has also featured once on national television.

The project has now hired an expatriate communications officer to manage the expanding awareness-raising work, and this person is currently re-working the strategy.

Output 2: At least 16 local communities surrounding remaining forest on Anjouan and Mohéli empowered to develop sustainably in a manner compatible with forest conservation and management

Year 1 Planned activities:

Activity	Months	Year 1			
		1	2	3	4
2.1 Training in participatory approaches to community work	6	X	X		
2.2 Awareness raising, rapport-building and engagement interactions with forest adjacent communities	12	X	X	X	X
2.3 Facilitating communities' to analyse the forest conservation and sustainable livelihood situation, and to envision and develop 'win-win' solutions that reduce poverty and protect forest habitat for biodiversity, with the support of community facilitators	30	X	X	X	X
2.4 Support for self-implementation of community pilot actions and self-development plans, including strengthening of support networks and creation of links with funders and the necessary expertise at all levels	30			X	X

Progress: The community team at the end of Year 1 consists of six village facilitators, two local agricultural technicians and a French Head of Rural Development. The facilitators are all now proficient in participatory approaches to community development, with each having received at least two weeks of dedicated theoretical and field training from the Project Manager, as well as regular evaluation and support during the first year of their contract (2.1). Additional training of a week in total has been provided by Dr Oliver Springate-Baginski of UEA and Dr Gill Shepherd of IUCN. One measure of effectiveness is that the facilitators have progressed from working two to a village at start of project, to each now managing one village independently, with a further increase in coverage planned for year 2. The current facilitators are also tasked with training new team members, with three recruits starting an internship at the end of March 2010.

This team is currently working in six villages in the Moya region of Anjouan, with further expansion planned in the first quarter of Year 2. Engagement interactions at the start of work in each village (2.2) include film screenings (with the help of two UK students, three films about different aspect of the projects' work have been produced), exchange visits to review and discuss project work in other villages, and parties centred around different themes such as water management. These types of activities are now seen as central to ongoing interaction with the villages, rather than as just for the start of intervention in each village as outlined in the original workplan.

The methodology for participatory problem analysis (2.3) has been refined during the year with support from consultants from UEA and the IUCN to better target natural resource management and agricultural issues, and to better target key beneficiary groups. Initial problem analysis is performed communally to identify general individual priorities and problems requiring collective action. Exchange visits to study innovations that have been developed for similar problems in other areas of the island are an important tool at this stage of the work. The process, which has been completed in five of the current villages, is in annex. Following this phase, ongoing participatory analysis with individuals focuses on constraints on agricultural productivity.

The project intervention strategy (2.4) has continued to evolve since the submission of the Darwin project in November 2008 as part of the development of an innovative model for conservation in the Comoros (Output 1). The focus has now moved away from the communal approach involving group pilot actions and community development plans that was proposed at the start of project, although a few group activities, including a micro-poultry farm, are still supported. A study of the social and agroforestry context by a French Master's student commissioned from May 2009 (abstract in annex) confirmed the complexity of village power structures, with elites developing intricate strategies to capture the benefits from such 'community' initiatives as implemented by most development projects in the Comoros. In addition, the macro and microeconomic context for the Comoros means that revenue-generating activities developed as alternatives to agriculture and forest exploitation are particularly difficult to make profitable for even a few groups – local markets are too small and flooded with cheap imports, and access to external markets is negligible other than for cash crops, for which little increase in the value change is made available to the primary producers.

The project therefore now focuses its livelihood development work on aiming to improve agricultural yields on an agro-ecological model compatible with environmental protection. Support offered includes: planting of cuttings to improve soil stability; terracing to prevent soil erosion; tree planting to improve fertility and prevent erosion; advice on crop rotation and intercropping; providing new crop varieties; training in organic fertilisation and pesticide methods. Further support currently under development includes facilitating access to cows through a system of guardianship, developing small water basins in areas far from rivers, developing a seed bank to provide a more diverse and cheaper range of seeds. Fully financing project-supported interventions as practised at the start of project was found to impede appropriation of activities, and efforts to pass financing through the local credit institute met with resistance due to outreach problems. The project now finances individual support at 50%, with 50% reimbursed by the farmer at harvest following monitoring by the facilitators. All engagements are now entered into an access database to ensure adequate monitoring.

Whilst the key individual issue is diminishing fertility, at the communal level the concern is reduction of water courses. In three of the villages, group reflection has led to the creation of water committees charged with ensuring the water supplies entering the villages. In two of the villages, these committees have supported a process of community engagement and discussion of the problem, zoning of water catchment areas, and implementation of protection zones (2.5) around water sources and rivers including reforestation. These zones therefore represent the first terrestrial natural resource protection zones in the Comoros, and a major step towards the development of conservation areas that we aim to develop in year 3. Over the next year, rules of use will be elaborated for the wider water catchment zones focussing on aspects such as use of chemicals and tree-cutting, to enlarge the forest zones under informal protection. An example of the zoning for one of the water catchment areas is in annex.

The livelihood support at the individual level links directly to the wider landscape management process that has been developed, as interventions at the individual level counter problems caused by deforestation, including through tree-planting. Rapid progress on implementation of informal protection zones is due to this real integration of conservation and development, and through having focussed natural resource protection around water management, the factor of direct interest to engaged communities.

The development of representative, functional village institutions to support the landscape management process will be critical to the sustainability of these interventions. Three villages have already formed committees, signed statutes and voted executive officers. The project is working with these institutions to discuss how to devolve more responsibilities from the project staff, and how to sustainably recompense people working on implementing the activities and monitoring progress. This aspect will be a focus of the next consulting mission from the University of East Anglia, and lessons learnt from DWCT's work in Madagascar will be applied following an exchange visit planned for the first half of Year 2.

Output 3: Protected area zoning plan produced from a biodiversity perspective, and biodiversity and habitat quality monitoring system created

Year 1 Planned activities:

Activity	Months	Year 1			
		1	2	3	4
3.1 Training in biodiversity and habitat monitoring techniques	30	X	X	X	X
3.2 Annual surveys of forest quality, butterflies, birds, mammals and reptiles	12			X	X
3.3 Development of models and gap analysis based on monitoring data	6				X

Progress: A Head of Ecological Monitoring and Research (UK expatriate) was appointed in August 2009 and two local technicians recruited in September 2010, with a further local technician starting in April 2010. A part-time technician has been employed on Mohéli, and two students in Grande Comore. Training (3.1) has been delivered in the field for all technicians during the wet season surveys (October to February), with evaluations based on the capacity for independent use of the different methodologies. These have shown that all technicians will require ongoing training during the dry season surveys before they will be ready for independent data collection.

Sampling procedures and methods for the ecological monitoring were developed from September to October 2009. Wet season surveying based on this preparation work was successfully completed for the three islands between October 2009 and February 2010 (3.2). Surveying involves sampling birds, reptiles, and butterflies in both forest and agroforestry zones through a variety of altitudes and habitat classes across the three islands. A total of 17 sampling sites were completed in Anjouan, 14 in Mohéli, and 14 in Grande Comore. In addition data was collected on both habitat condition and the presence-absence of the Scops Owl species. Data analysis (3.3) will start in the UK in April, with Dr Richard Young of DWCT supporting the expatriate head to set up data analysis protocols. Analysis will be completed between May and June 2010 and initial reports produced by September 2010.

Land cover mapping will start from April 2010, using the software and imagery supplied by Planet Action and with technical assistance from Tim Brewer at Cranfield University, UK. Image enhancements will be experimented between April and August 2010. From this imagery initial pixel and object based classifications will be conducted using ground data for supervision. Statistical testing of the accuracy of these classifications will be done using ground data, then final maps produced by January 2011 and supplied to the relevant national and international organisations.

Output 4: New local NGO created and supported to become a major independent force for conservation in the Comoros.

Year 1 Planned activities:

Activity	Months	Year 1			
		1	2	3	4
4.1 Mission by BCSF, DWCT and external consultants to plan NGO development route with local staff	1	X			
4.2 Strategic planning workshop for the creation of new NGO	1				X
4.3 Completion of strategic planning, validation by project steering committee and consultation with local communities	4				X

Progress: The initial planning mission (4.1) by Neil Maddison (Project Leader) and Dr Andrew Terry of DWCT in April 2010 identified that a new NGO structure would have to be created if capacity building efforts were to result in a sustainable institution (report included). The assumption that Action Comores would remain committed to the development route identified in project planning, which was agreed to involve substantial restructuring and recruiting, was found not to be the case, and Action Comores elected not to participate in the development of a new NGO. A change request was thus submitted in September 2009, and accepted by Darwin. The accompanying changes in output and activities as above were implicit within this change request, but not included. They will therefore be officially submitted with other proposed changes to the logframe at the start of Year 2.

A strategic planning workshop for a new NGO was therefore organised in March 2010 with the local project team, BCSF, DWCT, and international partners – WWF-Madagascar, Birdlife Africa, and Conservation International-Madagascar. This identified a vision and mission for the new NGO, and used a SWOT analysis of the mission to determine key success factors, then commence strategic planning for the first three years of the NGO's existence. The strategic planning process will be finalised by the project team at the start of Year 2, and the plans for the NGO discussed with the project steering committee – in particular how to ensure support and integration with the Comorian institutions represented in the committee. A final step before moving to the creation of the new NGO towards the end of 2010 will be a consultation process with local communities to ensure their buy-in to the new structure.

Monitoring and evaluation Year 1 Planned activities:

5.1 Participatory community livelihood, institutional and attitude monitoring

5.2 Annual analysis of biodiversity and habitat data by DWCT

Progress: Dr Oliver Springate of UEA proposed a generalised livelihood monitoring scheme as part of his consulting mission in April-May 2009 (see report included). Testing in the field met with problems due to the level of detail required, both in terms of the time input required by the team, and village fatigue, and there were concerns that it would be difficult to show impacts within the Darwin timeframe using a methodology looking at broad-based livelihood improvement. In addition, the evolution of the project strategy throughout the first year of Darwin funding as part of the development of an innovative conservation model for the Comoros required the evolution of the accompanying monitoring process.

To monitor livelihood improvements (Output 2), an access database has been developed to record the support given to individual farmers, with the number of farmers engaged acting as a measurable indicator. Measuring of the impacts of these interventions will be harder to implement, and unsure to produce measurable results within the short timeframe of the project due to the long-term nature of the benefits of better fertility management. However, Dr Gill Shepherd will propose a lighter wealth-ranking methodology to monitor livelihood impacts as part of her mission report due April 2010. Dr Shepherd will also propose indicators for the communal landscape management process in her mission report, with Dr Springate proposing a monitoring system to evaluate the development of the local institutions during his next mission in Year 2.

Analysis of biodiversity data by Richard Young of DWCT will start in April, with the Head of Ecological Monitoring's mission to the UK.

A system for monitoring the development of the local NGO will be included as part of the final strategic planning documents to be completed following consultation with the steering committee and local communities in August 2010.

3.2 Progress towards Project Outputs

Output 1: Innovative participatory biodiversity conservation and community sustainable development model defined for the Comoro Islands, integrated into local policy, and publicised locally and internationally.

Progress: While activities towards this output are largely concentrated in Year 3, good progress has been made on the communications aspects planned for Year 1, as detailed in the activities report, with six articles published in the national press out of an original target of 10.

Currently employed approaches to addressing the two issues of development needs and biodiversity protection in the Comoros are to develop integrated projects that impose a defined protection structure and look to develop alternative sources of income to natural resource exploitation for local communities. However, there are serious challenges to this approach within the Comoros. First there is a lack of suitable local governance structures and capacity to manage and maintain this approach. Furthermore a failing of many alternative livelihoods schemes is to identify sustainable economic outputs that can compete on open markets with industrial products, and within the Comoros it is currently not possible to identify genuine outlets for the products of such schemes. Finally much of what is classified as forest is actually agro-forestry land and these areas are providing the main sources of income for local people. Therefore a careful balance must be reached between the integration of sustainable natural resource management practices and biodiversity conservation. It is for these reasons that over the first year of the Darwin funding the project has developed the integrated conservation and development approach detailed in the activities that focuses on agricultural support and locally-led collective landscape management. The evolution of the project intervention strategy, the challenges faced, and the solutions implemented have all been recorded so that they can be included in the definition of the model at the end of the project.

The project aims to use success with this model to challenge the assumptions of the current conservation and development approaches in the Comoros. Lessons learnt from community-led approaches that have succeeded elsewhere are being applied with the support of the projects' consultants and partners. Convincing the government and the international agencies active in the Comoros of the importance of the project approach is imperative if the project is to have an impact outside its immediate zones of intervention. The addition of Dr Gill Shepherd to the team under the FDA funding will facilitate the involvement of the IUCN in this process. The support of respected experts and institutions will be critical to the success of convincing the government to adopt the project approach for wider areas of the Comoros, and the project is looking to engage other organisations such as WWF and Conservation International, who are participating in the NGO development and support the project's approach.

Output 2: At least 16 local communities surrounding remaining forest on Anjouan and Mohéli empowered to develop sustainably in a manner compatible with forest conservation and management

Progress: The project is currently working in six villages on Anjouan, with further expansion programmed at the start of Year 2. The evolution of the project approach requires a change in measurable indicators as detailed under monitoring activities, and a formal change request to the logframe will be submitted following receipt of recommendations in Dr Shepherd's report.

For livelihood improvement, the project is already recording the number of farmers engaged in work on yield increases, with a total of 123 currently engaged, and over 200 going through problem analysis towards support. Two water catchment areas for the villages of Nindri and Salamani-Ouzini totalling 205 hectares have been zoned for the implementation of natural resource protection and agricultural rules-of-use. Core protection zones have been identified around water sources and rivers, with protection rules implemented and reforestation started.

Now that the conservation model is better defined and the strategy has been adapted to the complex Comorian context, one of the major challenges for Year 2 in the villages already working with the project will be to engage more farmers in agricultural support. Various

strategies will be employed to promote the participation of more farmers: targeting geographical zones and bringing individuals together to offer mutual support for the often heavy work required in field improvements; using individuals who have already benefitted from support to engage other farmers; working with the nascent natural resource management committees to train up members in agricultural support and promote the techniques; producing communication tools, in particular films, discussing the agricultural and environmental problems encountered and the support that is offered.

Within Anjouan, the project has a target of working in at least 10 villages by the end of project. Expansion has been delayed due to a delay in accessing funding from the FDA, but this target is still on track, and the project expects to be working in 10-12 villages on the island by the end of Darwin year 2 (see section 6 for further discussion). Progress in each village should be quicker now that the project strategy is better defined, and in our most recent village we are seeing much greater engagement in activities from the start of intervention.

The project aimed to start working in Mohéli in December 2009, with a target to be working in up to six villages at the end of Darwin funding. Mohéli funds for Year 1 were transferred to cover Anjouan salaries in an accepted change request due to the delay in FDA funding coming through. The aim was then to start work in Mohéli in April 2010. However, civil unrest has been building in Mohéli, which has recently resulted in armed intervention in the island's capital. We have therefore pushed the start of intervention back to June in the hope that the situation will have calmed by then (further discussion in sections 4 and 6).

Output 3: Protected area zoning plan produced from a biodiversity perspective, and biodiversity and habitat quality monitoring system created

Progress: Work on this output has progressed as planned, a report on the first wet seasons' field data will be available by September 2010, and there are no changes to assumptions or indicators.

Now that the monitoring system has been set up and a team recruited, the project is working to integrate this aspect of the work into the community engagement. The ecological monitoring will be presented to village communities, with villagers having the opportunity to participate in surveying. Studies will be performed to understand villagers' attitudes to biodiversity and conservation needs. Lastly, targeted surveying will be performed in the water catchment areas zoned for protection and results fed back to the communities.

By the end of Year 2, the data collected through the wider ecological monitoring coupled to data from these more local social and biodiversity surveys will start to give a clearer picture of whether all biodiversity can be protected through the landscape management process under implementation. A plan will then be developed for the protection of species or taxa that require further conservation measures to be taken, which will be written up towards the end of Year 2.

Output 4: New local NGO created and supported to become a major independent force for conservation in the Comoros.

Progress: The change request that was accepted by Darwin did not incorporate the necessary attendant changes to the logframe – these are included in the current logframe below and will be formally submitted with the other discussed changes to the logframe at the start of Year 2.

The strategic planning following the workshop in March will be completed in the first months of Year 2. Once the plans have been discussed with the steering committee and local communities, a report will be sent to Darwin. A critical part of the planning will be identifying training needs for the Comorian members, and the delivery of that training a key success factor in the sustainability of the structure. The support of WWF, Conservation International and Birdlife International for the planning workshop and commitments to support implementation of the strategic plan is an important boost to this output.

3.3 Standard Measures

Table 1 Project Standard Output Measures

Code No	Description	Year 1 Total	Total
2	Number of Masters Students research dissertations supported	2	2
6A 6B	Comorian project staff trained in participatory engagement methodologies	6 staff x 3 weeks; 2 staff by 2 weeks	56 weeks
	Comorian project staff trained in agricultural support	2 staff x 3 weeks; 6 staff x 1 week	
	Comorian project staff trained in ecological monitoring techniques	2 staff x 4 weeks; 4 staff x 2 weeks	
	Comorian project staff with improved IT skills	6 staff x 1 week	
8	UK project leader visits	4 weeks	83 weeks
	UK Project Manager	49 weeks	
	UK Head of Ecological Research and Monitoring	29 weeks	
	DWCT - NGO development	3 weeks	
	UEA – project evaluation and livelihood consulting	2 weeks	
12A	Ecological monitoring and agricultural support monitoring databases established	2	2
15A	Number of national press releases in Comoros	3	3
15B	Number of local press releases in Comoros	5	5
15C	Number of national press releases in UK	2	2
15D	Number of local press releases in UK	2	2
18A	Number of national TV programmes/features in Comoros	1	1
18C	Number of local TV programmes/features in Comoros	3	3
19A	Number of national radio interviews/features in Comoros	2	2
19C	Number of local radio interviews/features in Comoros	3	3
22	Number of permanent field plots to be established during the project and continued after Darwin funding has ceased	45 transects	45
23	French Development Agency – €750,000 signed	~ £25,000 so far	£126,700
	Bristol – 1 st year co-funding	£36,000	
	Durrell – 1 st year co-funding	£18,500	
	Global Environment Facility – 1 st year co-funding	£13,000	
	Planet Action – satellite images and software	~ £12,000	
	Birdlife International – Scops Owl research	£8,700	
	Comorian government – 1 st year co-funding in kind	£8,500	
	British High Commission Mauritius	£5000	

Table 2 Publications

Type (eg journals, manual, CDs)	Detail (title, author, year)	Available from (eg contact address, website)	Cost £
Masters dissertation	'Agroforesteries, processus d'innovation et gestion locale des ressources naturelles à Anjouan, Union des Comores' by Dorian Felix. Presented at SupAgro, Montpellier, 2010.	The project	PDF
Masters dissertation	'Diagnostic des systèmes d'élevage bovin et des pratiques de fumure animale dans les villages de Kowet et Ouzini, Anjouan, Union des Comores' by Yuselys Abreu. Presented at SupAgro, Montpellier, 2010.	The project	PDF

3.4 Progress towards the project purpose and outcomes

1. *Threatened forest areas managed sustainably by communities in Anjouan and Mohéli*

As detailed in outputs progress, 208 hectares of forest and agroforestry areas constituting two water catchments areas in the Moya region of Anjouan have been zoned, with protection and reforestation of core zones implemented. The next stages will involve engaging more farmers within these zones in complementary agroforestry activities at the individual level, implementing rules-of-use for the wider agroforestry and forest zones, supporting the development of the management committees, and formalising the protection zones.

2. *To ensure forest based livelihoods of at least 16 communities surrounding the remaining forest are more compatible with forest conservation*

As detailed in outputs progress, 123 farmers are engaged in livelihood improvement activities with the project on an agroecological model compatible with forest conservation (see details in annex). During Year 2 various strategies will be employed to engage more farmers in the six villages of current intervention (including over 200 already engaged in problem analysis), and expansion to up to 12 villages on Anjouan will continue throughout the year. Work in Mohéli will commence in June, should the political situation allow.

As discussed, livelihood monitoring methodologies will be reworked, and a new log frame with a new set of measurable indicators submitted to Darwin at the start of Year 2.

In terms of assumptions, the FDA funding has come through, though the delay has slowed down enlargement, as discussed in section 6. The political situation is currently delicate, but we do not expect negative impacts to our work on Anjouan, and think that the situation will permit work on Mohéli from mid-2010.

3.5 Progress towards impact on biodiversity, sustainable use or equitable sharing of biodiversity benefits

We hope to be able to report progress on impact through the formalisation of protection zones towards the end of Year 2 at the earliest, although impacts on biodiversity will not be verifiable until after the end of the project (as detailed in the measurable indicators of the logframe).

4. Monitoring, evaluation and lessons

Details of monitoring activities have been included in the activities section to give greater coherence to the narrative. Proposed changes to the M + E indicators will be submitted at the start of Year 2. The aim of developing this new set of indicators is to streamline the collection of monitoring data on the activities that have been developed with the evolution of the project strategy, and thus to better measure the project impacts. Additionally this set will reduce the workload on our project team.

The evolution of the understanding of the context through the work of the village facilitators and the commissioning of two masters studies, and the consequent evolution of the strategy with input from consultants from UEA and the IUCN has been an important aspect of the development of the project in Year 1. The lessons learned have been integrated into the intervention strategy as detailed in the progress on activities.

Discussions with partners in Mohéli, in particular the Mohéli Marine Park, and two visits by the Project Manager have made clear that the agroforestry context on the island is very different to Anjouan. In addition, there are important social issues particular to the context that need detailed investigation before intervention can begin; in particular the impacts of the Mohéli Marine park, and of Anjouanese immigration and land-clearing. Based on the importance of the commissioned Masters study to the development of the project strategy on Anjouan during Year 1, the project has therefore commissioned another study of the agroforestry and social context in Mohéli. The aim was to engage two village facilitators to support this study, to commence in April 2010. At the conclusion of this study and additional missions by the Project Manager, a plan will be produced for work on Mohéli. Civil unrest, as discussed in section six, has now delayed the start until at least June.

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

N/A

6. Other comments on progress not covered elsewhere

Difficulties encountered during Year 1:

1. The complexity of the Comorian cultural and socio-economic context

Few conservation and development projects in the Comoros achieve tangible results, and the international agencies (World Bank, FDA, UN agencies) recognise it as one of the most challenging countries to work in. The economic, political, social and environment context is so alarming that in 2009 it was named in Maplecroft's climate change risk assessment report as the country the least prepared to deal with the impacts of climate change in the world.

The importance of developing a detailed understanding of the context has led to the commissioning of Masters studies to complete the work of the facilitators. However, better understanding does not always help to identify clearly workable solutions to the myriad inter-linked problems at the local level. As discussed earlier, most products from potential agricultural transformation activities or small-scale revenue generating initiatives are faced with competition from much cheaper imports. The project has supported planting of over 10,000 'boutures' (tree cuttings) to help prevent erosion and provide forage for cows, but theft of these cuttings remains a problem, and so the project has had to support the creation of committees to guard and monitor these crops and trees. The development of these committees has been complicated by the breakdown of local power structures following the recent implantation of unelected mayors to replace the old village chief model.

More details on these problems can be found in the Masters studies available on request. The project will continue to evolve in its understanding of the situation, and continue to test solutions to the problems encountered, which will require the continued evolution of the project strategy. All the lessons learned will contribute to the innovative conservation model for the Comoros to be developed under Output 1.

2. Delay in accessing FDA funding

Enlargement has been hampered by the unexpectedly long process of accessing funding from the French Development Agency. At submission of the Darwin Stage 2 in November 2008, it was expected that FDA funding would commence with Darwin in April 2009 and the Darwin budget was elaborated accordingly. After many delays, the agreement with the FDA was only signed in March 2010, with funding provided retrospectively from the start of January 2010.

This has been of particular problem in three ways: lack of funds for new facilitators or the French head of rural development (though some Darwin funds were transferred from Mohéli under an accepted budget change in October 2009); lack of funds for motorbikes or a car, which has made the community team reliant on taxis, and thus unable to cover more than one village each; and a lack of funds for computers, with the local community team of eight sharing three computers until February 2010. Computers have now been bought, and the motorbikes should be in place at the end of May.

The FDA funding will continue until the end of 2012, with the FDA taking on the salaries and costs covered by Darwin at the end of the Darwin funding in March 2012. When submitting our adapted logframe at the start of Year 2, we will thus be requesting that due to the delays in the arrival of FDA funding, Darwin grants us a no-cost extension to the end of 2012.

3. Difficulties in replacing the local Anjouan coordinator

As accepted by Darwin, the local coordinator's contract was not renewed in August 2009. Two calls for candidates since then have not produced anyone judged a strong enough replacement. A third call is currently underway with the support of the steering committee. While project progress has not been impeded too much, it is clearly an important post to fill. If the current call is not successful, then the project may decide to promote a member of the team to fill this role.

4. Civil unrest

Civil unrest has been building in Mohéli over the last few months as the current (Anjouanese) President of the Union of the Comoros has succeeded in changing the constitution to retain power for at least a further year, when Mohéli should have been taking over the Presidency in May. Recently this has resulted in armed intervention in the island's capital. We have therefore pushed the start of intervention back to June in the hope that the situation will have calmed by then. We do not expect the problems to impact upon work in Anjouan, but a contingency plan is being drawn up should the political situation deteriorate.

5. Enlargement to Mohéli

All the previous factors have contributed to a delay in enlarging to Mohéli (originally planned for December 2009, change to April 2010 accepted by Darwin). We now hope to start the feasibility study in June 2010, depending on the political situation. At the conclusion of the feasibility study the project will produce a proposal for intervention on Mohéli.

7. Sustainability

The project has gained a significant profile within the country, with communications outputs detailed elsewhere. It is also has gained greater institutional recognition, and is now working closely with all the main Comorian institutions involved in conservation work through the project's steering committee. It is hoped that the involvement of the IUCN through the FDA funding will contribute to realising the aim of the project approach being adopted in areas outside the current intervention.

Funding for the project's work is already ensured until the end of 2012 through the FDA. However, several of the project's impacts can only be measured in the long-term, and ongoing support to communities will be required beyond the end of this timeframe. The exit strategy is thus based on the creation of a local NGO that will be able to continue to access funding to support communities towards achieving the project purpose. The engagement of various international NGOs towards the creation of this local body increases the likelihood of both its sustainability, and its success in accessing funding.

At the local level, sustainability of protection zones will also largely depend on the creation of strong, representative local institutions that can implement livelihood improvement activities and support the creation of natural resource management zones. Nascent institutions have been created in three villages, and this aspect will be the focus of the next consulting mission from the University of East Anglia, planned for August-September 2010, and an exchange visit to Madagascar to learn lessons from the work of DWCT, amongst others.

8. Dissemination

Communication outputs at that national level are described under progress towards activities for Output 1.

The project is increasingly coming to realise the importance of carefully-targeted communication within the villages to engaging more beneficiaries in the approach and activities. To this end the project has developed a partnership with the regional television and radio in Moya, with five short films and radio programmes produced and broadcast. Due to the importance of this aspect of the project, an expat head of communications has also been trialled during the last three months, and we will be proposing a further one-year contract from June to put in place further communication tools at the local and national levels, and train up a Comorian counterpart.

A project website hosted on BCSF's new website is currently under construction.

9. Project Expenditure

Table 3 Project expenditure during the reporting period (Defra Financial Year 1 April 2009 to 31 March 2010)

Item	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
Rent, rates, heating, overheads etc			
Office costs (eg postage, telephone, stationery)			
Travel and subsistence			
Printing			
Conferences, seminars, etc			
Capital items/equipment			
Others 1. Village events 2. Pilot actions 3. Community solutions			
Salaries 1. Oliver Springate 2. Richard Young 3. Hugh Doulton 4. Tim Brewer (GIS)			

5. Mohamed Moutui			
6. Moheli coordinator			
7. Anjouan facilitators			
8. Moheli facilitators			
TOTAL			

Budget notes

The money for the Moheli coordinator and the Moheli facilitators was transferred to pay the French head of Rural Development and the Anjouan facilitators in an accepted budget change from October 2009.

The UK conference line (£500) and £2193 from Mohamed Moutui's salary were transferred to the pay the costs of the NGO strategic development workshop in an accepted budget change from February 2010.

£11000 from the community solutions line was unspent in March 2010 due to political problems in Madagsacar preventing a community exchange visit, and the time needed to organise the FDA agreement preventing organisation of community investments in water and cattle planned for the end of the year. Following a telephone exchange between the Project Leader and Eilidh Young in March, it was confirmed that this money could not be transferred to year 2, but it was accepted that £XXXX could be used to buy high-resolution satellite images to support landscape management zoning and monitoring, and £XXXX to buy a bus to offset future costs of hiring buses for exchange visits and to leave capital for the NGO. £1100 of this line (under 10% change) had already been spent on two computers as all computers had been budgeted for the FDA, whose funding did not come through until March 2010.

10. **OPTIONAL: Outstanding achievements of your project during the reporting period (300-400 words maximum). This section may be used for publicity purposes**

[I agree for LTS and the Darwin Secretariat to publish the content of this section](#)

The press release following the confirmation of FDA funding is in annex. Despite the progress in livelihood activities and the development of natural resource protection zones, the project would prefer to publicise these results when impacts are more concrete in Years 2 and 3.

Report of progress and achievements against Logical Framework for Financial Year: 2009/10

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2008 - March 2009	Actions required/planned for next period
<p>Goal: <i>To draw on expertise relevant to biodiversity from within the United Kingdom to work with local partners in countries rich in biodiversity but constrained in resources to achieve</i></p> <p><i>The conservation of biological diversity,</i></p> <p><i>The sustainable use of its components, and</i></p> <p><i>The fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilisation of genetic resources</i></p>			<p><i>(do not fill not applicable)</i></p>
<p>Purpose</p> <p>1. Threatened forest areas managed sustainably by communities in Anjouan and Mohéli</p> <p>2. To ensure forest based livelihoods of at least 16 communities surrounding the remaining forest are more compatible with forest conservation</p>	<p>Agreements on natural resource management of remaining forest operational by End of Project</p> <p>Livelihood monitoring shows improved sustainability and reduced poverty by End of Project</p>	<p>6 villages on Anjouan engaged by project. 208 hectares of forest and agroforestry areas zoned, and core protection zones implemented. 123 farmers engaged in livelihood activities, and a further 200 engaged in problem analysis towards support.</p> <p>€750,000 co-financing agreement with FDA signed March 2010.</p>	<p>Expansion to at least 10 villages on Anjouan. Feasibility study completed for Mohéli and intervention planned.</p> <p>Rules-of-use negotiated and implemented beyond core zones. At least one further catchment area zoned. Management committees developed to support monitoring and livelihood activities.</p>
<p>Output 1 Innovative participatory biodiversity conservation and community sustainable development model defined for the Comoro Islands, integrated into local policy, and publicised locally and internationally</p>	<p>Process recorded and evaluated by partners;</p> <p>Government integration of process into policy documents by End of Project;</p> <p>Successful local awareness campaign established in partnership with local media</p>	<p>Evolution of project strategy recorded. Project profile increased with aid of local media. Engagement of international partners (IUCN, WWF, Conservation International) to support policy advocacy with government and international agencies working in the Comoros.</p>	<p>Facilitation of high-level IUCN mission to the Comoros to discuss conservation approaches. Continue evolution of project strategy and recording.</p>
<p>Activity 1.1 Participatory conservation model elaborated and published based on community engagement during first two and a half years of project</p>		<p>Evolution of project intervention strategy, problems encountered and solutions employed recorded</p>	<p>Continued evolution of strategy and recording.</p>

Activity 1.2 Work on forestry legislation and policy documents to integrate community ownership and management			Planned for Year 3 with support of Gill Shepherd (IUCN).
Activity 1.3 National communication strategy launched		Strategy elaborated. 6 articles published in national press. 3 films produced and shown on local TV. One national TV feature.	At least 3 further films to be produced and shown on local and national TV. At least 3 further articles in national press. Communication strategy reworked.
Activity 1.4 Publication of academic articles			Possibly one article to be written on approach used for IUCN
Output 2 At least 16 local communities surrounding remaining forest on Anjouan and Mohéli empowered to develop sustainably in a manner compatible with forest conservation and management	Success of micro-solutions implemented by each community; Operational agreements active on natural resource management; Livelihood monitoring shows empowerment progress	Evolution of project strategy requires change in indicators, to be submitted at start of Year 2. Good progress on engagement of farmers in livelihood improvement activities. Unexpected progress on creation of informal protection zones around water sources and accompanying reforestation.	Wider engagement of farmers in agricultural support through outreach process. Protection actions implemented in wider protection zones beyond core areas. Support to development of village management institutions with assistance from UEA consulting mission.
Activity 2.1 Training in participatory approaches to community work		Six facilitators competent in participatory engagement and problem analysis, now in charge of training three further facilitators. Two agricultural technicians trained in participatory approaches to agricultural support	Continued monitoring and evaluation of current team. Training of at least three new facilitators and at least one new agricultural technician.
Activity 2.2 Awareness raising, rapport-building and engagement interactions with forest adjacent communities		Six villages engaged in project work using films, exchange visits and themed fetes.	At least four further villages engaged on Anjouan by end Year 2. Potentially two-four villages engaged on Mohéli.
Activity 2.3 Facilitating communities' to analyse the forest conservation and sustainable livelihood situation, and to envision and develop 'win-win' solutions that reduce poverty and protect forest habitat for biodiversity, with the support of community facilitators		Five villages completed group process for participatory problem analysis of environmental and agricultural issues; individual analyses continual.	At least four further villages completed group reflexion processes.
Activity 2.4 Support for self-implementation of community pilot actions and self-development plans, including strengthening of support networks and creation of links with funders and the necessary expertise at all levels		123 farmers engaged in agricultural support work, 200 further in problem analyses towards support.	Enlargement of number engaged in current villages through outreach process; engagement of farmers in new villages

Activity 2.5 Creation of community conserved areas		Two water catchment areas zoned; core protection zones around water sources implemented and reforested. Three village water management committees created	Implementation of rules of use for wider catchment areas and reforestation. Development of management institutions and monitoring of zones. Process started in at least one further catchment zone. Begin work to formalise protection zones.
Output 3. Protected area zoning plan produced from a biodiversity perspective, and biodiversity and habitat quality monitoring system created	Full set of monitoring manuals produced in French; Data collection and analysis reviewed and published annually; Zoning plan created in consultation with government and local communities	Progress on track with expatriate head appointed in September, sampling frame developed, training delivered to four technicians, and wet season surveys completed.	Dry and wet season surveys 2010-2011. Further training of Comorian team to permit independent data collection. Land cover mapping using satellite images to be completed by end Year 2. Plan produced for species or taxa that data show to require additional targeted conservation actions.
Activity 3.1 Training in biodiversity and habitat monitoring techniques		Two full-time technicians trained during four months fieldwork; two part-time technicians trained for three weeks.	Team of three technicians trained during dry season surveys to level required for independent data collection.
Activity 3.2 Annual surveys of forest quality, butterflies, birds, mammals and reptiles		Wet season surveys completed, with 45 permanent transects created.	Dry and wet season surveys completed across the three islands. Extra targeted surveying to be performed in protection zones, coupled to social studies on attitudes to biodiversity.
Activity 3.3 Development of models and gap analysis based on monitoring data		Data analysis of wet season data started end March with support of Dr Richard Young (DWCT).	Analysis completed by June. Land cover mapping to begin and to be completed by end Year 2 with support of Dr Tim Brewer (Cranfield).
Activity 3.4 Development of zoning proposal based on models and gap analysis			Year 3
Activity 3.5 Publications of results and model participatory ecological monitoring system			2009-10 wet season report available by September.
Output 4 New local NGO created and supported to become a major	Re-structured and re-energised NGO able to devise, finance and manage	Initial review conducted April 2009, identified need for new NGO. NGO	Strategic plan completed with timetable for implementation. NGO created end

independent force for conservation in the Comoros	ICDPs. Local biodiversity field team independently producing publishable data by End of Project. 11 facilitators and 2 coordinators functioning independently on the community aspects on the two islands by End of Project	planning workshop held with international partners March 2010. Institutional development indicators will form part of final strategic planning document.	2010. Training initiated for Comorian members.
Activity 4.1 Mission by BCSF, DWCT and external consultants to plan route for NGO development		Report annexed	
Activity 4.2 Strategic planning workshop for the creation of the new NGO		Vision and mission identified. Strategic planning based on swot analysis of mission and identification of key success factors commenced.	
Activity 4.3 Completion of strategic planning, validation by project steering committee and consultation with local communities			Strategic planning to be completed start Year 2 and report produced. Discussion with steering committee June 2010. Consultation with communities 2 nd half 2010.
Activity 4.4 Implementation of strategic plan (which will result in further activities being identified)			Implementation of strategic plan 2 nd half 2010. Creation of NGO end 2010.

Annex 2 Project's full current logframe

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
Goal: Effective contribution in support of the implementation of the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Convention on Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), and the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species (CMS), as well as related targets set by countries rich in biodiversity but constrained in resources.			
Sub-Goal: Anjouan and Mohéli's endemic forest biodiversity conserved through sustainable management of remaining forest	GIS monitoring shows reduced forest loss; Ground habitat surveys show forest regeneration; Biodiversity monitoring surveys show stable populations (all within 2 years of End of Project)	Data from local NGO's annual ground surveys and government's annual GIS models	
Purpose: 1. Threatened forest areas managed sustainably by communities in Anjouan and Mohéli 2. To ensure forest based livelihoods of at least 16 communities surrounding the remaining forest are more compatible with forest conservation	Agreements on natural resource management of remaining forest operational by End of Project Livelihood monitoring shows improved sustainability and reduced poverty by End of Project	Accords signed and published; community conserved areas created Data published from locally-adapted livelihood monitoring in each engaged community at halfway stage and End of Project	Political situation remains stable; Government remains committed to project; Remaining unengaged communities support project following initial contact French Development Agency's final decision positive for funding implementation of long-term community sustainable development plans (Date: January)
Outputs: 1. Innovative participatory biodiversity conservation and community sustainable development model defined for the Comoro Islands, integrated into local policy, and publicised locally and internationally	Process recorded and evaluated by partners; Government integration of process into policy documents by End of Project; Successful local awareness campaign established in partnership with local media	Evaluations published and reviewed by external consultants; At least 2 academic papers published; Government policy documents; 'How-to' guide published locally, and regionally/ internationally if demand At least 3 films shown and 10 articles published in local press	Sufficient alternatives to unsustainable actions can be defined and implemented; Government remains committed to integrating new approach into conservation and rural development plans

<p>2. At least 16 local communities surrounding remaining forest on Anjouan and Mohéli empowered to develop sustainably in a manner compatible with forest conservation and management</p>	<p>Success of micro-solutions implemented by each community; Operational agreements active on natural resource management; Livelihood monitoring shows empowerment progress</p>	<p>Internal project reports on communities' progress; Evaluation reports by UEA academic at halfway stage and End of Project; Data from livelihood monitoring</p>	<p>Communities commit to long-term empowerment for sustainable development following engagement; Macro-level issues do not cancel out local-level improvements</p>
<p>3. Protected area zoning plan produced from a biodiversity perspective, and biodiversity and habitat quality monitoring system created</p>	<p>Full set of monitoring manuals produced in French; Data collection and analysis reviewed and published annually; Zoning plan created in consultation with government and local communities</p>	<p>Protocols printed and available electronically on partner websites; Biodiversity data published annually; Data analysis reviewed annually and fed back to Action Comores; At least 2 scientific papers published; Zoning plan published</p>	<p>Skilled full-time expatriate biodiversity manager recruited Levels of capacity within Action Comores to carry out biodiversity assessment work maintained and developed</p>
<p>4. New local NGO created and supported to become a major independent force for conservation in the Comoros</p>	<p>Re-structured and re-energised NGO able to devise, finance and manage ICDPs; Local biodiversity field team independently producing publishable data by End of Project; 11 facilitators and 2 coordinators functioning independently on the community aspects on the two islands by End of Project</p>	<p>NGO evaluation and planning mission by external consultant at start and End of Project; Bi-annual progress evaluation by BCSF and DWCT; Evaluation reports by UEA academic at halfway stage and End of Project</p>	<p>BBC Wildlife Fund follow-on application accepted for Action Comores structural work and non-field capacity building (date mid-Dec); Trained Comorian NGO members remain committed to its development</p>

Activities (details in workplan)

- 1.1 Participatory conservation model elaborated and published based on community engagement during first two and a half years of project
- 1.2 Work on forestry legislation and policy documents to integrate community ownership and management
- 1.3 National communication strategy launched
- 1.4 Publication of academic articles
- 2.1 Training in participatory approaches to community work
- 2.2 Awareness raising, rapport-building and engagement interactions with forest adjacent communities
- 2.3 Facilitating communities' to analyse the forest conservation and sustainable livelihood situation, and to envision and develop 'win-win' solutions that reduce poverty and protect forest habitat for biodiversity, with the support of community facilitators;
- 2.4 Support for self-implementation of community pilot actions and self-development plans, including strengthening of support networks and creation of links with funders and the necessary expertise at all levels
- 2.5 Creation of community conserved areas
- 3.1 Training in biodiversity and habitat monitoring techniques
- 3.2 Annual surveys of forest quality, butterflies, birds, mammals and reptiles
- 3.3 Development of models and gap analysis based on monitoring data
- 3.4 Development of zoning proposal based on models and gap analysis
- 3.5 Publications of results and model participatory ecological monitoring system
- 4.1 Mission by BCSF, DWCT and external consultants to plan NGO development route
- 4.2 Strategic planning workshop for the creation of a new NGO
- 4.3 Completion of strategic planning, validation by project steering committee and consultation with local communities
- 4.4 Implementation of strategic plan (which will identify subsequent, detailed activities)

5. Monitoring activities:

Indicator 1: Participatory community livelihood, institutional development, and attitude monitoring implemented in engaged communities.

Indicator 2: Annual analysis of biodiversity and habitat data by DWCT;

Indicator 3: Project mid-term and final evaluation by consultants (University of East Anglia – community aspects; DWCT – biodiversity aspects; World Land Trust – Action Comores progress)

Annex 3. Onwards – supplementary material (optional but encouraged as evidence of project achievement)

I. Documents attached to report submission email

- a. Project team diagram, April 2010 (format could not be included here)
- b. NGO evaluation report by Neil Maddison and Andrew Terry, 2009
- c. Project evaluation by Oliver Springate-Baginski, 2009

II. Analysis grid to support participatory engagement and problem analysis (results of tools used can be supplied)

Informations Génériques	Détails du site et de production	Historique	Analyse sociale	Analyse de richesse	Perspectives et utilisations de la forêt et sa biodiversité	Situation foncière	Modes d'exploitation agro-forestière
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<p>a. Nom</p> <p>b. Ancienneté</p> <p>c. Divisions (quartiers etc.)</p> <p>d. Infrastructures</p> <p>e. Nombre de maisons et types</p> <p>f. Nombre de personnes dans les différents couches sociales (femmes, hommes, <15 ans)</p> <p>g. Impressions générales (niveau de pauvreté, spécificités, situation environnementale, systèmes de productions)</p>	<p>a. Délimitation du terroir villageois (l'historique ?)</p> <p>b. Zonage agro-écologique par rapport à :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - relief, - climat, - voies d'accès, - cours d'eau, - nature du sol, - végétation, - cultures dominantes (rente et vivrier) - mode de culture (extensive/ intensive) - productivité - mode appropriation (culture pérenne/ culture annuelle) - élevage (piquet, divagation) - rotations 	<p>a. Historique de l'implantation du village et des villageois (lignages, alliances, dépendances, colonisation)</p> <p>b. Histoire des évènements marquants</p> <p>c. Histoire des projets de développements, raisons d'échecs et réussites, méthodologie, organisation, comités créés</p> <p>d. Histoire de réalisations faits par les villageois eux-mêmes, raisons d'échecs et réussites</p> <p>e. Evolutions en méthodologies agricoles et agro-forestiers</p> <p>f. Evolution de la frontière forestière, des zones agricoles et agro-forestières</p> <p>g. Histoire des conflits avec autres villages, entre villageois</p>	<p>a. Les structures existantes et historiques (associations, comités etc.)</p> <p>b. Les structures de pouvoir officiel existantes et historiques (religieux, gouvernementale, politique, chefs)</p> <p>c. Les réseaux d'influence (lignées familiales puissantes, source de pouvoir, courtiers et non-adhérents)</p> <p>d. Importance de tous ces différents groupes et les relations entre eux – surtout les conflits</p> <p>e. Réalisations faites par toutes ces différents groupes, raisons de réussite et d'échec</p> <p>f. Les sources d'informations jugées fiables</p> <p>g. Prise de décision villageois et la réalité du pouvoir – comprendre à partir des exemples ou résiliation des conflits</p> <p>h. Mouvements migratoires et diaspora</p>	<p>a. Les sources d'entrée d'argent</p> <p>b. Les repas pendant l'année</p> <p>c. Type et taille de maison</p> <p>d. Type et volume de récoltes – évolution de l'exploitation agricole</p> <p>e. Type et nombre d'animaux</p> <p>f. Taille et qualité de terrain</p> <p>g. La famille et autres liens sociaux – travaux collectif, entraide, modes de transmission</p> <p>h. Liens de patronage</p> <p>i. Le taux d'inflation</p> <p>j. Les marginalisés</p> <p>h. Niveau d'éducation</p> <p>k. Migrations faits</p> <p>l. Droits d'utilisation</p>	<p>a. Les sources de déboisement et tous produits de la forêt</p> <p>b. La fréquence de coup de bois pour les différentes sources – la logique du déboisement</p> <p>c. Les acteurs engagés dans la coupe de bois, le fonctionnement du système</p> <p>d. Les normes, règles et suivi en place pour le déboisement</p> <p>e. C'est quoi la forêt ? Histoire et définition de la forêt.</p> <p>f. Les valeurs de la forêt identifiés/ les leviers potentiels pour la protection, les valeurs ou problèmes identifiées pour la biodiversité</p> <p>g. Zonage des zones forestières</p>	<p>a. Formes des accords préexistants (traditionnel, religieux, légal)</p> <p>b. Évolution juridique des situations et conflits foncières</p> <p>c. Organisation/ répartition du parcellaire. (Comment historiquement les différents propriétaires ont-ils appropriés leurs terres, le patrimoine sur lequel ils se considèrent des droits)</p> <p>d. Comment est-ce qu'on obtient un nouveau champ ?</p> <p>e. Le système d'héritage</p> <p>f. Comment l'appropriation de la terre est-elle enregistrée ?</p>	<p>a. Cartographie des zones de production</p> <p>b. Accès à la terre et mise en valeur du foncier</p> <p>c Rotations de cultures utilisé</p> <p>d Accès aux animaux et répartition dans le village (bovins, ovins, caprins)</p> <p>e. Calendrier des cultures, de travail, de revenu</p> <p>f. Contraintes locales de production agro-forestière et de l'exploitation des ressources</p> <p>g. Les normes en places pour la gestion des ressources naturelles</p>

III. English abstract of Master's thesis investigating the social and agroforestry context in Anjouan

Agroforesteries, processus d'innovation et gestion locale des ressources naturelles à Anjouan, Union des Comores

Dorian FELIX

2009

MÉMOIRE DE FIN D'ÉTUDES POUR L'OBTENTION DU DIPLÔME DE MASTER :

Innovation et Développement des Territoires Ruraux

Spécialisation : Agriculture, environnement, et développement

SupAgro, Montpellier

Because of an increasing demographic pressure, the farmers of the island of Anjouan, Comoros, are at present confronted with problems of erosion, fertility and decreasing yields, and the natural resources of the island are threatened (water, soil, forest, biodiversity). Faced with a demographic and environmental crisis, diverse processes of innovation develop within the agrarian systems and the farmers invent new agricultural and breeding practices by experiments in their plots of land, but also by putting into practice the new techniques which they observe in their neighbourhood and/or that circulate within actors' networks. The social and occupational relations between farmers and with the other actors of the rural world thus allow the circulation of innovative practices, which are then reshaped by each one according to the context of his or her fields.

The farmers of Anjouan thus adapt themselves to the agro-environmental problems they are confronted to, and their knowledge of their environment, obtained through accumulation from generation to generation, allows them to react and evolve their practices to fit changes in the local and global context. They have thus developed systems of agriculture under forest cover based on banana and "taro", without slash-and-burn, and innovative agroforestry systems that make the management of crops and cattle the new guarantees of the balance of natural resources.

These capacities of adaptation pass by processes of innovation which develop within actors' networks. These networked are created by farmers, but also by other actors of the rural environment, in particular development actors. In this context, these last ones can play a role of catalyst in innovation processes through facilitating the exchange of knowledge, by making more visible the most interesting innovations, and by feeding these processes with new techniques.

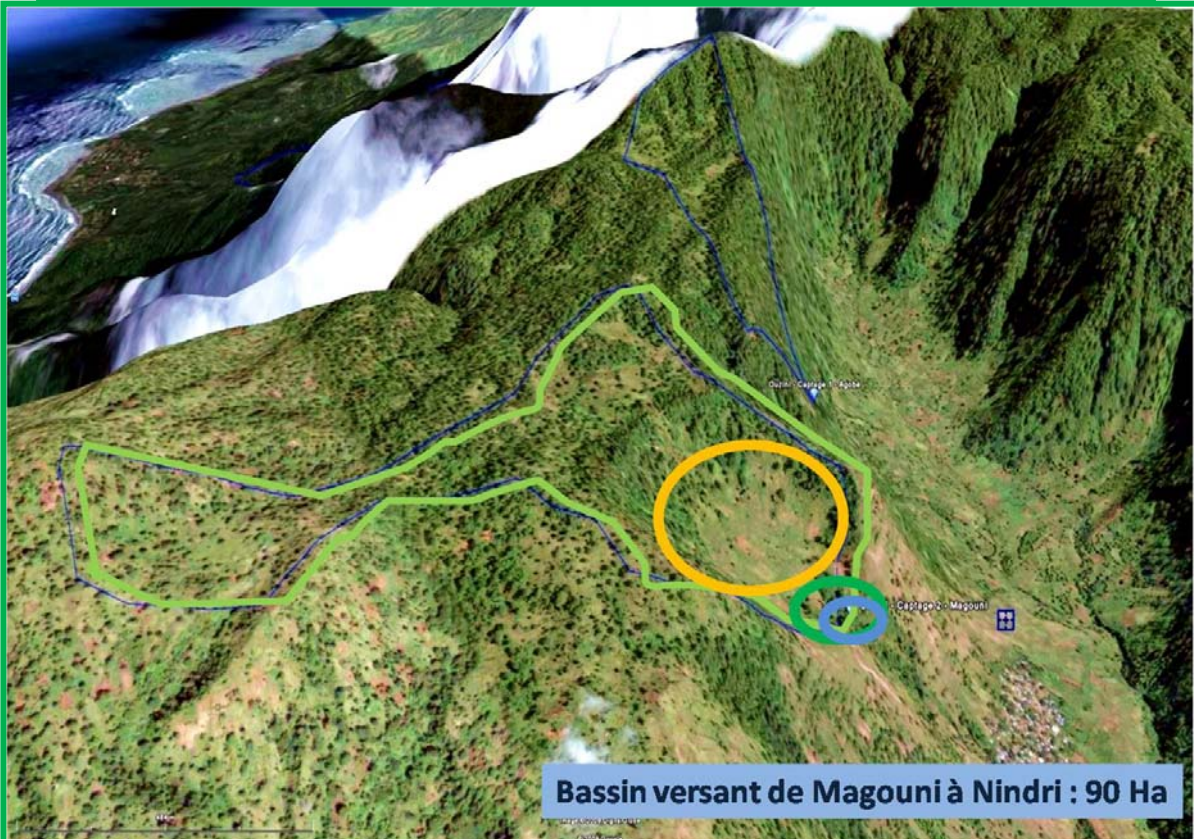
IV. Zoning Plans for the two water catchment areas



Bassin versant de Machelele : 115 Ha

- 1. Protection zone source**
Pas de culture et reboisement dans un rayon de 20m autour des sources
- 1. Corridor de protection**
10 m de large de part et d'autre de la rivière
- 2. Etat des lieux écologique**
Qualité habitat + inventaire biodiversité animale
- 3. Pratiques agricoles durables**
Lutte contre érosion, restauration de la fertilité, développement de l'agroforesterie
- 1. Protection zone captage**
Pas de culture et reboisement dans un rayon de 20m autour du captage

Schéma des zones de protection des ressources en eau du bassin versant de Machelele à Nindri



Bassin versant de Magouni à Nindri : 90 Ha

- 2. Protection contre pollutions pesticides**
- 3. Reboisement et développement agroforesterie, lutte contre érosion**
- 1. Protection zone captage et source**

V. Data on activities

Secteur intervention	Activité	Détail	Ouzini	Salamani	Nindri	Kowet	Outsa	Moya	Total
Maraichage agro-écologique	Visite échange : techniques	Traitements bio, fertilisation organique (personnes)	11	11	16	16			54
	Personnes concernées		9	13	16	47			85
	Personnes Formées	Capables de former des autres	1	1	2	9			13
	parcelle démonstration		1	4	0	4			9

Aménagement et restauration de la fertilité	Visite échange: techniques	Embocagement, ligne de niveau, terrassement	18	25	30	15			88
	Parcelles aménagées	Gliricidia / Sandragon	21	7	6	4			38
	Boutures plantes		6633	1437	1800	983			10853
	Personnes formées	Capables de former des autres	4	5	2	2			13

Gestion et protection des ressources en eau	Visite échange	Gestion collective d'un territoire	18	18	18	0			54
	Personnes impliquées		10		10				20
	création d'institution de gestion	Association de gestion	1	0	1	0			2
	Zone de protection	En cours	1	0	1	0			2
		Prévues	2	0	1	0			3
	Nombre d'hectares	En cours de protection	90	0	115	0			205

Gestion collective des problèmes de vol	Visite d'échange	Lingoni, comité de lutte contre le vol	0	18	0	0			18
	Création d'institution	Comité de lutte contre le vol	0	1	0	0			1

Poulailler semi-intensif (intrants locaux)	Visite d'échange	Moya - technicien utilisant des provendes locales			18				18
	Nombre de personnes impliquées				18				18
	Nombre de personnes formées	Alimentation, suivi sanitaire, gestion poulailler			2				2

Synthèse des principales activités	Visites d'échanges	Nombre de participants	232
	Maraichage bio	Nombre de participants	85
		Nombre de personnes formées	13
	Gestion de l'eau	Nombre d'institution	2
		Nombre d'hectares concernées	205
	Aménagement	Nombre de personnes concernées (champs aménagés)	38
		Nombre de boutures plantées	10853

VI. Press release surrounding the signature of the FDA agreement

Bristol Conservation and Science Foundation awarded £1.2 million towards the sustainable development of the Comoros Islands

Bristol Conservation and Science Foundation (BCSF) has just signed a €750,000 contract with the French Development Agency (FDA) to expand the activities of the Foundation's flagship conservation programme on the islands of Anjouan and Mohéli in the Comoros archipelago. The money comes on top of a grant of £240,000 from the UK Government's Darwin Initiative; with co-financing from other sources, including Airbus UK, this takes the total for the initial three-year project to over £1.2 million.

The Union of the Comoros is composed of three main islands lying between Madagascar and Mozambique in the Western Indian Ocean. The country was recently named the least prepared in the world to deal with the impacts of climate change due to its social, economic and natural resource situation.

Of the three islands, Anjouan, where BCSF has been working for over two years, is the poorest, most densely populated, and most ecologically fragile. Little native forest remains and deforestation continues apace, threatening endemic biodiversity and posing grave problems for the local population. Severe erosion on the steep slopes is impacting heavily on agricultural yields and the water table is receding – over the last 50 years the numbers of permanent rivers on the island has dropped from around 40 to less than 10.

The BCSF project was set up in late 2007 to work with communities surrounding the remaining areas of forest, aiming to improve living conditions and increase sustainability of natural resource exploitation while conserving the forest ecosystems and their biodiversity.

Hugh Doulton, BCSF's Coordinator for the Comoros project, said: "I am delighted! This funding will allow us to expand our activities from the four villages that we have been working in, and build on our successes working with Comorian communities to develop communal forest management, improve agricultural yields and diversify revenue-generating activities, and to protect endemic biodiversity, including the endangered Livingstone's fruit bat and the critically endangered Anjouan scops owl."

The official project signature with the French Ambassador and the Moroni Director of the FDA took place in the village of Nindri on March 5th. Attending were over 800 villagers from the region that the project works in, the Governor of Anjouan, representatives from the Union Government and many local partners.

Several of the project's international partners were also in attendance, including representatives of Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust, WWF-Madagascar, and Birdlife International-Africa. The international partners spent the week with the local project team planning the creation of a new Comorian sustainable development NGO that will be a key legacy of the project.

On the morning of the ceremony the villagers of Nindri took their guests on a tour of the activities that the project is supporting. The mayor of the region, Abdoul Majid, said "This project has shown us that we can take control of our futures by thinking about the problems we face, in order to find sustainable innovations which improve our livelihoods today, and conserve our natural resources for the future: *Komori ya Leo na Meso* [The Comoros of today and tomorrow]. The project is supporting us to improve the fertility in our fields and increase crop yields. We're also starting to generate income from organic market vegetable gardening, and the first poultry farm in the Comoros based on locally-produced feed. Generations to come will benefit from the work we are doing to protect our water sources and water catchment zones".

Checklist for submission

	Check
Is the report less than 5MB? If so, please email to Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.uk putting the project number in the Subject line.	Yes
Is your report more than 5MB? If so, please advise Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.uk that the report will be send by post on CD, putting the project number in the Subject line.	No
Have you included means of verification? You need not submit every project document, but the main outputs and a selection of the others would strengthen the report.	Yes
Do you have hard copies of material you want to submit with the report? If so, please make this clear in the covering email and ensure all material is marked with the project number.	No
Have you involved your partners in preparation of the report and named the main contributors	Yes
Have you completed the Project Expenditure table fully?	Yes
Do not include claim forms or other communications with this report.	