



Darwin Initiative – Final Report



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

(To be completed with reference to the Reporting Guidance Notes for Project Leaders (<http://darwin.defra.gov.uk/resources/>) it is expected that this report will be a **maximum** of 20 pages in length, excluding annexes)

Darwin project information

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|-----------------------------|--|
| Project Reference | 18-005 |
| Project Title | Understanding, assessing and monitoring ecosystem services for better biodiversity conservation |
| Host country(ies) | Nepal |
| Contract Holder Institution | Birdlife International Global (UK) Secretariat |
| Partner Institution(s) | Bird Conservation Nepal (BCN) BirdLife Asia Secretariat Cambridge Conservation Initiative (CCI) King's College London (KCL) |
| Darwin Grant Value | £ XXX |
| Start/End dates of Project | April 2010 – March 2013 |
| Project Leader Name | Alison Stattersfield |
| Project Website | n/a |
| Report Author(s) and date | Jenny Birch, Ishana Thapa, Alison Stattersfield 28 June 2013 |

1 Project Rationale

Natural ecosystems provide a range of essential ecosystem services (ES) on which human lives depend. Since the publication of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment in 2005, an increasing number of studies have shown that biodiversity loss and ecosystem degradation can disrupt and diminish ES with severe economic, social and environmental impacts on people. Understanding and valuing these services will often greatly strengthen the case for nature conservation. However, ES are generally unrecognised and undervalued (or not valued at all) in decision-making processes which often leads to decisions that degrade and diminish biodiversity and hence the provision of ES. The EU- and UNEP-funded 'The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity' (TEEB) initiative highlighted that ***“Not having or not using information on biodiversity, ecosystem services, and their value can compromise effective and efficient management of natural capital”*** (p.16 of the 'TEEB for policy makers).

There is therefore a need to identify and assess the value to people of conserving natural habitats. In order to do this, the capacity of the conservation community needs to be increased to undertake this (new) work. Thus far, ES assessment has largely focused on broad scale, global analyses, using rough proxy measures from remote sensing and modelling or on intensive and expensive measures at a few sites, generally conducted by academics / consultants. To inform practical conservation decision-making, this project aimed to develop a ground-based, site-focused, participatory and inexpensive methodology for ES assessment and monitoring, targeting conservation practitioners in the field. Through piloting the methods at Important Bird Areas (IBAs) in Nepal (Figure 1), the project aimed to produce a field-tested, practical 'toolkit', thus providing users with the tools to assess and measure ES at a site and to use this information to support conservation of natural habitats protecting bird species and wider biodiversity alongside continued delivery of a range of ES.

The project objectives were to build the capacity of the host partner, the BirdLife Partnership in Asia and wider conservation networks and to use the results to demonstrate the use of ES information for better biodiversity conservation.

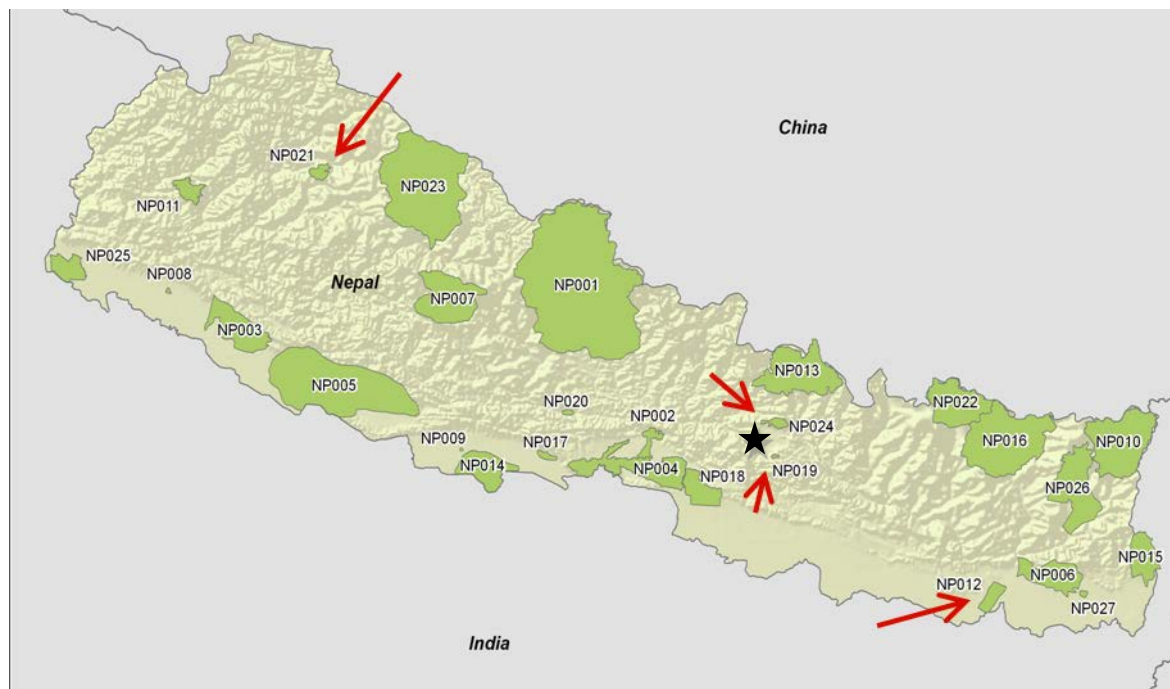


Figure 1. Map of Nepal showing the 27 IBAs and the four study sites identified with red arrows. NP021: Rara National Park; NP024: Shivapuri-Nagarjun National Park; NP019: Phulchoki Mountain Forests; NP012: Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve and Barrage. Black star shows location of Kathmandu where the BCN office is located.

2 Project Achievements

2.1 Purpose/Outcome

The project achieved the intended purpose to ***'build capacity of national NGOs in Nepal and other Asian countries to collect and use information on ES for better biodiversity conservation'***. In Nepal, this was demonstrated by the increased capacity of three core staff members at Bird Conservation Nepal (BCN), the host country partner, to understand and assess ES through implementing site assessments at four pilot sites alongside UK partners. As a result, ES baselines were established for the first time at four IBAs (one more than the target set in the proposal) and a rapid assessment was conducted for all 27 Important Bird Areas (IBAs) in Nepal (verified by data held in tailored spreadsheets).

Training was also delivered to BCN staff in the monitoring of birds and habitats within IBAs and this enabled BCN to independently conduct biodiversity monitoring across the network of IBAs for the first time since their initial designation in 2005 (verified by data entered into BirdLife's World Bird Database). BCN is the first BirdLife Partner in the Asia region to implement monitoring in a standardized way and they now have the capacity to repeat these assessments periodically at all of Nepal's IBAs.

Through this project BCN has developed new knowledge to aid their advocacy for the protection of sites at local, national and international policy levels. Through site-scale work they have engaged with local communities at four sites, they have embraced new opportunities to meet with government officials and participated in debates at the national level relating to sustainable use of wetlands, payments for ecosystem services (PES) and other policy discussions on conservation and sustainable use of resources (verified through reports).

BCN demonstrated their increased ability to advocate at the international level by co-hosting a side event at the CBD COP11 in Hyderabad where the Secretary for the Ministry of Forests and

Soil Conservation, Dr Krishna Chandra Paudel, launched the National Report '*Conserving biodiversity and delivering ecosystem services for better biodiversity conservation in Nepal*' at this high-profile event. In addition, many other advocacy materials have been produced for different audiences in Nepal and in the UK (see Annex 5) including the translation of the report into the Nepali language.

In the wider Asia region, a workshop was held to share experiences of the project and provide initial training in ES assessments for the BirdLife Asia Partnership (14 organisations). The feedback from the workshop (noted in the report) was positive and confirmed that knowledge of this issue had been increased. Consequently, Vietnam and Cambodia conducted similar site assessments as part of other funded projects and these countries, along with Nepal, presented their work to other Partners at the BirdLife World Congress at the end of the project.

2.2 Goal/ Impact: achievement of positive impact on biodiversity and poverty alleviation

The project goal was "***To assist Nepal & other Asian developing countries achieve more effective biodiversity conservation and ES delivery***". Given the short duration of this project in relation to measurable changes in biodiversity condition, threat status and ES indices, achievement of this cannot be measured until 5–10 years after the end of the project. However, BCN has established the baseline (in relation to biodiversity and ES) through which to monitor impact, and is well placed to conduct monitoring in 2015 through another funded project.

The project has made a significant contribution to instigating better understanding of the importance and value of ES in Nepal (and the wider context), using data from Important Bird Areas (IBAs) as local test cases, and producing a country-wide review of the net economic consequences of losing wild nature through the publication of the National Report. This report—jointly published by the Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation—was well received by government (shared with the Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation, MoFSC) and other national non-governmental stakeholders. The Report has been considered by the MoFSC in informing the revision of the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) for reporting against the CBD Aichi Biodiversity Targets in 2020. As a result, we are confident that measures for the conservation of biodiversity and ES delivery will be strengthened in policies and plans within the MoFSC. We did not have as much impact with the National Planning Commission as hoped as relevant policy opportunities did not reveal themselves during the project. However, BCN's increased profile will help to forge links in this Ministry in future.

The project has also made substantial advances in understanding better the contribution that protection of nature can offer for poverty alleviation and human welfare. At all of the case study sites, local livelihoods were dependent on the continued provision of a range of ES which, in many cases, would be lost in the absence of wild nature. The studies also highlighted where investments to improving the livelihoods of local people, linked to natural resource use, could help to achieve win-wins for biodiversity conservation and poverty alleviation (such as in Phulchoki forest where investment in capacity-building for poorer households to manage picnic sites and become bird guides could further increase the flow of economic benefits to those who need it most).

2.3 Outputs

Output 1. Research methodologies developed for cost-effective, site-focused assessment & monitoring of ES

We achieved this output by bringing together leading experts to develop a rapid, practical and cost-effective approach to measuring ES at the site-scale. The project started with a workshop involving 30+ practitioners and academics including economists, social scientists, biologists and geographers, allowing us to assimilate current best-practice. In addition, a dedicated steering group of 8-10 people convened 5-6 times in each year (verified by meeting minutes) to continue to review and improve the methods and guidance, taking account of the learning from applying the approaches at pilot sites by BCN. In addition, a workshop was held in each year to invite experts on specific areas that needed further development (based on feedback from the field work), such as social differentiation of user groups and assessing the distribution of ES benefits at the local level (all verified through meeting reports). As a result of this focused and continuous effort, we were able to develop an appropriate methodology within the time-frame of the project. The overview of the methods and approach was accepted for publication by the peer-review journal, *Ecosystem Services*, to be published in July 2013.

Good progress was made in the design of a database for storing, managing and analysing ES data (specification available). However, the high cost of the development of a new module within BirdLife's World Bird Database (WBDB) was unforeseen, so it was not possible through this project to establish a working online database. Instead, data are being held in standardised spreadsheets offline for the time being while additional funds are sought.

Output 2. ES assessments & monitoring methods tested & refined at pilot sites in Nepal, & data collected & analysed nationally

All aspects of this output were achieved. Methods were piloted across four sites (one additional to the three in project proposal) with significant engagement of local and national stakeholders through start-up meetings, workshops, household surveys and training of local staff in survey techniques. Methods were continuously revised based on experiences from each site. Data were collected in field notebooks initially and then transferred into a standard reporting format for later inclusion in the WBDB (see Output 1) and analyses produced for inclusion in case studies / scientific papers and reports (see Output 3). Community reports were produced at three of sites and preliminary results were reported back to the community at two sites (those most accessible) to collect feedback and ensure outputs were understood, representative and appropriate.

In Year 2, a group of 31 site experts conducted a rapid review of ES (following and testing the first part of the toolkit methods) across all 27 IBAs to be analysed and presented in the National Report (see Output 3). In addition to this, some work was undertaken to present the status of carbon stocks and water provision within Nepal's IBAs.

Output 3. Awareness raised of the importance of biodiversity conservation & maintenance of ES for livelihoods

The development of case studies presenting the work undertaken at the pilot sites (one scientific paper in review, three more in preparation, plus one overview published and another in review), the National Report and other awareness raising materials produced in Nepal and in the UK (see Annex 5) all contributed to the achievement of this Output. Overall, a wide range of materials were produced targeting different audiences and demonstrating, through field experience and scientific underpinning, the importance of biodiversity and ES.

Numerous articles were published in the Nepal national media (copies of newspaper articles available) due to the engagement of journalists arranged by BCN around the time of each site visit. Two 15 minute programmes on the project were aired through BCN's regular radio programme "Panchhi Sansar". Panchhi Sansar is broadcasted through Image FM which has coverage in more than 40 districts within the country. In addition, regular news stories were added to the BirdLife International website, including special profile of the project on Water for Cities Day and World Wetlands Day.

All indicators worked well to demonstrate that activities undertaken to raise awareness realised this objective. Through the project BCN staff became increasingly engaged in dialogues relating to ES, land management and PES at all levels (including national policy) demonstrating that awareness of the important role of conservation in maintaining ES for livelihoods was raised at the national level. BCN participated in several key meetings with government including an inception meeting organized by the Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation on 23 November 2012 for the Revision of the Nepal Biodiversity Strategy (NBSAP) and its Implementation Plan. BCN's ES work and the National Report were shared during this session as part of a de-briefing on Nepal's Participation at CBD COP11, Hyderabad, India.

Output 4. Guidelines developed & training undertaken on collection & use of ES information for conservation planning & advocacy

Guidelines were successfully developed and compiled into a comprehensive methods toolkit entitled "*Toolkit for Ecosystem Services Site-based Assessments*" known as 'TESSA'. Development of TESSA has proved to be a major contribution to the small set of tools available for ES assessment and fulfils an identified niche. During the project, it generated great interest from within BirdLife, across other conservation organisations/institutions and other sectors (such as business), and is now publicly available online at: <http://www.birdlife.org/datazone/info/estoolkit>.

BirdLife International UK staff spent 26 person weeks in the host country with BCN to provide training and capacity-building in implementation of the toolkit for ES assessments. As a result, BCN is increasingly able to undertake ES assessments with minimal input from UK experts, with three core staff competent in the approach and now developing a future work programme on ES through new projects and leading on funding applications. More than 10 local staff and members of BCN local conservation groups across all four sites were also trained in ES survey techniques including biomass measurement, questionnaires and household surveys. This has raised significant capacity among local communities that was not anticipated at the project outset and provides BCN with a growing network of local level implementers.

Great enthusiasm was evident from the BirdLife Partnership from the outset of this project as demonstrated by the response to an online survey in Year 1. The 14 partner NGOs present at the Asia regional workshop were pleased to receive some initial training and insight into the toolkit methods. However, in the short time available it was not possible to provide comprehensive training as had been anticipated in the original proposal, and we recognise that we will need to follow up with further training. Despite this, we were able to deliver additional field training to partners in Vietnam and Cambodia who had an immediate need for capacity in this area through co-funding to implement methods at sites in these countries.

There is great potential for global uptake of this work across the BirdLife Partnership (represented in 121 countries) and already we have had some engagement of Partners in other regions (Africa and South America) to implement the approach developed in TESSA. At the end of the project, we held a global workshop at the BirdLife World Congress in Ottawa, Canada (June 2013) with 80 participants including 32 BirdLife Partners from around the world plus external participants from other NGOs (IUCN, WWT, WCS) and from the CBD Secretariat, Ramsar Secretariat, corporates (Cemex, Rio Tinto, Heidelberg Cement) and a number of Canadian organisations. This was a very timely opportunity to share experiences more widely, learn about the work undertaken as a result of this specific project and discuss how ES work might be incorporated within the new BirdLife Strategy during the period 2013–2020.

3 Project support to the Conventions (CBD, CMS and/or CITES)

The partnerships developed through the project built the capacity of the host country institution (BCN) to meet CBD commitments in a number of ways, specifically in generating data relevant to meeting and tracking (through use of indicators) the Aichi Targets, especially Target 14 and in implementing the Programme of Work on Protected Areas. BCN's work through this project will support government institutions such as the Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation, both at the project sites and also at other protected areas where BCN works. The publication of the National Report '*Conserving Biodiversity and Delivering Ecosystem Services at Important Bird Areas in Nepal*', was launched at the CBD COP11 in Hyderabad, India, endorsed by the Secretary for the Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation, and considered in the following NBSAP revision meetings. The project also enhanced BCN's ability to raise awareness of the benefits of conservation to people, contributing to Nepal's progress in sustainable use of components of biodiversity and public education and awareness and has made an important contribution to improving Nepal's implementation of Article 6, in particular 'general measures for conservation and sustainable use'.

Building links with the CBD focal point during this project has not been without its challenges. At the project outset, political instability meant that there was no specific individual in place and there have been two subsequent focal points due to regularly changing roles within the unstable government departments. Despite this, BCN, through their strong links with the Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation, interacted with the CBD focal point wherever possible throughout this project. BCN staff were regularly invited to meetings to share progress with stakeholders on project work. BCN held a national workshop hosted by MoFSC to discuss the content of the National Report and a follow up workshop to jointly review the results.

4 Project Partnerships

BirdLife International has had a formal relationship with BCN since 1994. The partnership with BCN for this project was a timely one as BCN had been involved in a previous Darwin Initiative project (15030) which focused on building the scientific capacity of several BirdLife International Partners working with the CBD. In 2010 BCN were successful in progressing from Affiliate to Partner Designate status within the BirdLife Partnership, a reflection of their dedication to the BirdLife International strategic goals and their increasing capacity to operate as a leading national membership organisation in Nepal. BCN showed great dedication and enthusiasm to build their organisational capacity in new areas relevant to conservation in Nepal. At the same time, BirdLife International took a strategic decision to engage more directly in work that linked ES and biodiversity. This was of particular interest to BCN because 80% of the Nepalese population derive their livelihoods from the services provided by natural habitats and at the national policy level, this issue was starting to be discussed (e.g. the Government had plans to develop a policy on PES).

A project contract was signed at the outset of the project that determined the scope of work to be covered and the schedule of grant payments. No formal MOU was signed because as part of the wider BirdLife Partnership, BCN is already signed up to a Partnership Agreement.

The relationship between the organisations was strengthened through the close working relationship on this project. BCN has taken ownership and became confident in implementing and communicating ES work as the project evolved. During the field visits (3) of UK staff to Nepal, the joint team worked effectively to carry out the site assessments and BCN has continued to build on that work through their IBA programme and have now secured funding from NORAD for a two year project to carry on ES and biodiversity conservation work.

The particular strength of this partnership was the full commitment of both parties to the overall goal of the project and a willingness to branch out into a new area of work, forging a path for other BirdLife Partners to follow. Given this new area of work for the BirdLife Partnership, both sides invested a great deal in the project and were able to learn from each other.

In addition to the main partnership between BCN and BirdLife International, support has been significant from the Cambridge Conservation Initiative (CCI) through a Collaborative Fund grant that coincided with the start of this project. A core advisory group of experts from the University

of Cambridge, RSPB, Anglia Ruskin University and UNEP-World Conservation Monitoring Centre provided input (at no cost) throughout the project to support the development of the scientific methodology and in some cases, piloting of the toolkit at additional sites. Dr Kelvin Peh, Cambridge University, funded by CCI and an AXA grant, helped to co-ordinate the technical development of the methods. We also received support from Mark Mulligan and Bhopal Pandey at King's College London on the assessment of hydrological services. This strong network has formed a 'steering group' which is currently deciding on a formal strategy to take forwards the work initiated through this project to ensure that TESSA can be further developed.

The BirdLife Secretariat in Asia supported this project through the organisation of an ES training workshop for Asian Partners. This workshop disseminated information about the project and provided 12 Asia Partners and 2 BirdLife country programmes plus other organisations (WWF) with some introductory training on the toolkit.

As a result of this project, BCN has forged strong relations with other institutions in Nepal (such as ICIMOD, Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation, Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation and NTNC, ANSAB, Forest Action Nepal and FECOFUN as a result of this work. These relationships are continuing and there is likely to be some joint work in the near future on ES within Nepal.

5 Contribution to Darwin Initiative Programme Outputs

5.1 Technical and Scientific achievements and co-operation

This project has significantly advanced the scientific knowledge to show that sites that are important for biodiversity conservation can also provide significant benefits (i.e.ES) to people. The relevance of this research is to provide tools to conservation practitioners to be able to provide information to decision-makers showing how a change to a site, whether development or restoration, would affect the delivery of services and the distribution of any benefits among stakeholders. To date there are relatively few empirical studies that present this information and there was no tool available to enable users on the ground, with limited specialist expertise and limited capacity to engage with this area of research. The Toolkit for Ecosystem Service Site-based Assessment (TESSA) has addressed this gap by guiding local non-specialists through a selection of relatively accessible methods for identifying which ES may be important at a site, and for evaluating the magnitude of benefits that people obtain from them currently, compared with those expected under alternative land uses. This has already been shown in Nepal through the piloting of this approach at four sites (all IBAs) and the rapid review of ES delivered by the network of 27 IBAs in the country.

One of the critical components of the research was the inclusion of social scientists who were able to ensure incorporation of methods to assess distribution of benefits to different people according to social status, ethnicity, gender and other variables. This enables TESSA to have a strong focus on livelihoods, considering issues of equity, and to provide the basis upon which better informed decisions can be made about how to improve livelihoods of people and better aid conservation at the same time.

To date, two outputs of this project have been published by peer-review journals (*Ibisbill* and *Ecosystem Services*, see Annex 5). A further two case studies are in review with peer-review journals and the intention is to finalise another two for the same purpose. Of critical importance is the peer-review of the overall methodology in the toolkit and its endorsement by the 30+ international experts who were involved in its inception and subsequent early internal review process.

5.2 Transfer of knowledge

Transfer of knowledge was an important component of this project. Close working between the BirdLife Secretariat and the host country institution enabled bi-directional learning to improve the research element of the project as it progressed. The outcome of this has been the production of a toolkit that is relevant and applicable to conservation practitioners with limited previous training in this field.

In addition to this, BCN has organised and participated in several high-level meetings with policy makers (including taking part on the Technical Committee of the National Wetland Committee involving 11 Ministries and several Nepali NGOs) and conservation organisations in Nepal to promote inclusion of ES valuation into practical conservation challenges in Nepal – discussions that they would not have had the confidence to engage in prior to this project. Transfer of knowledge to other practitioners and policy makers in Nepal has been aided by the circulation of 500 copies of the National Report '*Conserving biodiversity and delivering ecosystem services at Important Bird Areas in Nepal*' to relevant institutions and personnel, accompanied by a national sharing meeting in Kathmandu at the end of the project. The report has also been summarised in a Nepali language version for further distribution to all 27 IBAs and their local communities.

A two-day regional training workshop organised for 14 BirdLife partners and country programmes in Asia raised awareness and transferred initial understanding of the importance of assessing ES more widely. This led to two countries requesting support to receive further training and to implement work at IBAs in their own countries.

Numerous conferences have also been attended over the three years to both be part of the active community working on ecosystem services issues and to promote the methodological approach to a wide audience of conservation practitioners, policy makers and academics.

5.3 Capacity building

BCN is already one of the most respected NGOs in Nepal, with a reputation for bird conservation and working at the site level with local communities. They have now also built a reputation for having a sound understanding of ES and the issues surrounding the valuation of nature. This project has raised the profile of BCN in being a national authority on conservation, addressing some of the key issues facing decision-makers in Nepal today.

The relationships fostered through this project have resulted in BCN staff being invited to a number of high level meetings with Government and other NGOs working in Nepal. For example, Ishana Thapa (Senior Conservation Officer at BCN) was invited to sit on the National Wetland Technical Committee set up by a UNEP/GEF wetland project (Conservation and Sustainable Use of Wetlands in Nepal) which reports to the National Wetland Committee (representatives from eight Government ministries and from the National Planning Commission). BCN are able to enter discussions regarding national wetland conservation and protection.

Institutionally, four BCN staff have received training on the assessment of ES at sites and the subsequent analysis of results. This has built capacity in this new area and BCN are now arguably the national experts on site-based ES measurement and valuation. In addition, the project was able to lever input from other staff at BirdLife International who provided ad hoc training in database management and site monitoring.

Further evidence of the capacity built through this project is demonstrated through their independent submission of proposals to further ES work in Nepal given that the post project Darwin Initiative bid was unsuccessful. A proposal to NORAD was successful to the value of 1,600,000 Norwegian Kroner for implementing a two-year project. The project will focus on ES, biodiversity and developing livelihood benefits, including follow up work at two of the pilot sites. Another proposal has been submitted to the Multi Stakeholder Forestry Programme (MSFP) worth 7,500,000 Nepali Rupees. This project will cover five districts in Nepal, focusing on measuring and monitoring of ES at the local level.

5.4 Sustainability and Legacy

The development of the toolkit 'TESSA' through this project is available for use by conservation practitioners around the world. It is hosted on the BirdLife International website, with free access, but users will be encouraged to share their experiences and data so that it can be improved as more and more case studies arise – expanding a 'community of users'. There is a strong will between the project team and among the steering group members to continue to develop the toolkit beyond this project, due to the huge potential it has to inform land use planning and policies and the demand that we have received from other NGOs, consultants, businesses and more to access it. This newly strengthened network of organisations in the Cambridge Conservation Initiative (www.conservation.cam.ac.uk) working towards the same objective has developed unique and diverse expertise in this area and can now be considered as a 'centre of excellence' for the application of ES assessments at the site-scale.

It is likely that the legacy will endure through new funding proposals to implement the toolkit and further capacity building of the BirdLife Partnership and others (already we have conducted a training workshop for 16 African conservationists in the ecosystem services approach using TESSA through subsequent funding). There is also a strong urge to extend the experience in Nepal (and subsequent small-scale studies in Vietnam and Cambodia) to the wider Asia region and follow up proposals have already been submitted.

Through BCN's engagement with the Ministries and promotion of the National Report and subsequent outputs it is highly likely that in coming months/years, the results will be mainstreamed into national planning (e.g. NBSAP) and policy processes as previously mentioned in Section 2. In Nepal (and more broadly in Asia), establishment of a scientific monitoring protocol that takes account of both biodiversity *and* ecosystem services, will contribute to long-term conservation goals in the region and may also contribute to the Aichi Targets relevant to ES indicators (such as Target 14).

One project staff member, Jenny Birch, was recruited especially to develop the ES programme at BirdLife International and to manage this project. Her role as 'Ecosystem Services Officer' at BirdLife International will continue as BirdLife is increasingly engaging in this area of work through its IBA and Local Empowerment Programmes. She will continue to provide support to Partners in engaging with ES work, through leading on funding applications, developing a strategy for the work going forward, and building capacity regionally and nationally to undertake this work. In Nepal, the capacity of three staff has been increased so that they are now capable of leading on work. These project staff have key roles at BCN and will remain in place, with some being actively engaged in follow-up projects as mentioned previously.

In terms of resources, capital items were all held in the host country and will continue to be used in the day to day work of the partner, BCN.

6 Lessons learned

The main lessons learnt in terms of management through this partnership were the importance of regular communication, a clear understanding of what each party was required to deliver and by when, and a structured reporting format to capture issues, activities and achievements along the way. This was effectively handled through a quarterly reporting framework and regular Skype calls.

It was also clear that the funding to cover a 50% post solely for the management of this project was essential in providing consistent, vital support to the host country partner throughout the project. Indeed we invested more UK support into the project, than originally envisaged, because of the breadth of the work (covering science, livelihoods and policy issues), which we underestimated, and our desire to capitalise on this opportunity to develop some new approaches to conservation, that ultimately could be shared widely.

One lesson learnt in the first year of the project was to ensure management of expectations from stakeholders at sites, given that the work we were undertaking was to establish baselines and that work to improve conservation / livelihoods would follow on later. This was addressed by having regular contact with the Wardens at the pilot sites from the onset to ensure continued engagement and enthusiasm throughout and beyond the project. We were extremely disappointed not to secure the follow on Darwin project which would have provided funds to support conservation / livelihoods activities on the ground based on the project recommendations. Ideally we should have sought additional funds earlier, but in reality it took us the full three years to be sure that we had a sound basis on which we could build.

Another lesson learnt was that field work should be completed in one visit to get the best use of staff time and to avoid the need for follow up work which takes more time and effort whilst trying to concentrate on other priorities. We also found that it took longer than anticipated to finalise the peer-review papers for a number of reasons: delay in collecting the field data (related to the above point); methodological and technical issues requiring expert discussion and agreement; and the need to take account of the input of many co-authors to ensure that the results were interpreted robustly and appropriately within national and local contexts.

6.1 Monitoring and evaluation

There were no major changes to the project or logframe.

The principal method of monitoring progress was through the direct engagement of the project coordinator and support staff from BCN. A workplan was developed every quarter and regular (sometime monthly) conference calls allowed us to keep on track of work and monitor progress. These regular calls were supplemented by several face-to-face meetings (at least once per year in the UK) which greatly benefitted the relationship between project organisations and improved outcomes. The capacity of BCN is such that regular progress reports were delivered and activities duly carried out as planned.

A formal M&E system was not a requirement of the project proposal and hence was not developed. However, we measured achievement in a number of ways. Regular reviewing of the progress in the development / publication and quality of the scientific framework was conducted by the UK partners and expert panel (CCI member organisations). Field work led to the testing and implementation of ES methods and data entry was checked and monitored by the Project Manager before analysis. We measured training effectiveness through the training materials developed, and the trainee reports and feedback (all positive), and then through the resulting activities and outputs (as evidence that the technical knowledge has been successfully transferred). This mechanism worked well.

We conducted an internal project review at the BirdLife World Congress event in Ottawa where all the key staff engaged in the project were present. This was used to inform section 6 of this report (where outcomes of the discussion have been reported), to identify areas to focus work going forward and to aid internal processes to ensure similar success with future projects.

6.2 Actions taken in response to annual report reviews

There have been no reviews of the annual reports for this project.

7 Darwin identity

Darwin Initiative support was recognised as a distinct project with a clear identity through a number of materials (including the scientific literature, advocacy materials, and the National Report), on BirdLife / BCN's websites and via BirdLife news stories and press releases. The logo was displayed at national workshops in each year in Nepal and on presentations delivered at national and international events including at the ESP Conference in Wageningen in 2010.

In Nepal, the role of the media is very important for environmental advocacy and public awareness and a number of TV and radio programmes were aired. BCN worked closely with the Nepal Federation of Environmental Journalists (NEFEJ), and ensured appropriate acknowledgement through these programmes.

The Darwin Initiative is well known among other non-governmental NGOs in Nepal but less known in the government ministries.

8 Finance and administration

8.1 Project expenditure

| Project spend since last annual report | 2012/13 Grant (£) | 2012/13 Total actual Darwin Costs (£) | Variance % | Comments (please explain significant variances) |
|--|-------------------|---------------------------------------|------------|--|
| Staff costs (see below) | XXX | XXX | 18% | We were able to allocate more time against Jenny Birch rather than use consultants for much of the technical work. More was therefore spent on internal salaries than budgeted for |
| Consultancy costs* | XXX | XXX | -4% | |
| Overhead Costs | XXX | XXX | 4% | |
| Travel and subsistence* | XXX | XXX | 8% | |
| Operating Costs | XXX | XXX | 7% | |
| Capital items (see below) | XXX | XXX | -45% | Funds provided in previous years were enough to cover the equipment needed for the project. |
| Others (see below) | XXX | XXX | 0% | |
| TOTAL | XXX | XXX | | |

*In brackets is shown the original budget from 2012/13. A change request was submitted and agreed by LTSI on 5 February 2013. Funds were moved between budget lines (from staff costs to T&S) as once again this year we were able to save on consultancy costs by using in-house capacity and contributions 'in-kind' from the UK steering group who have been involved in this work from the outset. This helped to cover T&S which was substantially more costly this year than had been planned for.

| Staff employed | Cost |
|----------------|------|
|----------------|------|

| (Name and position) | (£) |
|---|------------|
| Jenny Birch, Ecosystem Services Officer / Project Manager | XXX |
| Alison Stattersfield, Head of Science / Project Leader | XXX |
| David Thomas, Head of Livelihoods and Communities | XXX |
| Mike Evans, Information Management | XXX |
| Hum Gurung/Sushila Nepali, Chief Executive Officer, BCN | XXX |
| Ishana Thapa, Senior Conservation Manager, BCN | XXX |
| Jyotendra Thakuri, Research Assistant, BCN | XXX |
| Ravi Shankar, Research Assistant, BCN | XXX |
| Menuka Basnyat, Research Assistant, BCN | XXX |
| Local field staff, Nepal | XXX |
| TOTAL | XXX |

| Capital items – description | Capital items – cost (£) |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Tree tags for Rara field plots | XXX |
| Dell laptop for BCN | XXX |
| | XXX |
| TOTAL | XXX |

| Other items – description | Other items – cost (£) |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | |
| TOTAL | |

8.2 Additional funds or in-kind contributions secured

| Source of funding for project lifetime | Total (£) |
|--|------------------|
| BirdLife staff time in-kind | XXX |
| RSPB consultancy time | XXX |
| CCI Collaborative Fund for Conservation: Building a practical toolkit for rapid ecosystem service assessment at the site-scale | XXX |
| AXA Fellowship staff time for technical expert | XXX |
| | XXX |
| TOTAL | XXX |

| Source of funding for additional work after project lifetime | Total (£) |
|---|------------------|
| CCI Collaborative Fund for Conservation: Demonstrating ecosystem service values through shared learning in Africa | XXX |
| TOTAL | XXX |

8.3 Value for Money

From the outset, the project levered significant interest from a wide range of experts who were invited to a project meeting funded through a Cambridge Conservation Initiative (CCI) project that received funding in 2010 to help to develop tools for ecosystem services assessments. The synergies with that project (which provide co-funding) and the continued enthusiasm from a core group of 8-10 experts meant that much more was achieved in the timeframe than was originally envisioned and we were able to draw on the expertise of a wide group, something that would not have been possible without coordination from this project and that of the CCI project. Almost all of these experts provided their contribution in-kind (to the equivalent of 50 days per year, more than £30,000 of time). This substantially increased the value for money of the project.

The project also reached a large community of conservationists, through numerous opportunities to attend events in the UK and internationally and through awareness raising articles on the BirdLife and BCN websites.

In terms of the research, the methods developed and implemented were designed to be low-cost, rapid and practical. This meant that the equipment needed for field work was relatively inexpensive, thus allowing much of the expenditure to go on ensuring effective capacity building, piloting of the methods and development and improvements in the approach.

In Nepal, the fact that BCN was already established and respected at the local through to national levels meant that initiating work at the sites was relatively straight forward and enabled the project team to spend more time on the direct activities than on establishing relationships and common ground or building trust. This is one of the main advantages of working through the BirdLife International network, which already has strong partners in place all over the world, who in turn have strong relationships with local groups at the sites in which they work. This can help to ensure successful partnerships, good project outputs and hence excellent value for money.

Annex 1 Report of progress and achievements against final project logframe for the life of the project

Note: For projects that commenced after 2012 the terminology used for the logframe was changed to reflect DFID's terminology.

| Project summary | Measurable Indicators | Progress and Achievements in the last Financial Year 2012-13 | Actions required/planned for next period |
|---|---|---|--|
| <p>Goal/Impact:</p> <p>To assist Nepal & other Asian developing countries achieve more effective biodiversity conservation and ES delivery</p> | | <p>BCN established baseline (in relation to biodiversity and ecosystem services) through which to monitor impact on biodiversity conservation and ES delivery. Progress to be measured in 2015 through another funded project.</p> <p>Improved understanding of national policy makers of the importance of ESs demonstrated through engagement in publication of National Report</p> <p>Improved methods to assess benefits to local livelihoods and highlight trade-offs with biodiversity conservation</p> | <p>Do not fill not applicable</p> |
| <p>Purpose/Outcome To build capacity of national NGOs in Nepal & other Asian countries to collect & use information on ES for better biodiversity conservation</p> | <p>in Nepal, monitoring scheme (for birds / biodiversity & ES) established in 3 sites (baseline, Y3)</p> <p>in Nepal, at least 3 local & 1 national advocacy opportunities pursued</p> <p>in at least 1 other Asian country, 1 advocacy opportunity pursued</p> <p>internationally, input to at least 1 CBD meeting</p> | <p>Training delivered to BCN staff in the monitoring of birds and habitats within IBAs and ES baselines established for the first time at 4 IBAs and rapid assessment conducted for all 27 IBAs in Nepal.</p> <p>Numerous advocacy events held in Nepal at national level. Also advocacy at the 4 sites visited for piloting methods.</p> <p>Regional workshop held to provide training in ES assessments for the BirdLife Asia Partnership (14 organisations). Advocacy opportunities pursued in Vietnam and Cambodia through implementation of techniques.</p> <p>Successful launch of the National Report at the CBD meeting in Hyderabad, 2012.</p> | <p>Do not fill not applicable</p> |

| Project summary | Measurable Indicators | Progress and Achievements in the last Financial Year 2012-13 | Actions required/planned for next period |
|--|---|---|--|
| Output 1. Research methodologies developed for cost-effective, site-focused assessment & monitoring of ES | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ in UK, expert meetings held (Y1,2,3) ▪ scientific framework & database for biodiversity & ES assessment produced | Indicators were appropriate to help monitor and report against activities. Excellent engagement of wide UK expertise through bi-monthly expert meetings and 1 workshop in each year has helped to deliver this output. Good progress in continuing development of the methods and design of a database for managing ecosystem service data. | |
| 1.1 Convene UK expert meetings | | Bi-monthly meetings held in the UK with steering group of 8-10 members throughout the project. Yr1 inaugural workshop held in the UK attended by 31 experts to catalyse the development of a scientific framework; Yr2 UK expert meeting held with 40 participants involved in ES projects worldwide, to share experiences and provide further inputs into the scientific framework and toolkit development; Yr3 Socio-economic workshop held with 10 UK experts to improve social measures of benefits capture. | |
| 1.2 Compile & refine scientific framework for site-based ES assessment & monitoring | | Methods compiled into 'toolkit' (see 4.3) with comprehensive guidance. IBA monitoring workshop conducted with 31 participants in Yr2. Results analysed and entered into BirdLife's World Bird Database (WBDB). Development of scientific methods including socio-economic measures, and refinement based on field work continued in Yr3. | |
| 1.3 Develop database to hold ES data & test for analyses and indicator development | | Data held in Excel spreadsheets for duration of the project. Specification for database developed to document ecosystem service baselines and collation of monitoring data. Unable to test this due to higher than anticipated costs to develop a new section of the WBDB so this will occur with other additional funding. | |
| Output 2. ES assessment & monitoring methods tested and refined at pilot sites in Nepal, & data collected & analysed nationally | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ in Nepal, local 'start up' meetings held (1 in Y1,2,3 with 15 people each) ▪ data on ES collected ▪ analyses produced | Methods piloted across 4 sites (1 additional to the 3 in project proposal) over the project. Case study was produced for each site and data collated into a national review of ES across all IBAs (see 3.5). Community reports produced at 3 sites and reported back to community at 2 sites to collect feedback and ensure output were representative and appropriate. Indicators were used to ensure good progress through documentation of all meetings, population of specially tailored databases with ES data, review of trial analyses and improvement of methods. | |
| 2.1 Hold local 'start up meetings' at 3 IBAs in Nepal | | Critical engagement with national and local stakeholders enabled participation of key stakeholder groups and guided development of participatory methods for ES assessments at all 4 sites. First start up meeting in Yr1 at a national level with 12 participants from government, | |

| Project summary | Measurable Indicators | Progress and Achievements in the last Financial Year 2012-13 | Actions required/planned for next period |
|---|--|--|--|
| | | <p>NGO sector, Universities and invited experts.</p> <p>Local stakeholder meetings engaged more than 30 people and local community meetings engaged more than 50 participants across the 4 sites.</p> | |
| 2.2 Conduct fieldwork & enter biodiversity & ES data for 3 IBAs in Nepal | | <p>Monitoring and ES data entered into databases for 4 sites. Across these sites, 480 households participated in surveys on harvested goods and cultivated goods, 49 carbon plots at 2 sites (33 permanent) established, data collected on tourism visits at all sites and water modelling conducted for 2 sites over 140 person-days field work plus additional data analysis time.</p> <p>Biodiversity information for all 27 sites was updated in the World Bird Database (WBDB) following the workshop in Yr2 (see 1.2).</p> | |
| 2.3 Trial output & analysis of ES data & review for advocacy relevance | | <p>Trial output and analysis conducted for oral presentation by BCN staff member at the Student Conference on Conservation Science, Cambridge in Yr1 and as a poster at the BES Forests & Global Change conference that year.</p> <p>In Yr2 national level outputs discussed at an expert consultation meeting. This informed the analysis and communication of rapid review data included in the National Report (see 3.5).</p> <p>All site ES assessments output as peer review publications (See 3.1).</p> | |
| 2.4 Undertake rapid review of ES at all IBAs | | <p>A rapid review of IBAs was piloted at an expert consultation meeting in Yr2 and carried out for all 27 IBAs later that year. A global carbon dataset was sourced and applied at a country level for Nepal's IBAs. Analysis of water services provided by IBAs was undertaken by partners at Kings College London.</p> <p>Results from the rapid review were incorporated into the National Report (see 3.5)</p> | |
| <p>Output 3. Awareness raised of the importance of biodiversity conservation & maintenance of ES for livelihoods</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ in Nepal, 3 case studies based on study sites published & disseminated (Y2-3) ▪ Case Studies based on other BirdLife Partner ES experiences published (as appropriate) ▪ National (Nepal) Report (incl. assessment, map, baseline etc.) produced & distributed (Y3) ▪ other awareness raising materials produced & disseminated | <p>Wide range of materials targeting different audiences produced that demonstrate, through field experience and scientific underpinning, the importance of biodiversity & ecosystem services.</p> <p>All indicators worked well to demonstrate that activities undertaken to raise awareness realised this objective. Awareness has been raised as demonstrated by BCN staff being increasingly engaged in dialogues relating to ecosystem services, land management and PES at all levels (including national policy) that go beyond previous remit of bird and site conservation.</p> | |

| Project summary | Measurable Indicators | Progress and Achievements in the last Financial Year 2012-13 | Actions required/planned for next period |
|--|--|--|--|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ target audiences engaged | | |
| 3.1 Develop case studies based on experiences at 3 IBAs in Nepal (plus others elsewhere, as appropriate) | | <p>Peer-review manuscripts have been prepared for 3 sites to date. The first, submitted to <i>Environmental Conservation</i>, is in review. Others will be submitted to high impact journals over the coming months. Once analysis of 4th site is complete later this year, this will add a 4th case study peer-review paper to the outputs.</p> <p>Another peer-review paper was submitted to <i>Oryx</i> (currently in review) based on the rapid review across the Nepal IBA network presented in the National Report. This work was presented as a poster by BCN at the Global Partnership Meeting (see 4.4 for more details).</p> | |
| 3.2 Produce a range of other awareness-raising / advocacy materials | | <p>A factsheet for general dissemination was produced at the start of the project and taken to the CBD COP10 in Nagoya. Brochure about the project and importance of ES was produced in Nepali and disseminated at numerous events.</p> <p>One project newsletter produced in each year. Disseminated through the BirdLife Global Partnership and on the Extranet. 60 copies distributed to 40 people and 20 institutions in Nepal.</p> <p>ES documentary was compiled in Nepal and translated into English, with 50 copies produced onto DVD.</p> <p>Radio programmes have been aired in Nepal. Several news stories were published in the Nepal national media including leading newspapers.</p> <p>Poster was prepared to raise awareness of the environmental value of Rara National Park, one of the pilot sites, to raise awareness of its unique values.</p> <p>1000 copies of a short brochure '<i>measuring and monitoring ecosystem services</i>' outlining the methods were printed and disseminated in the UK.</p> <p>Translation of the National Report into Nepali enabled national and local stakeholders to review the project outputs and take on board recommendations (see 3.5)</p> <p>An A3 leaflet was produced at the end of the project for dissemination at the Global Partnership meeting (250 copies).</p> | |
| 3.3 Develop websites (BirdLife / BCN) to disseminate ES information | | <p>News stories regularly posted by BCN on the BirdLife International website and BirdLife Community webpages as well as BCN's website. Darwin project page updated with key activities and documents.</p> <p>ES spotlight developed on State of the Worlds Birds website linking case studies of ES work across the Partnership.</p> | |

| Project summary | Measurable Indicators | Progress and Achievements in the last Financial Year 2012-13 | Actions required/planned for next period |
|--|--|---|--|
| 3.4 Promote ES & biodiversity conservation at local, national & international meetings | | <p>A number of local, national and international meetings attended where presentations were given to raise awareness of the project. Promotion of the work mainly done at meetings and conferences in Nepal.</p> <p>Yr1: Asia Regional Partnership meeting of BirdLife International (Taipei); the British Trust for Ornithology (UK); Student Conference on Conservation Science (UK); International Conference on Biodiversity, Livelihood and Climate Change in the Himalayas (Nepal) among others.</p> <p>Yr2: ESP conference attended in Netherlands. Presentation given in a workshop session on tools and techniques, profiling the project.</p> <p>Yr3: Launch of National Report (see 3.5) by Secretary of Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation at CBD Cop11 Hyderabad. BirdLife Global Congress in Ottawa used as avenue to promote new methods from this project.</p> <p>National sharing meetings held with key stakeholders in Nepal who provided input to the project and advice for the National Report. Final meeting held to report back on the findings and recommendations as culmination of the project.</p> | |
| 3.5 Prepare, publish & launch National (Nepal) Report | | <p>Dummy report was prepared and discussed with key stakeholders in Nepal in Yr2 at a national consultation meeting. Continuous planning and engagement resulted in production of a 36-page, full colour glossy report based on results from the rapid review of IBAs and 4 pilot site ES assessments. Report produced in Nepali and English with contribution from experts and key stakeholders in Nepal and UK. Launched at high profile side event at CBD COP11 (see 3.4).</p> | |
| 4. Guidelines developed & training undertaken on collection & use of ES information for conservation planning & advocacy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ toolkit with simple, replicable guidance tailored for IBAs (Y2-3) ▪ in Asia, 1 regional workshop with 9 NGOs (Yr 2) ▪ 1 global workshop with 9 NGOs (Y3) | <p>Development of the Toolkit has proved to be a major contribution to the small set of tools available for ES assessment and fulfils an identified niche. It has generated interest from within BirdLife, across other conservation organisations/institutions and other sectors (such as business). Now a live resource available online, to be continuously refined as methods develop through field testing beyond this project.</p> <p>Great enthusiasm was evident from the original survey for BL Partners to engage in this work and the feedback from 14 partner NGOs present at the Asia Regional workshop in Yr3. There is great potential for uptake across the Partnership and already some engagement of Partners to implement the toolkit across sites in other countries, including Vietnam and Cambodia.</p> <p>Global workshop held with 50+ partner NGOs present (3 funded through this project) to share experiences and drive forward the ES work within the Partnership</p> <p>BCN increasingly able to undertake ES assessments with minimal input from UK experts and now developing future work programme on ESs through new projects and leading on funding applications. More than 10 local staff and members of BCN</p> | |

| Project summary | Measurable Indicators | Progress and Achievements in the last Financial Year 2012-13 | Actions required/planned for next period |
|--|-----------------------|--|--|
| | | local conservation groups across all 4 sites trained in ES survey techniques, raising significant capacity among local communities that was not anticipated at the project outset. | |
| 4.1 Seek feedback from BirdLife Partners on current ES work, & requirements for ES assessment & monitoring | | Questionnaire developed and sent to global BirdLife Partners at start of project. Responses analysed and taken on board for further development of the project. A summary report was sent back to all Partners. Partners invited to contact the Project Manager and regular project updates sent to keep Partners informed of progress. | |
| 4.2 Share experiences with other Asian BirdLife Partners / organise regional training | | Two-day regional workshop undertaken involving 14 Partners and country offices from Asia. Presentations and practical exercises conducted for hands on experience of the toolkit and approaches for measuring ES. ES in policy session also held. | |
| 4.3 Develop toolkit & guidance | | Activity 1.2 culminated in the production of Version 1.0 of the Toolkit for Ecosystem Services Site-based Assessments (TESSA), 300 pages of guidance and compilation of methods and guidance to assess and measure ES at the site-scale. TESSA available from the BirdLife website and promoted through a peer-reviewed short communication in <i>Ecosystem Services</i> . | |
| 4.4 Share experiences across whole BirdLife Partnership | | Thematic workshop held at the Global Partnership Meeting with 80 attendees from 32 partners and a number of other conservation organisations present. Sharing experiences was achieved through 8 poster presentations of case studies of ES work across the Partnership. Discussions held on how similar work could be undertaken by other Partners to deliver across a range of conservation objectives over the coming decade (e.g. CBD Aichi Target 14) as part of the Global Strategy for BirdLife to 2020. | |

Annex 2 Project's full logframe, including indicators, means of verification and assumptions

Note: Insert your full logframe. If your logframe was changed since your Stage 2 application and was approved by a Change Request the newest approved version should be inserted here, otherwise insert the Stage 2 logframe.

| Project summary | Measurable Indicators | Means of verification | Important Assumptions |
|---|---|--|---|
| <p>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.</p> | | | |
| <p>Sub-Goal To assist Nepal & other Asian developing countries achieve more effective biodiversity conservation and ES delivery</p> | <p>site indices (already developed by BirdLife to monitor trends in the status of birds / biodiversity at sites) at 10+ Nepali sites show improvement 5–10 years after end of Project</p> <p>ES indices (to be developed by this Project) at 10+ Nepali sites show improvement 5–10 years after end of Project</p> | <p>Monitoring reports</p> | |
| <p>Purpose To build capacity of national NGOs in Nepal & other Asian countries to collect & use information on ES for better biodiversity conservation</p> | <p>in Nepal, monitoring scheme (for birds / biodiversity & ES) established in 3 sites (baseline, Y3)</p> <p>in Nepal, at least 3 local & 1 national advocacy opportunities pursued</p> <p>in at least 1 other Asian country, 1 advocacy opportunity pursued</p> <p>internationally, input to at least 1 CBD meeting</p> | <p>database (data held in WBDB)</p> <p>NGO, local / district authority & national government reports</p> <p>advocacy materials</p> | <p>monitoring continues at regular intervals and is extended to 10+ sites</p> <p>increased knowledge & capacity to assess & monitor ES will result in more effective biodiversity conservation (see discussion in concept note)</p> <p>relevant policy opportunities are timely</p> |

| Project summary | Measurable Indicators | Means of verification | Important Assumptions |
|---|---|--|--|
| <p>Outputs</p> <p>1. Research methodologies developed for cost-effective, site-focused assessment & monitoring of ES</p> | <p>in UK, expert meetings held (Y1,2,3)</p> <p>scientific framework & database for biodiversity & ES assessment produced</p> | <p>meeting minutes & presentations</p> <p>scientific reports / literature</p> <p>database specification</p> | <p>an appropriate methodology can be developed within the time-frame</p> |
| <p>2. ES assessment & monitoring methods tested and refined at pilot sites in Nepal, & data collected & analysed nationally</p> | <p>in Nepal, local 'start up' meetings held (1 in Y1,2,3 with 15 people each)</p> <p>data on ES collected</p> <p>analyses produced</p> | <p>meeting minutes & presentations</p> <p>fieldwork notes</p> <p>database (data stored in BirdLife's WBDB)</p> <p>Project reports & materials</p> | <p>suitable pilot sites based at IBAs in Nepal can be selected</p> <p>methods can be modified to conduct a rapid review of ES across all (or a subset of) IBAs to give a national overview</p> |
| <p>3. Awareness raised of the importance of biodiversity conservation & maintenance of ES for livelihoods</p> | <p>in Nepal, 3 case studies based on study sites published & disseminated (Y2-3)</p> <p>Case Studies based on other BirdLife Partner ES experiences published (as appropriate)</p> <p>National (Nepal) Report (incl. assessment, map, baseline etc.) produced & distributed (Y3)</p> <p>other awareness raising materials produced & disseminated</p> <p>target audiences engaged</p> | <p>Case studies</p> <p>websites (BirdLife, others)</p> <p>scientific & other literature</p> <p>press releases / articles</p> <p>Project reports & materials</p> | <p>sufficient & appropriate scientific data can be generated</p> <p>target audiences are receptive to information</p> |
| <p>4. Guidelines developed & training undertaken on collection & use of ES information for conservation planning & advocacy</p> | <p>toolkit with simple, replicable guidance tailored for IBAs (Y2-3)</p> <p>in Asia, 1 regional workshop with 9 NGOs (Yr 2)</p> <p>1 global workshop with 9 NGOs (Y3)</p> | <p>ES Questionnaire (ES work underway & needs)</p> <p>toolkit & other training materials</p> <p>workshop reports & presentations</p> <p>trainee reports</p> <p>follow-up activities (via BirdLife Partner reports)</p> | <p>lessons learned translate well between organisations</p> <p>other BirdLife Partners are willing & able to participate</p> <p>trained staff put their new skills into practice</p> |

Annex 3 Project contribution to Articles under the CBD

Project Contribution to Articles under the Convention on Biological Diversity

| Article No./Title | Project % | Article Description |
|---|-----------|---|
| 6. General Measures for Conservation & Sustainable Use | | Develop national strategies that integrate conservation and sustainable use. |
| 7. Identification and Monitoring | 25 | Identify and monitor components of biological diversity, particularly those requiring urgent conservation; identify processes and activities that have adverse effects; maintain and organise relevant data. |
| 8. In-situ Conservation | | Establish systems of protected areas with guidelines for selection and management; regulate biological resources, promote protection of habitats; manage areas adjacent to protected areas; restore degraded ecosystems and recovery of threatened species; control risks associated with organisms modified by biotechnology; control spread of alien species; ensure compatibility between sustainable use of resources and their conservation; protect traditional lifestyles and knowledge on biological resources. |
| 9. Ex-situ Conservation | | Adopt ex-situ measures to conserve and research components of biological diversity, preferably in country of origin; facilitate recovery of threatened species; regulate and manage collection of biological resources. |
| 10. Sustainable Use of Components of Biological Diversity | 35 | Integrate conservation and sustainable use in national decisions; protect sustainable customary uses; support local populations to implement remedial actions; encourage co-operation between governments and the private sector. |
| 11. Incentive Measures | | Establish economically and socially sound incentives to conserve and promote sustainable use of biological diversity. |
| 12. Research and Training | 25 | Establish programmes for scientific and technical education in identification, conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity components; promote research contributing to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, particularly in developing countries (in accordance with SBSTTA recommendations). |
| 13. Public Education and Awareness | | Promote understanding of the importance of measures to conserve biological diversity and propagate these measures through the media; cooperate with other states and organisations in developing awareness programmes. |
| 14. Impact Assessment and Minimizing Adverse Impacts | | Introduce EIAs of appropriate projects and allow public participation; take into account environmental consequences of policies; exchange information on impacts beyond State boundaries and work to reduce hazards; promote emergency responses to hazards; examine mechanisms for re-dress of international damage. |
| 15. Access to Genetic Resources | | Whilst governments control access to their genetic resources they should also facilitate access of environmentally sound uses on mutually agreed terms; scientific research based on a country's genetic resources should ensure sharing in a fair and equitable way of results and benefits. |

| Article No./Title | Project % | Article Description |
|--|-----------|--|
| 16. Access to and Transfer of Technology | | Countries shall ensure access to technologies relevant to conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity under fair and most favourable terms to the source countries (subject to patents and intellectual property rights) and ensure the private sector facilitates such assess and joint development of technologies. |
| 17. Exchange of Information | | Countries shall facilitate information exchange and repatriation including technical scientific and socio-economic research, information on training and surveying programmes and local knowledge |
| 19. Bio-safety Protocol | | Countries shall take legislative, administrative or policy measures to provide for the effective participation in biotechnological research activities and to ensure all practicable measures to promote and advance priority access on a fair and equitable basis, especially where they provide the genetic resources for such research. |
| Other Contribution | 15 | Smaller contributions (e.g. of 5%) or less should be summed and included here. |
| Total % | 100% | Check % = total 100 |

Annex 4 Standard Measures

| Code | Description | Totals (plus additional detail as required) |
|--------------------------|--|--|
| Training Measures | | |
| 1a | Number of people to submit PhD thesis | |
| 1b | Number of PhD qualifications obtained | |
| 2 | Number of Masters qualifications obtained | |
| 3 | Number of other qualifications obtained | |
| 4a | Number of undergraduate students receiving training | |
| 4b | Number of training weeks provided to undergraduate students | |
| 4c | Number of postgraduate students receiving training (not 1-3 above) | |
| 4d | Number of training weeks for postgraduate students | |
| 5 | Number of people receiving other forms of long-term (>1yr) training not leading to formal qualification(i.e. not categories 1-4 above) | 4 (BCN staff) |
| 6a | Number of people receiving other forms of short-term education/training (i.e. not categories 1-5 above) | 45 (local staff, assistants and site support groups) |
| 6b | Number of training weeks not leading to formal qualification | 72 |
| 7 | Number of types of training materials produced for use by host country(s) | 12 (monitoring training) 1 (Toolkit) |
| Research Measures | | |
| 8 | Number of weeks spent by UK project staff on project work in host country(s) | 26 person-weeks |
| 9 | Number of species/habitat management plans (or action plans) produced for Governments, public authorities or other implementing agencies in the host country (s) | 1 (National Report on ES and biodiversity) |
| 10 | Number of formal documents produced to assist work related to species identification, classification and recording. | |
| 11a | Number of papers published or accepted for publication in peer reviewed journals | 1 (published in <i>Ibisbill</i>) 1 (published in <i>Ecosystem Services</i>) 2 (submitted to: <i>Environmental Conservation, Oryx</i>) |
| 11b | Number of papers published or accepted for publication elsewhere | 2 (case studies on the BirdLife State of the World's Birds website) |
| 12a | Number of computer-based databases established (containing species/generic | 1 Excel datasheet for ES data storage (site data and rapid |

| Code | Description | Totals (plus additional detail as required) |
|-------------------------------|--|--|
| | information) and handed over to host country | appraisal) |
| 12b | Number of computer-based databases enhanced (containing species/genetic information) and handed over to host country | 1 (prototype for World Bird Database developed) |
| 13a | Number of species reference collections established and handed over to host country(s) | |
| 13b | Number of species reference collections enhanced and handed over to host country(s) | |
| Dissemination Measures | | |
| 14a | Number of conferences/seminars/workshops organised to present/disseminate findings from Darwin project work | 6 1 (Asia Regional Training) 1 (National Report sharing meeting) |
| 14b | Number of conferences/seminars/ workshops attended at which findings from Darwin project work will be presented/ disseminated. | 19 1 (CBD COP11) |
| 15a | Number of national press releases or publicity articles in host country(s) | 11 |
| 15b | Number of local press releases or publicity articles in host country(s) | |
| 15c | Number of national press releases or publicity articles in UK | 8 |
| 15d | Number of local press releases or publicity articles in UK | |
| 16a | Number of issues of newsletters produced in the host country(s) | 3 |
| 16b | Estimated circulation of each newsletter in the host country(s) | 60 copies to 40 people and 20 institutions |
| 16c | Estimated circulation of each newsletter in the UK | Distributed to the BirdLife Global Partnership (coverage of 124 countries) |
| 17a | Number of dissemination networks established | |
| 17b | Number of dissemination networks enhanced or extended | 1 (BirdLife Global Partnership) |
| 18a | Number of national TV programmes/features in host country(s) | 1 |
| 18b | Number of national TV programme/features in the UK | |
| 18c | Number of local TV programme/features in host country | |
| 18d | Number of local TV programme features in the UK | |
| 19a | Number of national radio interviews/features in host country(s) | 3 |

| Code | Description | Totals (plus additional detail as required) |
|---|--|--|
| 19b | Number of national radio interviews/features in the UK | |
| 19c | Number of local radio interviews/features in host country (s) | |
| 19d | Number of local radio interviews/features in the UK | |
| Physical Measures | | |
| 20 | Estimated value (£s) of physical assets handed over to host country(s) | £4,521 |
| 21 | Number of permanent educational/training/research facilities or organisation established | |
| 22 | Number of permanent field plots established | 49 carbon plots at 2 IBAs (33 permanent) |
| 23 | Value of additional resources raised for project (See Section 8.2 above) | £148,058 |
| Other Measures used by the project and not currently including in DI standard measures | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

Annex 5 Publications

| Type * (e.g. journals, manual, CDs) | Detail (title, author, year) | Publishers (name, city) | Available from (e.g. contact address, website) | Cost £ |
|---|--|-----------------------------|--|---|
| DVD | Understanding, assessing and monitoring ES for better biodiversity conservation 2011 | NEFEJ | Available online and from BCN http://www.birdlife.org/community/2011/10/new-documentary-highlights-importance-of-ibas-for-people-in-nepal/ | (50 copies in English – free of charge) |
| Poster* | Promoting ES at Rara National Park | BCN | BCN | Distributed to GOs and NGOs |
| Brochure* | Understanding, assessing and monitoring ES – A practical toolkit for assessing services at the site scale, CCI, 2011 | BirdLife International | BirdLife International website / UNEP-WCMC website http://www.birdlife.org/datazone/sowb/sowbpubs#EStoolkit | Free (1000 copies) |
| Newsletter* | Project Update No. 1, April 2011 | BirdLife International /BCN | BCN | Free (disseminated to BL network and in Nepal -39 people representing 26 institutions (including NGOs, INGOs, GOs, Media) |
| Newsletter* | Project Update No. 2, December 2011 | BirdLife International /BCN | BCN | Free (disseminated widely in Nepal) |
| Newsletter* | Project Update No. 3, August 2012 | BirdLife International /BCN | BCN | Circulated to 40 people and 20 institutions. |
| Report* | National Report on ecosystem services in English | BCN and DNPWC | BirdLife International website http://www.birdlife.org/datazone/sowb/sowbpubs#NepalES | Around 500 copies already distributed to relevant people and organisations |
| Report | Summary of National Report in Nepali | BCN | BCN office | Disseminated to all 27 IBAs in Nepal and the Local Conservation Groups |

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|----------------------|--|-----------------------------------|--|--|
| Methods manual | Peh, KS-H., Balmford, AP., Bradbury, RB., Brown, C., Butchart, SHM., Hughes, FMR., Stattersfield, AJ., Thomas, DHL., Walpole, M. & Birch, JC. (2012) Toolkit for Ecosystem Services Site-based Assessments (TESSA) | n/a | BirdLife International website http://www.birdlife.org/datazone/info/estoolkit | Available on request through completion of a registration form |
| Peer-review article* | Thapa, I., Gurung, H. & Birch, JC. (2013) Important Bird Areas in Nepal deliver vital ecosystem services to people. | <i>Ibisbill</i> | BCN online: http://www.birdlifeneal.org/publication_detail.php?id=92 | Free |
| Peer-review article | TESSA: a toolkit for rapid assessment of ecosystem services at sites of biodiversity conservation importance | <i>Ecosystem Services</i> | http://www.journals.elsevier.com/ecosystem-services/ | Subscription needed |
| Peer-review article | Thapa, I., Gurung, H., Stattersfield, AJ., Thomas, DHL., Birch, JC. Providing baseline information on Nepal's biodiversity and ecosystem services to inform national implementation of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets (in review) | <i>Oryx</i> | http://oryxthejournal.org/ | Subscription needed |
| Peer-review article | Birch, JC. Thapa, I., Balmford, AP., Bradbury, RB., Brown, C., Butchart, SHM., Hughes, FMR., Mulligan, M., Pandeya, B., Peh, KS-H., Stattersfield, AJ., Walpole, M., & Thomas, DHL. What benefits do community forests provide, and to whom? A rapid assessment of ecosystem services from a Himalayan forest in Nepal (in review) | <i>Environmental Conservation</i> | | Subscription needed |
| Overview | Ecosystem Services Spotlight, 2012 | BirdLife International | BirdLife State of the World's Birds website: http://www.birdlife.org/datazone/sowb/sopotecoservice | Free |

Annex 6 Darwin Contacts

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