



# 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 2012**

## 1. Darwin Project Information

Project Reference	18-005
Project Title	Understanding, assessing and monitoring ecosystem services for better biodiversity conservation
Host Country/ies	UK and Nepal
UK contract holder institution	Birdlife International
Host country partner institutions	Bird Conservation Nepal (BCN)
Other partner institutions	BirdLife Asia Secretariat Cambridge Conservation Initiative (CCI) King's College London (KCL)
Darwin Grant Value	£246,415
Start/end dates of project	April 2010 – March 2013
Reporting period (e.g. Apr 2010 – Mar 2011) and number (e.g. Annual Report 1, 2, 3)	1 Apr 2011 – 31 Mar 2012 Annual Report 2
Project Leader name	Alison Stattersfield
Project website	n/a
Report authors, main contributors and date	Jenny Birch, Alison Stattersfield, Hum Gurung, Ishana Thapa 13 April 2012

## 2. Project Background

Natural ecosystems provide a range of essential ecosystem services (ES), including the production of food / water and the control of climate, on which human lives depend. Biodiversity loss, leading to ecosystem degradation, can disrupt and diminish ES with severe economic, social and environmental impacts on people.

The case for biodiversity conservation can be strengthened in terms of the ES provided. Yet ES are generally unrecognised and undervalued (or not valued at all). To inform practical conservation decision-making, this project is developing a ground-based, site-focused, participatory, robust and inexpensive methodology for ES assessment and monitoring through piloting of the methodology in Nepal. In the process we aim to build capacity nationally and regionally to present ecosystem service arguments for the conservation of biodiversity to policy-makers.

Nepal is rich in biodiversity and cultural heritage. Nepal's birdlife is among the most diverse in Asia, with more than 871 bird species recorded so far, and provides a wide range of habitats for both migratory and residential birds from the plain Terai to the high Himalayas. This diverse geography also provides a range of ES to rural communities and the wider population. These include climate mitigation, non-timber forest products (harvested goods), water resources and recreation/tourism. Hence, it is crucial to understand, assess and monitor ES thus supporting better land-use planning for biodiversity conservation and for the benefit of present and future generations.

BirdLife International and Bird Conservation Nepal (BCN) have identified 27 Important Bird Areas (IBAs) of which 13 have protected status under the Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 1973. Three diverse sites were chosen as study sites for this project based on geographic region, development region, ecosystem diversity, accessibility, characteristics of beneficiaries and other relevant

criteria. A fourth site was subsequently selected to provide a study site under Community Forestry – an important management framework in Nepal.

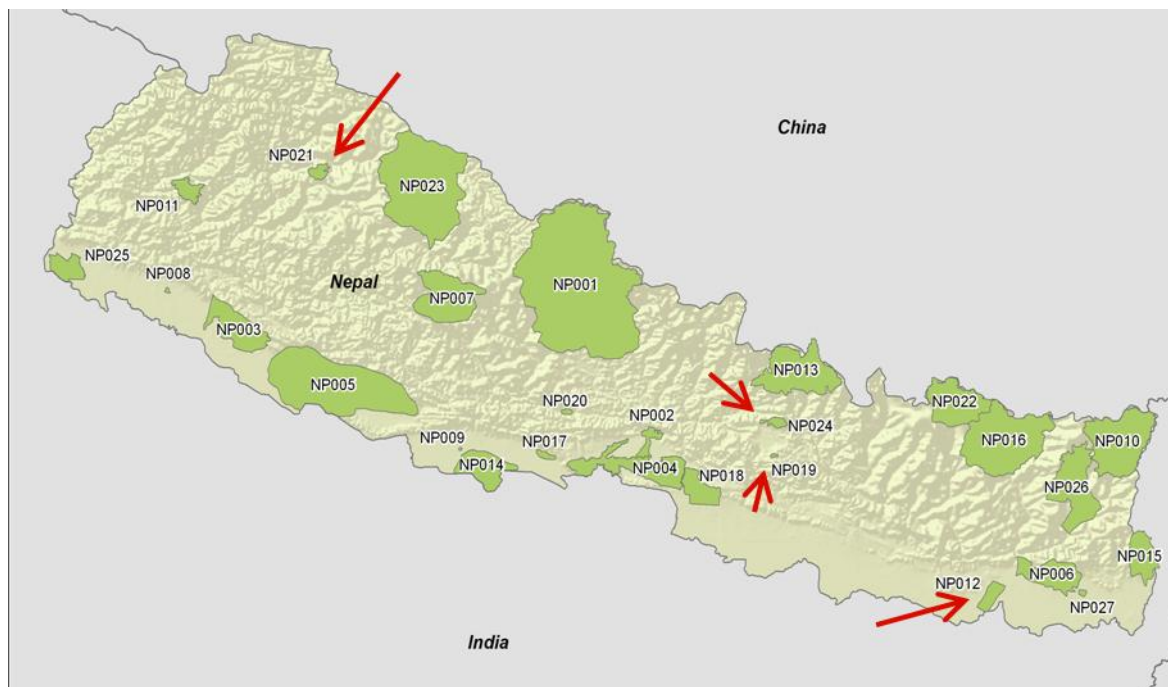


Figure 1. Map of Nepal showing the 27 IBAs and the four study sites. NP021: Rara National Park; NP024: Shivapuri-Nagarjun National Park; NP019: Phulchowki Mountain Forests; NP012: Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve

Important Bird Area (IBA)	Latitude (W)	Longitude (N)
Rara National Park (RNP)	29.49973	82.06655
Shivapuri-Nagarjun National Park (SNNP)	27.7918	85.37637
Phulchowki Mountain Forests (PMF)	27.57776	85.39383
Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (KTWR)	26.62523	86.98133

### 3. Project Partnerships

BirdLife International has had a formal relationship with BCN since 1994. 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. This growth has also been reflected through this project, with BCN increasingly taking ownership and becoming more confident in implementing ES work. Over the past year, the partnership between the Birdlife International Cambridge Secretariat and BCN has continued to grow stronger. During the 2011 field visit of UK staff to Nepal, the joint team worked effectively to carry out all the planned activities.

There have been no changes to the management structure over this period. Alison Stattersfield (Birdlife International) is the Project Leader and project management is conducted by Jenny Birch, Ecosystem Services Officer (who moved from a part-time role to full time in January 2012 to ensure experiences gained in Nepal could be shared more effectively with other BirdLife Partners). David Thomas, an Expert (Sustainable Development) remains heavily engaged in this project and contributes essential expertise relating to human livelihoods and socio-economic aspects. Mike Evans, Expert (Information Management) provides technical support as required. Muhtari Aminu-Kano, Expert (CBD and policy) left his position with the organisation in April 2011 but policy advice has continued to be provided by other staff in the BirdLife policy team. Encouragingly, all five staff members from BCN who began the project are still in post and working as part of the core team: Dr Hum Gurung (lead Host Country Coordinate / Policy Advocate), Ishana Thapa (Senior Conservation Officer), Menuka Basnyat, Ravi Shanker Pandit and Jyotendra Jyi Thakuri (Research Assistants). They have also used several local staff this year and employed a GIS expert on a three month contract.

The relationship with BCN is managed primarily via regular email and Skype calls. We continue to develop joint quarterly workplans and monitor progress against these. Ishana Thapa was again able to visit the Cambridge office this year (21-23 June) to discuss some key project activities relating to site monitoring and the forthcoming field visit.

The Asian BirdLife Secretariat is kept up to date with project progress and is in the process of organising a workshop for Asian Partners to disseminate information about the project and provide other organisations with some training. In addition, consultancy work has been conducted by Richard Bradbury at RSPB and Bhopal Pandey (King's College London).

Dr Kelvin Peh, Associate Researcher based at Cambridge University, continues to engage in this project through leading the technical development of the methods. His work is funded by the AXA Insurance foundation for a further 24 months to enable the methods to be trialled and developed at additional sites outside of this Darwin project.

Other collaboration within the UK continues with support from the Cambridge Conservation Initiative (CCI). A core advisory group provides input (at no cost) to support the development of the scientific methodology.

Good relationships have formed with other organisations in Nepal. ICIMOD (International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development) is conducting research on climate change and ES in KTWR through a McArthur project and they have shown great interest in working together with BCN. An MoU was signed to conduct a joint Community based Climate Change Vulnerability and Adaptive Capacity Assessment Workshop at KTWR (27 January - 8 February 2012). Further discussion to carry out additional research on ES at KTWR is ongoing. BCN is learning about the frameworks ICIMOD is using for exploring vulnerability to climate change and ecosystem based adaptation, so that similar work can be carried out in this project at the final field site (RNP).

Regular meetings have been held with the Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation (DNPWC) part of the Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation (MoFSC) to update them on the project. Good links have been made especially with the ecology department and site Wardens from RNP, SNNP, KTWR and the Community Forest User Groups from PMF. The project was also shared with officials from all Nepal's protected areas during a training workshop organised from 3-6 February 2012.

Ishana Thapa (BCN) sits on the National Wetland Technical Committee set up by the UNEP/GEF wetland project (CSUWN) which reports to the National Wetland Committee of representatives from eight Government ministries and representatives from National Planning Commission. This provides an opportunity for the project work to feed into the policy process directly and to engage with national wetland conservation work.

Although no formal meetings have been held with other NGOs in country (WWF-Nepal, NTNC, IUCN), BCN remains up to date with their work and has utilised opportunities to share knowledge and experience about conservation work.

#### **CBD focal point**

The partnerships developed through the project continue to build 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 the Aichi Targets and in implementing the Programme of Work on Protected Areas.

The CBD focal point, Mr Sagar Rimal, at MoFSC had recognised the importance of BCN's work on ES and Biodiversity. BCN has been regularly invited to relevant meetings where there is the opportunity to share progress on project work. BCN is also in regular communication with the former CBD focal point, Dr Krishna Chandra Poudel, Chief of Environment Division, MoFSC. BCN will hold a national workshop hosted by MoFSC to discuss the output of this project in a National report.

## **4. Project Progress**

### **4.1 Progress in carrying out project activities**

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

##### ***Activity 1.1: Convene UK expert meetings***

40 participants attended an expert workshop in the UK on 7<sup>th</sup> February 2012 (co-funded by the Cambridge Conservation Initiative (CCI)). Several ES projects were represented. Participants provided input into the future development of the ES 'toolkit' which underpins the work of this project (Annex 3.1).

The workshop took place later than planned (Q4 instead of Q2) as a result of the need to progress the scientific framework further before getting external input.

Advisory group meetings have been held approximately every two months (see Section 3). This input has negated the need for us to invest heavily in paid consultants.

*Verification:* Workshop agenda and participants list

**Activity 1.2:** *Compile & refine scientific framework for site-based ES assessment & monitoring*

Toolkit Version 1.0 was produced in February 2012 following revisions to the scientific framework as a result of a second field test in Nepal this year (see 2.2) and comments from 30 external reviewers (many of whom attended the start-up workshop in May 2010). It will be submitted as supplementary material to a peer-reviewed methodological manuscript early in Year 3.

*Verification:* toolkit (available to LTSI in draft form on request)

**Activity 1.3:** *Develop database to hold ES data & test for analyses and indicator development*

A prototype will be ready over the summer. A specification is currently being developed by the Information management team. In the meantime, Excel spreadsheets are being populated with ES data from the study sites. Rapid review data is being held in a similar way (see 2.4).

*Verification:* simple databases created and populated

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

**Activity 2.1:** *Hold local 'start up meetings' at 3 IBAs in Nepal*

A scoping exercise of the ES benefits provided by KTWR was carried out in June 2011 with nine stakeholder focus groups, including local communities, political leaders, site managers and user committee representatives (Annex 3.3). On 7 November 2011, a follow-up stakeholder meeting was held at KTWR with 40 representatives from Village Development Committees surrounding the Reserve and other interested groups (NGOs, park staff, co-operatives, irrigation officer etc.). This served to validate the results of the scoping study, and to engage local people.

*Verification:* scoping study photos, Stakeholder workshop report

**Activity 2.2:** *Conduct fieldwork & enter biodiversity & ES data for 3 IBAs in Nepal*

Data collection at SNNP and PMF was completed but took longer than anticipated due to the need to refine the methodology in the light of initial experiences and the need for further data collection after the main field work period. The delay was compounded by the difficulty that host country staff had in dedicating the necessary time to the field work once the UK site visit had finished and other priorities arose. The addition of a pilot site (PMF) due to its applicability for trialling one of the methods in the 'toolkit' added to the workload.

Field work at the third pilot site took place from 6 – 18 November during the UK project team visit to Nepal (31 October – 18 November) and all surveys were completed by the 21 November (Annex 3.4). Four BCN staff, 2 local staff, 3 BirdLife UK staff and one WWT observer carried out this work, coordinated by the local BCN officer, Ravi Shanker Pandit. Surveys were conducted for harvested wild goods, cultivated goods and tourism. ES data for these sites has been captured and analysed (see 3.1).

*Verification:* Site visit report

**Activity 2.3:** *Trial output & analysis of ES data & review for advocacy relevance*

Outputs from the pilot sites will be through the publication of scientific papers in collaboration with host country staff (see 3.1). A 'dummy' National Report (see 3.5) has been developed to present the case studies and rapid review results (see 2.4) in a format that is relevant to key policy sectors such as forestry (REDD+), CBD and NBSAPs, wetlands and local development. This will be discussed with the MoFSC and other stakeholders before finalisation.

*Verification:* advocacy plan, 'dummy report'

#### **Activity 2.4: Undertake rapid review of ES at all IBAs**

A methodology for conducting the review has been developed. A Rapid Appraisal form was piloted at an expert consultation workshop (Annex 3.5) and completed for 24 of the 27 IBAs during an IBA monitoring training workshop (co-funded by WWF) held by BCN from 3-6 February 2012 in Chitwan National Park. 31 participants attended (Local Conservation Groups and protected areas staff). Participants carried out (i) IBA biodiversity monitoring and (ii) a Rapid Appraisal of ES for 24 of the IBAs. The participants were also trained in using standardised monitoring techniques that will allow local data to be compiled nationally and further regionally and globally. They developed bird identification and field survey skills. A good network was established among the IBA representatives that will help in implementing a monitoring programme in Nepal. IBA monitoring data for 2004 and 2011 is being inputted into the BirdLife World Bird Database (WBDB) as a result of this workshop. Site summaries are being produced which will contribute data on biodiversity and ES to the National Report (see 3.5)

*Verification:* Expert consultation meeting report, database of information for all IBAs, finalised IBA GIS layer, IBA workshop photos, monitoring form, WBDB updated

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

**Activity 3.1: Develop case studies based on experiences at 3 IBAs in Nepal (plus others elsewhere, as appropriate)**

Peer-review journal articles for the three sites surveyed to date have been drafted. Standardised site factsheets will be produced based on the rapid review data for all 27 IBAs.

A 'spotlight' on ecosystem service case studies from BirdLife Partners globally will be launched online prior to the CBD COP in October 2012.

*Verification:* articles for publication (draft)

**Activity 3.2: Produce a range of other awareness-raising / advocacy materials**

We have produced awareness materials over and above our targets with BCN taking the lead on producing materials highly relevant in Nepal and with significant impact (Annex 3.6).

Project update newsletters were developed in April and December by BCN staff with support from the UK team. These were distributed to individuals representing 26 institutions (including NGOs, INGOs, GOs, Media in Nepal), many of whom have attended the workshops in November 2010 and November 2011 and others who have been identified as important advocacy links.

BCN also produced a Nepali brochure about the project and distributed it at the following events:

- Wildlife Week (14 -20 April) – 200 copies to representatives from many relevant organisations attending the closing ceremony.
- World Environment Day public event (1-7 June 2011) – 300 copies distributed
- Student Conservation Conference (5-7 June 2011) at National Trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC)
- Stakeholder workshop at KTWR on 7 November 2011 – 40 copies
- 200 copies circulated to various BCN contacts and government offices
- To all 31 participants at the IBA monitoring training event (3 – 6 February 2012)
- During staff field visits to districts: Tanahu district-District Forest Office (DFO) and NGO Network; Parvat district-DFO and National Education and Social Development Organisation; Gulmi district-DFO and Resunga Conservation Committee; Syanja district- DFO and Environment Conservation for Developing Society – 60 copies

The ES documentary shown on Nepali TV last year was translated into English and 50 copies produced for dissemination to key officials and interested organisations (copies sent to Darwin and DEFRA). It was publicised on the BirdLife International website in October 2011. We were named 'project of the month' in January 2012. The Nepali version was shown to participants of the IBA monitoring training and a DVD was distributed to all IBAs for local awareness raising.

A poster was produced by BCN to raise the profile of ES within Nepal and in particular from lesser known sites such as RNP. The poster features logos from Nepalese organisations and others (Government of

Nepal, DNPWC, BCN, CBD). This was distributed to all the relevant government departments and NGOs.

A collaborative brochure about the toolkit methodology was developed and distributed at the expert consultation workshop in Nepal (November 2011). 1000 copies have been produced for distribution at key events over the forthcoming months.

A 15 minute programme on the project was aired through BCN's radio programme "Panchhi Sansar" on 11 February 2012. Panchhi Sansar is broadcasted through Image FM which has coverage in more than 40 districts within the country.

*Verification:* ES brochure, BirdLife news stories, radio programme, poster, Nepali ES leaflet, Project newsletter updates (1 & 2), ES DVD in English (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hHJmixQMfuv>), newspaper articles in Nepal, radio programme.

**Activity 3.3:** *Develop websites (BirdLife / BCN) to disseminate ES information*

The Darwin project webpage has been updated with the full outputs, activities and objectives of the project and some of the publicity materials and meeting reports have been uploaded.

No specific development of our own websites has been undertaken but this will be addressed in the final year.

*Verification:* <http://darwin.defra.gov.uk/project/18005/>

**Activity 3.4:** *Promote ES & biodiversity conservation at local, national & international meetings*

As planned, a second national level meeting was held in Kathmandu on 3 November 2011 to continue to raise awareness of the project and to engage national stakeholders from government, NGOs and INGOs (see 2.4).

BCN has also promoted the project locally and nationally at a number of key meetings and events (some are noted below):

- Meeting with newly appointed Director General of DNPWC, Mr Krishna Prasad Acharya and Ecologist, Dr Maheshwar Dhakal (15 May 2011).
- Meeting with Dr Nakul Chettri from ICIMOD (21 February 2012).
- Meeting with Dr Meena Khanal, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Environment (9 February 2012).
- National Wetland Technical Committee organised by the UNDP/GEF Wetland Project (4 September and 29 December 2011).
- Workshop 'Pilot Programme for Climate Resilience: Enhancing Climate Resilience of Endangered Species' (21 December 2011) organised by MoFSC.
- Workshop titled 'Linking gender and climate change' (7- 9 February 2012) organised by the Ministry of Environment (MoE) and IUCN Nepal and Global Gender and Climate Alliance as part of the preparatory phase before facilitating the government to come up with the strategy.
- Kathmandu International Mountain Film Festival (8-12 December 2011)
- International Vulture Awareness Day (4 September 2011).
- National Conservation Day (24 September 2011).

Internationally, Jenny Birch gave a presentation at the 4<sup>th</sup> ES Partnership meeting in Wageningen, Netherlands, in October where there was strong interest in the project and some connections made for possible future collaboration.

*Verification:* ESP presentation

**Activity 3.5:** *Prepare, publish & launch National (Nepal) Report*

Planning and drafting of the National Report is well underway ahead of schedule. This is a major output for the project. A session on how the National Report might be useful for policy makers and organisations working on conservation / development goals was held during the Expert Consultation meeting in Nepal on 3 November 2011. A subsequent meeting was held with Dr Poudel, Chief of Environment Division, MoFSC on 25 November 2011 to discuss the National report and planning for a joint workshop.

A draft outline of the National Report has been produced and will be discussed with the MoFSC in May 2012.

*Verification:* 'dummy' National Report (available on request)

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

**Activity 4.1:** *Seek feedback from BirdLife Partners on current ES work, & requirements for ES assessment & monitoring*

This activity was completed last year although refer to 4.4 for continuing engagement of BirdLife Partners globally.

*Verification:* n/a

**Activity 4.2:** *Share experiences with other Asian BirdLife Partners / organise regional training*

Regional training of BirdLife Asia Partners will be 27 – 29 May in Singapore. This is later than planned in the original proposal because the Asia Secretariat office has relocated. The workshop will share experiences of field testing the toolkit with Asia partners and will seek their input into further development of the toolkit and possible follow-up work.

*Verification:* agenda

**Activity 4.3:** *Develop toolkit & guidance*

Version 1.0 of the toolkit has been completed (see 1.2) though will continue to be improved over the forthcoming months. Alongside this, a workshop in February (see 1.1) served to inform us how best to progress with packaging the toolkit into user-friendly guidance for publication later in 2012. We will be seeking additional funding for this.

Training and support for BCN implementation of the toolkit occurred remotely, through regular Skype calls and emails, during a visit by Ishana Thapa from BCN to the BirdLife office from 21 – 23 June and during the UK site visit to Nepal. In addition, continued support for the development of the IBA monitoring work has taken place, with a 1 day session on 23 June with key staff members from the BirdLife Secretariat.

Three BCN staff and participants from other conservation partners (WWF, MoFSC, Chief Warden SNNP, TU student) received training on ES modelling by PhD student, Bhopal Pandey from King's College London (Annex 3.8).

Alongside the training and development of guidance for ES assessment, good progress is being made in implementing IBA monitoring – an activity that is strongly connected to this new ES work. A 4-day training workshop was held in Chitwan to review IBA records for all 27 IBAs in Nepal (see 2.4).

*Verification:* toolkit, ES modelling training report

**Activity 4.4:** *Share experiences across whole BirdLife Partnership*

As mentioned in 3.2, the first project newsletter was distributed to BirdLife Partners in May. The second project update was sent out in March 2012. Other project updates have been publicised to the Partnership through the news stories on the BirdLife website (3.2).

Increased awareness of the Partnership to this project over the past year has resulted in several Partners contacting the Secretariat to request support for ecosystem service related work in their regions. These projects are currently underway, with secured funding.

Projects that will be supported in 2012 as a result of this work are:

1. Evaluating, consolidating and sustaining conservation of key sites in the Lower Mekong (MacArthur) 3/2009-2/2012 (BirdLife in Vietnam)
2. Establishing Sustainable Management at Key Wetlands for Sarus Crane in the Cambodian Lower Mekong (CEPF) 10/2010 – 06/2013 (WWF and BirdLife in Cambodia)
3. Realising Fiji's dream: towards delivering sustainable forest management for people, for biodiversity, forever (Jensen Foundation) 1/2012-12/2014 (BirdLife in Fiji)

4. Identifying priority sites, threats and conservation strategies for key biodiversity areas and ES in the Great Lakes region in Africa (MacArthur) 7/2011-3/2012

5. High Andean Wetlands (Jensen Foundation) (BirdLife Americas office) 1/2011-31/2012

*Verification:* newsletter, news stories, contracting of Jenny Birch to other project work

## **4.2 Progress towards project outputs**

### **Progress towards Output 1: Research methodologies developed for cost-effective, site-focused assessment & monitoring of ES**

Continued engagement of a core team of experts has allowed this work to progress as planned. Research methods for the assessment of ES have been finalised for all the original intended ES to be covered in the scientific framework (5 classes of services). An additional service focusing on coastal protection of storm and flood events is being incorporated this year through co-funded work. More detail on socio-economic factors is also being added this year and further consideration of how the methods will be used in monitoring is necessary. The UK expert meeting this year will enable further improvements to be made. The assumption that we can develop an appropriate methodology within the time-frame has been met. Outputs have been produced and can be evidenced from the workshop report and draft scientific framework/toolkit. The development of the database is underway and on schedule following the revised planning of this activity.

### **Progress towards Output 2: ES assessments & monitoring methods tested & refined at pilot sites in Nepal, & data collected & analysed nationally**

ES assessment field work has been conducted according to the project implementation timetable, with local start-up meetings at the pilot site in Q1 and Q3 and field work conducted over 2 weeks in Q3. Methods were developed and refined prior to this field visit as necessary. Data from all three site assessments to date have been collected, recorded and analysed for production as case studies. National level data on biodiversity and ES at all 27 sites in Nepal has been gathered through an expert workshop in February 2012. Biodiversity monitoring data has been entered into the WBDB and ES data written up into site summaries for inclusion in the National Report. Draft papers have been prepared to present this information for advocacy. The rapid review is underway as planned with data already gathered on carbon and water services across all IBAs. The assumption that we would find suitable pilot sites and that methods can be modified to conduct a rapid review of ES across all (or a subset of) IBAs to give a national overview have been met.

### **Progress towards Output 3: Awareness raised of the importance of biodiversity conservation & maintenance of ES for livelihoods**

Case studies have been developed for the three pilot sites assessed so far demonstrating that sufficient & appropriate scientific data can be generated. Awareness-raising in Nepal has been beyond expectation with BCN producing a number of newspaper articles and other publicity materials such as a poster, leaflet, radio programme and documentary programme. ES information has been disseminated through the publication of news stories on the BirdLife Community website and through publicity on the Darwin Initiative website (project of the month) and Darwin News. There have been fewer opportunities for promotion of this work at international events this year. One event was attended in the Netherlands where the project and methodology was presented. Advocacy at the local and national level in Nepal has been ongoing and many good contacts have been made within government, NGOs and INGOs operating in Nepal. Target audiences have been very receptive to the project and the information generated.

### **Progress towards Output 4: Guidelines developed & training undertaken on collection & use of ES information for conservation planning & advocacy**

No formal feedback from the BirdLife Partners has been received this year. Wider awareness of the work has led to the incorporation of ES assessments and wider trialling of the toolkit in other BirdLife projects in other regions which will allow experiences to be shared and improvements to be made. The regional training in Asia is taking place in year 3 instead of Year 2 but this has no significant impact on the project deliverables.

Version 1.0 of the toolkit is now complete although the document will undergo continual development throughout the project. Packaging of this into a user-friendly is the next step and will require some co-funding to be sought. We anticipate that the toolkit will be publicly available for wider use before the end of this project. Training of BCN staff in the methodologies presented in the toolkit was conducted over a period of three weeks during the November visit to Nepal and it was clear that the first year's training had significantly improved the capacity of the Partner to conduct this work with less support needed from the Birdlife International team. Experiences have been shared across the Partnership through distribution of



project newsletter updates and website news stories. The assumption that lessons learned translate well between organisations will be tested as the Partners conduct their own ES work this year and once the toolkit becomes available to external users.

### 4.3 Standard Measures

**Table 1 Project Standard Output Measures**

Code No.	Description	Yr1 Total	Yr2 Total	Yr3 Total	Yr4 Total	Total to date	Number planned for reporting period	Total planned from application
6A	1 x BCN staff IBA monitoring training; 3 x BCN staff ES survey methods + 1 local staff + 1 WWT staff; 24 local participants at IBA monitoring workshop	11	29			40	5	20 (not specified)
6B	1 (remote IBA and ES training) 7.5 (3x 2.5 weeks in Nepal)  3(WWT staff in Nepal)  15(24 x 3 days IBA workshop)	24.5	26.5			51	15	45 (not specified)
7	1 follow up training session on IBA monitoring	12	1			12	1	1
8	3 weeks x1 (Jenny Birch) 2 weeks x2 (David Thomas, Ali Stattersfield)	10	7			17	6	18 (not specified)
9	National Report on ES and biodiversity (draft form)	0	1			1	0	1
11A	Peer-review papers published	0	0			0	0	3 (not specified)
11B	Peer-review papers (2 drafted, 1 in preparation)	0	0			0	1	3
12A	Excel datasheets for ES data storage (site data and rapid appraisal)	1	1			2	1	1
12B	WBDB enhanced (work on-going)	0	1			1	1	1
14A	1 (CCI workshop) 3 (expert meeting in KTM, local meeting KTWR x2)	2	4			6	2	6
14B	JB to ESP conference 9 key events attended by BCN	8	10			19	As opportunities arise	As opportunities arise
15A	8 April (ES value of Rara National Park)  5 Feb (Kathmandu Post article on World Wetlands Day)  6 Feb (article on KTWR in Nepali paper)  16 Feb (Kathmandu post article	5	4			9	1	5 (not specified)

	about birds, climate change and ES)							
15B	Local press releases	0	0				0	2
15C	19 Oct (ES documentary) 2 Feb (World Wetlands Day: tourism at wetlands in Nepal)	4	2			6	As opportunities arise	As opportunities arise
17B (added)	BirdLife Partnership – engagement through online survey and project update	1	1			1	1	1
18A (added)	ES documentary	1	0			1	0	0
19A (added)	“Panchhi Sansar” 11 February 2012	2	1			3	1	3 (not specified)
22	permanent carbon transects	12	0			12	0	40
23	Post-doc (AXA) – Kelvin Peh (£19,543) RSPB co-funding (£1,500) Other BirdLife staff in-kind contribution (£4,321)	£25,238	£25,364			£5,821	£50,602	£37,009

**Table 2 Publications**

Type (e.g. journals, manual, CDs)	Detail (title, author, year)	Publishers	Available from tact address,	Cost £
DVD	Understanding, assessing and monitoring ES for better biodiversity conservation 2011	NEFEJ	Available online <a href="http://www.birdlife.org/community/2011/10/new-documentary-highlights-importance-of-ibas-for-people-in-nepal/">http://www.birdlife.org/community/2011/10/new-documentary-highlights-importance-of-ibas-for-people-in-nepal/</a>	(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  <a href="http://www.birdlife.org/datazone/sowb/sowbpubs#Estoolkit">http://www.birdlife.org/datazone/sowb/sowbpubs#Estoolkit</a>	Free (1000 copies)
Newsletter*	Project Update No. 1, April 2011	BirdLife International /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		Free (disseminated in Nepal)

## 4.4 Progress towards the project purpose and outcomes

### ***Purpose: To build capacity of national NGOs in Nepal & other Asian countries to collect & use information on ES for better biodiversity conservation***

Over the course of this second year it has become clear that the capacity of BCN (host country partner) to work on ES has greatly increased. Staff are now confident with the methodology. They received additional training this year on modelling of hydrological services and in carrying out a rapid appraisal of ES for a site.

BCN has taken up opportunities to promote the work to other NGOs in Nepal and to other sectors, including Government, and they are now being recognised as a key player in national discussions on ES at the policy level. BCN has worked closely with all concerned stakeholders to address the need for policy interventions and better inter-sectoral coordination for management of wetlands. A new National Wetland Committee was established as a result, which engages different ministries including MoFSC, Agriculture, Water Resources and the National Planning Commission. BCN is a member of the Technical Committee, which advises the ministries on wetland policy. Also at government level, a new policy on Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) is being discussed within MoFSC. BCN has been engaged in the policy formulation process by providing information on the importance of ES for human wellbeing and their economic and aesthetic values as a result of experience through the Darwin project.

BCN have fostered good relationships with other national and international organisations working in Nepal and have continued to engage the key organisations in the development of the project since the National Workshop in Kathmandu in 2010. It is hoped that these new relationships will enable ES work to be complementary across organisations and to continue in Nepal beyond the end of this project.

The capacity of other Asian countries to collect and use information on ES has also been built this year. The methodology was implemented at two wetland sites in Cambodia (by BirdLife Cambodia and Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust) in January 2012 following training of the WWT staff member as part of the Darwin project site visit in November. Jenny Birch visited Vietnam in February 2012 to undertake training of BirdLife Vietnam staff in implementing the methods at two forest sites. This information will be used to inform strategic conservation planning at these sites, to improve biodiversity conservation.

#### ***The measurable indicators listed on the original logical framework were:***

- in Nepal, monitoring scheme (for birds / biodiversity & ES) established in 3 sites (baseline, Y3)
- in Nepal, at least 3 local & 1 national advocacy opportunities pursued
- in at least 1 other Asian country, 1 advocacy opportunity pursued
- internationally, input to at least 1 CBD meeting

These indicators are adequate for measuring the project outcomes. Baseline ES data has been gathered for 3 sites (a 4<sup>th</sup> site will be covered in Year3). This will enable future monitoring of ES to occur at these sites alongside biodiversity monitoring protocols. This will be carried out by BCN, who now have the capacity to implement this work in order to produce data to support arguments for better biodiversity conservation.

Many more local and national advocacy opportunities have already been pursued that noted in the indicators. Of particular mention is the close collaboration that BCN now has with the CBD focal point at the MOFSC, with whom BCN will work to develop the ES National Report. This opportunity may lead to input at the international level (CBD COP meeting in October 2012) where BCN could highlight the potential of this project to provide outputs that can be used by the international community to improve maintenance of ES and better biodiversity conservation. Advocacy opportunities pursued in other Asian countries are not yet evident but could result from the recent work in Cambodia and Vietnam as part of projects to look at better ways to manage sites important for biodiversity.

#### ***The assumptions listed on the original logical framework were:***

- monitoring continues at regular intervals and is extended to 10+ sites
- increased knowledge and capacity to assess & monitor ES will result in more effective biodiversity conservation
- relevant policy opportunities are timely

These assumptions still hold. Good progress has been made in setting up a monitoring programme of work (with the development of a monitoring form, dissemination of the form, training workshop and entry of data into the database). It will remain a challenge to ensure that monitoring continues at regular intervals and is extended to 10+ sites but the engagement of site managers has been encouraging. The

amount of time and resource investment in this is not to be overlooked and it will require continued support from UK partners to ensure that this can go ahead as planned.

The assumption that increased knowledge & capacity to assess & monitor ES will result in more effective biodiversity conservation relies on advocating the results of the project to higher level decision-making and uptake of the messages by key government officials. BCN have made good links with the relevant national decision-makers and relevant policy opportunities have been identified and are now being pursued in relation to developing the National Report. Advocacy work will continue throughout the project to ensure the best outcome.

#### **4.5 Progress towards impact on biodiversity, sustainable use or equitable sharing of biodiversity benefits**

This project addresses all three of the goals outlined. The primary impact of the project will be on improving the state of biodiversity through demonstrating the value of conserving Important Bird Areas. The project has continued to deliver some significant steps towards this, through (i) implementation of a monitoring programme to regularly measure the state of biodiversity, current pressures and conservation responses at Important Bird Areas, (ii) using a scientific framework to implement rapid, robust and cost-effective assessment of ecosystem service values, (iii) engaging key stakeholders and decision makers throughout the project to guide the work, and iv) careful interpretation of the results for most effective conservation of biodiversity and delivery of ES, taking account of sustainable use and beneficiaries. We acknowledge that positive biodiversity impacts may take a number of years to be seen, but this is now possible to track over time with the methods from this project in place.

### **5. Monitoring, evaluation and lessons**

The principal method of monitoring progress is through the direct engagement of the project coordinator and support staff from Bird Conservation Nepal. A quarterly workplan is being developed every quarter and monthly conference calls are continuing which allows us to keep on track of work and monitor progress. The capacity of BCN is such that regular progress reports are delivered and activities duly carried out as planned.

Measuring achievement has been done in a number of ways. Regular reviewing of the progress in the development / publication and quality of the scientific framework is conducted by the UK partners and expert panel (CCI member organisations). Field work had led to the testing & implementation of ES methods and data entry is checked and monitored by the Project Manager before analysis.

One lesson learnt this year is that field work should be completed in one visit to get the best use of staff time and to avoid follow up work which takes more time and effort whilst trying to concentrate on other priorities. Also this year it has been difficult 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 are interpreted robustly and appropriately within national and local contexts.

The main challenge reported from last year has in part been overcome. This year it is clearer that the scientific framework delivers what we anticipated: a fairly rapid, robust and cost-effective set of methods for assessing ES. We have had good feedback from external reviewers and from peers in the conservation and ES community. Compared to the first pilot site visit, BCN have not had to invest as much additional time carrying out methods and dealing with unforeseen complexities.

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

There was no review of our first annual report.

### **7. Other comments on progress not covered elsewhere**

Key highlights of the project this year:

- Increased awareness in the UK, within the BirdLife Partnership and in Nepal about the project and its relevance for conservation practitioners globally
- Successful field visit to Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve and training of local staff in ES methods
- Publicising of the ES DVD through the Birdlife International and Darwin Initiative websites (leading to project of the month)

- Completion of Version 1.0 of the toolkit
- Draft scientific papers produced to add to the literature on ES values at sites
- Engagement of a core advisory team continues with constant improvement being added to the 'toolkit' methodology
- Wide recognition of BCN's capacity to work on ES demonstrated through ICIMOD selecting BCN as a working partner for climate change, ecosystem and biodiversity work.
- WWF-Education For Nature programme supporting the IBA monitoring training workshop with an advantage of linkage to this project work.
- An opportunity for a BCN staff member to attend a conservation training course with Zoological Society London arose as a result of project awareness in the UK (Annex 3.7)

## 8. Sustainability

The project has been instrumental in developing synergies between the Government agencies and NGOs for biodiversity conservation in Nepal. The site based work means that BCN is working closely with government officials and local communities ensuring that IBAs will be safeguarded into the future. In addition, the rapid review across the network of IBAs will help BCN and others to identify clear priorities for future conservation work.

At all levels important partnerships are being strengthened, including with Buffer Zone Management Committees, Community Forest User Groups and IBA Local Conservation Groups. Through these networks we anticipate that activities will continue after the project finishes. Furthermore, the strong emphasis given to participation means that there is good ownership of the approach and results and therefore sustainability of the project outputs. The excellent awareness raising activities led by BCN continues to promote the project and illustrate the long term benefits of this work.

Given the great interest in the work, both in Nepal and beyond, we will explore the best options for a Darwin follow-up proposal to build on the experience gained and maximise dissemination of the outputs.

## 9. Dissemination

The awareness materials produced by the project especially the Nepali documentary and the Nepali leaflets have been very useful in sharing information about the project as well as raising awareness about ecosystem services. The materials have been circulated to all the 27 IBAs throughout the country and have been utilised by the Local Conservation Groups and the Park Offices in disseminating the information at the local level.

Internationally, several informal presentations have been given by UK staff and collaborators and there is considerable interest from the NGO sector, private business, government and local level stakeholders, in using the 'toolkit' methodology. Dissemination of the toolkit to these interested parties is likely to occur after the end of the Darwin project as operationalizing it for others requires us to work with new, field-based user groups in other regions, collate and incorporate feedback from these users prior to releasing it as a stand-alone tool. Further funding to develop this beyond the lifetime of the Darwin project is therefore being sought.

## 10. Project Expenditure

### Table 3 project expenditure during the reporting period (1 April 2011 – 31 March 2012)

One formal change request was made to LTSI during the year to transfer funds between budget lines as follows: £2700 from 'Staff costs' to other budget lines: £1600 to 'Overhead costs', £600 to 'Travel and Subsistence', £500 to 'Operating costs', approved on 8 February 2012.

The bracketed budget figures below reflect the original budget line allocation in the proposal and the bold figures represent the revised, agreed budget allocations. Please note that some minor changes may occur as we are still finalising our accounts from March 2012. These will not significantly affect the figures or variance.

**BirdLife International Staff:** AS: Alison Stattersfield, Project Leader; JB: Jenny Birch, Project Manager; DT: David Thomas, Expert (Sustainable Development); ME: Mike Evans, Expert (Information Management); MAK: Muhtari Aminu-Kano, Expert (CBD);

**Bird Conservation Nepal Staff:** HG: Hum Gurung, Host Country Coordinate / Policy Advocate; IT: Ishana Thapa, IBA Coordinator; MB: Menuka Basnyat, BCN Site Coordinator; JT: Jyotendra Thakuri, BCN Site Coordinator; RS: Ravi Shankar, BCN Site Coordinator.

Item	Budget (please indicate which document you refer to if other than your project application or annual grant offer letter)	Expenditure	Variance/ Comments
Staff costs specified by individual	<b>BirdLife International</b> AS JB DT ME MAK  <b>Bird Conservation Nepal</b> HG IT MB JT RS  TOTAL	<b>BirdLife International</b> AS JB DT ME MAK  <b>Bird Conservation Nepal</b> HG IT MB JT RS  TOTAL	Variance on staff costs (including consultancy 1.4%)  Small staff salary differences due to adjustments in salaries.  JB increased hours to 60% Jun-Sep and 100% Oct-Dec to manage a busy period on the project.  DT time doubled to 10%  MAK left his position in April 2011 and funds were not reallocated to a specified individual  Increase in time investment from core BCN staff was required. HG (10%) increased to 26%  IT salary increase accounts for discrepancy  Research assistants invested 35%-45% time to this project over the year
Overhead costs			-0.1%
Travel and subsistence			28%* (see comment below)
Operating costs			8%
Capital items/equipment (specify)			-8%
Others: Consultancy			Variance on staff costs (including consultancy 1.4%)
Others (please specify)			-
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>4,759*</b> <b>(see comment)</b>

\*The underspend of £4,759 recorded here is for unspent funds held by BCN in Nepal. These funds are what remains of the agreed Year 2 grant transfer to BCN. As confirmed by LTSI on 20/12/11 “*As far as Defra is concerned, you have spent your Defra funds by transferring them to your partner, so they can use them whenever is required to meet project costs.*” The remaining funds will be carried over to Year 3 to be spent against the relevant budget lines. The majority will be used for forthcoming travel to the Asian Partnership workshop (postponed from Year 2 to early Year 3) and the final field visit to RNP.

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

The project sites represent the diverse ecosystems and biodiversity of all three ecological zones in Nepal - from the Terai plains through mid-hills to the mountains. Each ecological zone provides unique ecosystem services and recognition of their importance and values by the government and local communities are imperative for the sustainable use and management of precious natural resources. The piloting of the ES toolkit approach at these sites provides evidence for the government of Nepal that conservation and development initiatives should recognise human wellbeing factors, such as where the ecosystem services provided by high biodiversity sites provide life sustaining benefits directly to poor people that might otherwise be lost. The project outcomes will provide an important tool in assessment, monitoring and valuation of ecosystem services at sites across the country and could be used to argue for better conservation of Nepal's designated protected areas which cover over 23 per cent of the country's landmass and are rich in biodiversity.

[I agree for LTS and the Darwin Secretariat to publish the content of this section \(please leave this line in to indicate your agreement to use any material you provide here\)](#)

## Annex 1: Report of progress and achievements against Logical Framework for Financial Year 2011-2012

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2011 - March 2012	Actions required/planned for next period
<p><b>Goal:</b> To draw on expertise relevant to biodiversity from within the United Kingdom to work with local partners in countries rich in biodiversity but constrained in resources to achieve</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⇒ The conservation of biological diversity,</li> <li>⇒ The sustainable use of its components, and</li> <li>⇒ The fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilisation of genetic resources</li> </ul>		<p>This project addresses all three of the goals outlined. The project has continued to deliver some significant steps towards improving the state of biodiversity through demonstrating the value of conserving IBAs, through (i) implementation of a monitoring programme to regularly measure the state of biodiversity, current pressures and conservation responses at IBAs, (ii) using a scientific framework to implement rapid, robust and cost-effective assessment of ecosystem service values, (iii) engaging key stakeholders and decision makers throughout the project to guide the work, and iv) careful interpretation of the results for most effective conservation of biodiversity and delivery of ES, taking account of sustainable use and beneficiaries.</p>	
<p><b>Purpose</b> To build capacity of national NGOs in Nepal &amp; other Asian countries to collect &amp; use information on ES for better biodiversity conservation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ in Nepal, monitoring scheme (for birds / biodiversity &amp; ES) established in 3 sites (baseline, Y3)</li> <li>○ in Nepal, at least 3 local &amp; 1 national advocacy opportunities pursued</li> <li>○ in at least 1 other Asian country, 1 advocacy opportunity pursued</li> </ul>	<p>Baseline data on ES collected at 3 pilot sites</p> <p>Training provided to 5 host country staff and 1 government staff in survey methods for assessing ES at a site</p> <p>Training provided to 3 host country staff in conducting a rapid appraisal of ES and in hydrological ES</p> <p>Training provided to 30 people from local conservation groups and site</p>	<p>Publish toolkit methodology on ES assessment at sites</p> <p>Conduct Asia Regional Workshop to provide training to BirdLife Partners from other Asian countries in using the toolkit</p> <p>Data collection at 4<sup>th</sup> pilot site with local community meeting to engage stakeholders and gather key ES information</p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ internationally, input to at least 1 CBD meeting</li> </ul>	<p>managers on biodiversity monitoring for assessing IBAs in Nepal</p> <p>Information shared with national stakeholders including government, INGOs and NGOs at &gt;9 meetings and events in Nepal (local and national)</p> <p>National Expert Consultation meeting held</p> <p>BCN now sit on the National Wetland Technical Committee which reports to government ministries on wetland conservation and ES</p> <p>ES work conducted in Vietnam with the BirdLife country programme to contribute to a proposal for novel forest protection at high biodiversity sites involving co-management by government and NGO.</p> <p>ES work conducted in Cambodia, using the methodology developed in this project</p>	<p>Undertake Rapid Review of ES across IBA network</p> <p>Produce and launch the National Report on ES and biodiversity at IBAs in Nepal</p> <p>Publish 4 case studies</p> <p>Attend CBD COP 10</p> <p>Share experiences with BirdLife Partnership at BirdLife's World Congress</p>
<p><b>Output 1.</b> Research methodologies developed for cost-effective, site-focused assessment &amp; monitoring of ES</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ in UK, expert meetings held (Y1,2,3)</li> <li>○ scientific framework &amp; database for biodiversity &amp; ES assessment produced</li> </ul>	<p>Research methodologies advanced through regular meetings of expert panel and external review of the draft 'toolkit'. UK expert meeting led to further suggestions for developing methods and packaging the 'toolkit'.</p> <p>Agreed that summary ES data will be held in the BirdLife International WBDB. A specification for this is being worked out and a prototype will be developed in Year3 on schedule.</p> <p>Indicators remain appropriate in measuring this output.</p>	
<p>1.1 Convene UK expert meetings</p>		<p>UK expert meeting held 7 February attended by 40 participants who are involved in ES projects worldwide, to share experiences and provide further inputs into the scientific framework and toolkit development.</p> <p>A UK expert meeting on socio-economic factors to integrate into the scientific framework will be held in Year3.</p> <p>Bi-monthly meetings held with a core group of experts (expert panel) who provide technical advice on the scientific framework. These will continue into Year3.</p>	

1.2 Compile & refine scientific framework for site-based ES assessment & monitoring	<p>Version 1.0 'toolkit' document completed with comprehensive guidance. To be submitted as supporting information to a manuscript in Year3. The 'toolkit' will be a live resource, continuously refined as methods develop through field testing beyond this project.</p> <p>IBA monitoring workshop conducted with 31 participants. Good progress in ensuring that ES and biodiversity monitoring occur side by side. Results are being analysed and entered into BirdLife's WBDB. Monitoring reports for all 27 IBAs will be completed in Year3.</p>
1.3 Develop database to hold ES data & test for analyses and indicator development	Data currently held in Excel spreadsheets. Database specification has been discussed and a specification is being reviewed. Prototype will be developed and tested in Q1 of Year3.
<b>Output 2.</b> ES assessment & monitoring methods tested and refined at pilot sites in Nepal, & data collected & analysed nationally	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ in Nepal, local 'start up' meetings held (1 in Y1,2,3 with 15 people each)</li> <li>○ data on ES collected</li> <li>○ analyses produced</li> </ul> <p>Fieldwork and local meetings undertaken at one site as scheduled this year (3 sites to date). Data has been compiled and draft case studies (manuscripts) have been produced for all 3 sites to date.</p> <p>Expert workshop gathered rapid appraisal data for 24 IBAs (31 participants) to be summarised in the rapid review and National Report. Rapid review data for carbon and water has been obtained.</p> <p>Indicators reflect the progress on this output well.</p>
2.1 Hold local 'start up meetings' at 3 IBAs in Nepal	<p>Focus group sessions (June) and local start up meeting (40 participants) held at KTWR - the third site (November).</p> <p>National expert consultation meeting held 3 November.</p>
2.2 Conduct fieldwork & enter biodiversity & ES data for 3 IBAs in Nepal	Field work conducted at the third pilot site during 6 – 21 November. Data entered into spreadsheets and results currently being analysed. Fieldwork at one further pilot site will be undertaken in Year3. Summary ES data will be entered into database in year3.
2.3 Trial output & analysis of ES data & review for advocacy relevance	Site ES assessments will be output as peer review publications (See 3.1). National level outputs were discussed at the expert consultation meeting. Informed by this and by the advocacy plan, the rapid review data will be included in a National Report (see 3.5)
2.4 Undertake rapid review of ES at all IBAs	<p>Background information has been compiled. Rapid appraisal of IBAs was piloted at expert consultation meeting (3 Nov) and carried out for 24 IBAs in February. Global carbon dataset has been provided and applied at a country level for Nepal. Analysis of water services provided by IBAs has also been undertaken by partners at Kings College, London.</p> <p>Results from the rapid appraisal of all 27 IBAs will be analysed in Year3. Rapid review analysis will be incorporated into the National Report (see 3.5)</p>

<p><b>Output 3.</b> Awareness raised of the importance of biodiversity conservation &amp; maintenance of ES for livelihoods</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ in Nepal, 3 case studies based on study sites published &amp; disseminated (Y2-3)</li> <li>○ Case Studies based on other BirdLife Partner ES experiences published (as appropriate)</li> <li>○ National (Nepal) Report (incl. assessment, map, baseline etc.) produced &amp; distributed (Y3)</li> <li>○ other awareness raising materials produced &amp; disseminated</li> <li>○ target audiences engaged</li> </ul>	<p>Three case studies produced (two to be submitted early Year3). Work in Vietnam will also result in two additional case studies from outside this project.</p> <p>National Report is being developed ahead of schedule. Rapid review data will contribute to this. Report will be launched in Year3.</p> <p>Investment by BCN in producing awareness raising materials and promoting the project at local and national events continues. Engagement of key institutions in Nepal continues through regular communication with BCN.</p> <p>The case studies indicator is a good measure of whether results from the project have been disseminated. Production of other materials such as a brochure, poster and DVDs indicates increased awareness of the public.</p>
<p>3.1 Develop case studies based on experiences at 3 IBAs in Nepal (plus others elsewhere, as appropriate)</p>		<p>Draft manuscripts produced for three sites. Two will be submitted by Q2 of Year3.</p> <p>Case studies of ES work done in Vietnam (2 sites) will also be compiled following ES training and assessment conducted in February.</p> <p>In Year3, a section of the BirdLife website will be launched with a selection of ES case studies.</p>
<p>3.2 Produce a range of other awareness-raising / advocacy materials</p>		<p>Second project update newsletter was compiled and disseminated in Nepal and to the BirdLife network. A brochure about the project and importance of ES was produced in Nepali and disseminated at numerous events. ES documentary was translated into English, with 50 copies produced onto DVD. Radio programme was aired in 12 Nov. Poster has been produced and a short brochure on the 'toolkit' methodology (1000 copies). Several news stories were published in the Nepal national media.</p>
<p>3.3 Develop websites (BirdLife / BCN) to disseminate ES information</p>		<p>News stories posted on the BirdLife International website and BirdLife Community webpages as well as BCN's website. Darwin project page has been updated with key activities and documents.</p>
<p>3.4 Promote ES &amp; biodiversity conservation at local, national &amp; international meetings</p>		<p>Promotion undertaken through local and national meetings mainly in Nepal.</p> <p>One international meeting attended (ESP conference, Netherlands) where a presentation was given in a workshop session on tools and techniques.</p> <p>Several promotional opportunities will arise in Year3 including the CBD COP and BirdLife World Congress.</p>
<p>3.5 Prepare, publish &amp; launch National (Nepal) Report</p>		<p>National Report concept has been agreed. A dummy report showing a rough contents will be presented to government in Q1 Year3. The report will be finalised in year3, possibly for launch at the CBD COP in October.</p>

<p><b>Output 4.</b> Guidelines developed &amp; training undertaken on collection &amp; use of ES information for conservation planning &amp; advocacy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ toolkit with simple, replicable guidance tailored for IBAs (Y2-3)</li> <li>○ in Asia, 1 regional workshop with 9 NGOs (Yr 2)</li> <li>○ 1 global workshop with 9 NGOs (Y3)</li> </ul>	<p>Toolkit and guidance produced but not yet publicly available. Training of BCN staff has continued through site visits and remotely.</p> <p>Experiences across the Partnership have been shared through the website and a newsletter update. Asia regional training will take place in Y3 (later than planned).</p> <p>Indicators will show extent of training undertaken.</p>
<p>4.1 Seek feedback from BirdLife Partners on current ES work, &amp; requirements for ES assessment &amp; monitoring</p>		<p>Activity completed in Y1. Refer to 4.4 for continued contact with BirdLife Partners</p>
<p>4.2 Share experiences with other Asian BirdLife Partners / organise regional training</p>		<p>Project update sent to share experience of the project with partners.</p> <p>Agenda and dates finalised for Asia partners training. This will occur in Y3 alongside the Asia Partnership Meeting (annual event with fixed dates).</p>
<p>4.3 Develop toolkit &amp; guidance</p>		<p>Version 1.0 of the toolkit completed. This will be submitted as supporting information to a peer review manuscript in Y3. Toolkit will continue to be improved through duration of project and beyond (through follow on project work).</p> <p>Packaging and dissemination of the toolkit is under discussion. It will be publicly available in Y3.</p> <p>Face-to-face training of 4 BCN staff, 1 external UK person and 1 local staff in Nepal has occurred through the field work. A 4-day training event on IBA monitoring was organised (31 people). Training on hydrological services was delivered by a PhD student from KCL.</p>
<p>4.4 Share experiences across whole BirdLife Partnership</p>		<p>Project update sent to interested Partners in March. News stories have been published on the BirdLife Community pages.</p> <p>Increased awareness of the Partners in this project has led to inclusion of ES work in several new project proposals in other regions (Africa, Americas, Pacific)</p>

## Annex 2 Project's full current logframe

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
<p><b>Goal:</b> 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><b>Sub-Goal</b> To assist Nepal &amp; 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><b>Purpose</b> To build capacity of national NGOs in Nepal &amp; other Asian countries to collect &amp; use information on ES for better biodiversity conservation</p>	<p>in Nepal, monitoring scheme (for birds / biodiversity &amp; ES) established in 3 sites (baseline, Y3)</p> <p>in Nepal, at least 3 local &amp; 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 &amp; national government reports</p> <p>advocacy materials</p>	<p>monitoring continues at regular intervals and is extended to 10+ sites</p> <p>increased knowledge &amp; capacity to assess &amp; monitor ES will result in more effective biodiversity conservation (see discussion in concept note)</p> <p>relevant policy opportunities are timely</p>
<p><b>Outputs</b> 1. Research methodologies developed for cost-effective, site-focused assessment &amp; monitoring of ES</p>	<p>in UK, expert meetings held (Y1,2,3)</p> <p>scientific framework &amp; database for biodiversity &amp; ES assessment produced</p>	<p>meeting minutes &amp; 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 &amp; monitoring methods tested and refined at pilot sites in Nepal, &amp; data collected &amp; 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 &amp; presentations</p> <p>fieldwork notes</p> <p>database (data stored in BirdLife's WBDB)</p> <p>Project reports &amp; 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 &amp; maintenance of ES for livelihoods</p>	<p>in Nepal, 3 case studies based on study sites published &amp; 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 &amp; distributed (Y3)</p> <p>other awareness raising materials produced &amp; disseminated</p> <p>target audiences engaged</p>	<p>Case studies</p> <p>websites (BirdLife, others)</p> <p>scientific &amp; other literature</p> <p>press releases / articles</p> <p>Project reports &amp; materials</p>	<p>sufficient &amp; appropriate scientific data can be generated</p> <p>target audiences are receptive to information</p>
<p>4. Guidelines developed &amp; training undertaken on collection &amp; use of ES information for conservation planning &amp; 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 &amp; needs)</p> <p>toolkit &amp; other training materials</p> <p>workshop reports &amp; 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 &amp; able to participate</p> <p>trained staff put their new skills into practice</p>

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

Annexes listed below will be sent on a CD by post to arrive prior to the 30 April 2012 deadline.

Annex 3.1 – UK expert workshop agenda and participants list

Annex 3.2 – IBA monitoring training workshop

Annex 3.3 – Community workshop at KTWR

Annex 3.4 – UK field visit report

Annex 3.5 – Expert consultation meeting held in Kathmandu

Annex 3.6 – Various news articles published

Annex 3.7 – ZSL EDGE training event

Annex 3.8 – Training report on modelling of hydrological ES

## Checklist for submission

	Check
<b>Is the report less than 5MB?</b> If so, please email to <a href="mailto:Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.uk">Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.uk</a> putting the project number in the Subject line.	Yes
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<b>Have you included means of verification?</b> You need not submit every project document, but the main outputs and a selection of the others would strengthen the report.	Yes
<b>Do you have hard copies of material you want to submit with the report?</b> If so, please make this clear in the covering email and ensure all material is marked with the project number.	Yes
Have you involved your partners in preparation of the report and named the main contributors	Yes
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