



Darwin Initiative Annual Report



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

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

Darwin Project Information

Project Reference	19-025
Project Title	Conservation of Ethiopia's Wild Coffee using Participatory Forest Management
Host Country/ies	Ethiopia
Contract Holder Institution	University of Huddersfield (UoH)
Partner Institutions	Ethio-Wetlands and Natural Resources Association (EWNRA) Institute for Biodiversity Conservation (IBC) Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples Regional Government (SNNPRS) Sustainable Livelihood Action (SLA) (in the Netherlands)
Darwin Grant Value	£246,507
Start/end dates of project	1 st April 2012 / 31 st March 2015
Reporting period (eg Apr 2012 – Mar 2013) and number (eg Annual Report 1, 2, 3)	Apr 2013 – Mar 2014 Report 2.
Project Leader name	Professor Adrian Wood
Project website	http://wetlandsandforests.hud.ac.uk
Report author(s) and date	Adrian Wood, April 2013

1. Project Rationale

Coffea arabica evolved as an understory shrub in the Afromontane forests of south-west Ethiopia. Despite being a global commodity, conservation of the genetic birthplace of coffee has been poor. Over the last 25 years 40% of these Afromontane forests have been lost. This is due to a lack of secure forest rights for communities, allocation of land to investors and resettlement of drought victims. Further, while the importance of conserving the coffee forests is now recognised, conservation policies, which exclude local people from forests where they have co-existed with coffee for centuries, have alienated these communities. Agricultural policies that favour improved coffee varieties in intensively managed areas of coffee forest also threaten to displace the wild coffee genetic diversity.

With resettlement ended around 2005/2007 and changes being made by the regional government to forestry laws so as to improve access and use rights for local communities, there are opportunities for participatory forest management (PFM) to be applied across Southern Nations, Nationalities and People's Regional State (SNNPRS). How this approach can be applied and, where necessary, specifically adapted for community-based conservation of forest biodiversity, especially wild coffee, is both an opportunity and a challenge.

In Sheko wereda of SNNPRS two major areas of "natural" forest exist, Kontir Berhan and Amora Gedel, totalling over 10,000 ha. In these forests wild stands of *Coffea arabica* exists.

These are government forests where despite legislation there is effectively “open access”. This has led to the progressive degradation of these forests. Around the “natural” forest there are extensive areas of “coffee forest” which has been developed over the last 30 years through the replanting of wild coffee seedlings from the “natural” forest. This coffee forest has been progressing into the natural forest and concern has existed for a long time about the way in which this coffee forest expansion and the open access to the natural forest will destroy the areas where the wild coffee still remains in the natural state where it has evolved over time. This is the situation where it is hoped it can evolve naturally in response to climate change and other environmental challenges. Hence the need has been identified for arrangements which can support in situ conservation of the wild coffee in this natural forest

Participatory forest management (PFM) has been identified as one potential method which could support and sustain in situ conservation. PFM methods have been developed for the south-west forests of Ethiopia over ten years since 2003 by three of the partners in this project (UoH, EWNRA and SLA) in collaboration with the relevant agencies of the government of SNNPRS. Applying these methods to in situ conservation of wild coffee began in 2010 with support from the EU. Additional funding from DI has released more of the EU funds and has allowed additional technical support for the project to better document and disseminate the experience of PFM as a method for in situ conservation and explore the relationship between PFM and other in situ conservation approaches.

The overall project within which the DI Project No 19-025 fits is known locally as the Wild Coffee Conservation by Participatory Forest Management Project, WCC-PFM Project.

The project is located between 35 18 E and 35 37 E and 6 95 N and 7 12 N. (For Map see Section 3)

2. Project Partnerships

This WCC-PFM Project is the result of a long term collaborative partnership of 3 organisations: UoH, EWNRA and SLA which goes back to 2000 when they were working on sustainable wetland management in south-west Ethiopia. These three partners have legal responsibilities for the project under the EU contract. Additional partners for this project are IBC (now called the Ethiopian Biodiversity Institute - EBI) and SNNPRS Bureau of Agriculture. The former brings in-country biodiversity expertise and links to international reporting, while the latter is essential for coordination of field activities and ensuring long term sustainable monitoring. The forests are a main responsibility of the Bureau of Agriculture.

The management structure of the project in terms of the roles and responsibilities of main partners is as follows:

UoH: is overall lead and responsible to DI and to the EU for technical and financial reporting, as daily liaison with the field based project coordinator (PC), senior technical staff (with cc. to the PC) and consultants – national and international.

EWNRA: registers the project in country and employs all field staff and provides support to the PC and undertakes annual appraisal of all staff and liaises with the Horn of Africa Regional Environment Centre – another funder of the project.

IBC/ EBI: provides local technical support and links to national biodiversity database and reporting, also a key beneficiary of the lessons from this work in terms of new methods for in situ conservation. Also EBI is where the project links to the national biodiversity focal point and through this to helping Ethiopia meet its international commitments.

SNNPRS: provides the field staff on the ground with whom the project works and the institutions into which trained capacity will go and in which the new processes for biodiversity conservation will be institutionalised.

In addition there is one non-host country partner:

SLA: employs all of the international consultants and provides support in project operations.

The three EU contract partners (UoH, EWNRA & SLA) have been working together on forest related projects in this part of Ethiopia since 2003. In particular, they have worked for 10 years

on the Non-Timber Forest Products – Participatory Forest Management Project (NTFP-PFM) Project which introduced PFM into south-west Ethiopia. They have established a good division of labour (as explained above) as well as having developed a sound method for communication and cooperation. There have been no major changes to the management structure of the project over the reporting period. Project management is by email and phone communications with regular management meetings in Ethiopia involving UoH and EWNRA in person and SLA by email.

The partnership has developed positively over the last year and a regional grouping called the “South-west Forests and Landscape Grouping” has been established in order to raise the profile of the work they are doing together.

Relations with the wereda government authorities are good, but government campaigns have pre-occupied government staff and made full cooperation rather difficult to achieve. With the zonal authorities an agreement has been reached to explore how a biosphere reserve can be developed with a PFM method as the basis. Links with UNESCO are now being developed. This is to explore how to avoid a politically imposed biosphere reserves approach, which would undermine PFM, and is likely to lead to a community backlash as has occurred in three nearby /neighbouring zones.

Other Collaboration: The project is in contact with Kew Gardens, specifically Dr Aaron Davies who heads their project on Wild Coffee Conservation. So far this collaboration has confirmed that the project is correct to work on in situ conservation in Sheko and has identified additional areas into which the project should expand and into which it is now expanding. (see 3.1)

3. Project Progress

3.1 Progress in carrying out project activities

Introduction:

The major portion of the funding for this project comes from the European Union. During the 2013-14 project year the overall project was reviewed and the area of coverage expanded into adjoining parts of three neighbouring weredas (districts). This is seen as the way to strengthen the biodiversity conservation result of the project on the two main forested areas with wild coffee, Amora Gedel and Kontir Berhan in the original project area - Sheko wereda, and so improve the sustainability of the project's outputs. The agreement for project adjustment took until October 2013 with the EU Delegation, while it was not until December 2013 that agreement was reached with the regional government. The project is within the 30/70 rule of the regional authorities and permission to employ additional staff has been granted. The project now operates in 4 weredas, although it is only portions of the three neighbouring weredas which are covered by the PFM activities – so as to create a buffer of community managed forest surrounding Sheko – the original and core wereda. As a result of this expansion the project now covers a total forested area of approximately 15,500 ha, with 8,710 families beneficiaries some 42,500 people. The application of the EU project to this wider project area does not affect the original proposal and log frame to DI and no DI funds have been applied in these extension areas. The only area where this could apply in the future is with respect to the use of local staff / consultants and this will be discussed with the DI management unit for approval as necessary.

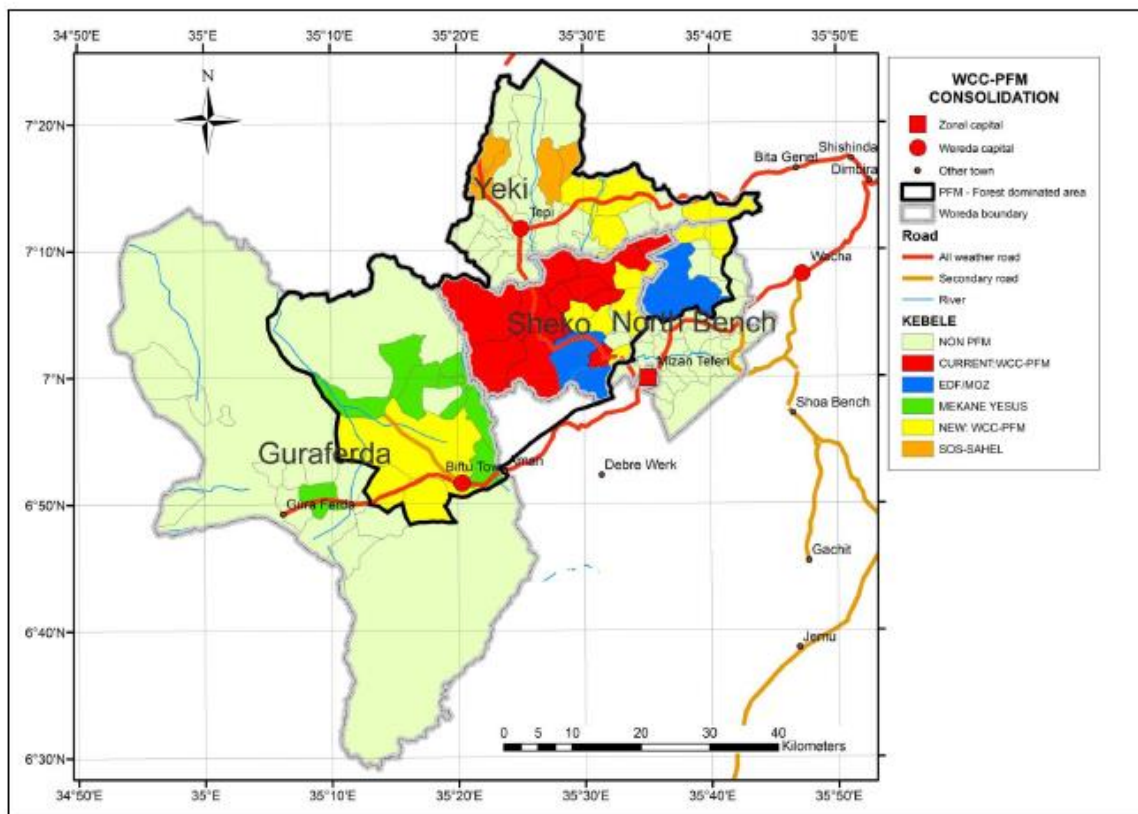


Figure 1: Intervention Weredas and Kebeles

1. Forest and Biodiversity Maintained as PFM Applied

1.1 PFM Training

1.2 Forest Demarcation for PFM Groups

1.3 PFM Agreements Signed

The PFM process, to bring forest under community management and to end the *de facto* open access situation on the government forest, involves 7 steps as follows:

- awareness raising,
- boundary demarcation,
- forest resource assessment
- forest management planning
- forest institutional development and agreement signing
- implementation and forest enterprise development, and
- monitoring and evaluation. (See Documentation Annex, Item 1).

The project has completed the PFM process in the 20 gots of the six priority kebeles during this year and progressed considerably in the remaining gots towards completing this process. At the end of this year formal signing of the PFM agreements was completed in the 20 priority gots. In addition a wereda level Forest Management Association (FMA) has been established and legalised to coordinate and represent the forest using communities and to provide a legal status for the got level forest management groups.

Training: Working in 13 kebeles in Sheko woreda, and within them 38 got level forest user communities, the project has undertaken over 80 training and awareness raising sessions related to PFM during the year. A total of over 2,000 people (with 20% of them women) have been engaged in these trainings. In addition a specific awareness raising session was provided for the wereda government administration (cabinet) and specific training for nine government technical staff who are the project's field partners. This has led to enhanced support for the

project, the PFM process and biodiversity conservation by the government agencies and to strong community support for PFM and active engagement in the process as specified above.

Forest Demarcation: By the end of this project year forest demarcation had been completed in all of the 38 gots in Sheko with a total of 14,793ha of “natural” forest, 13,353ha of “coffee” forest and 5,171ha of agricultural and settlement land identified and mapped on the GIS system.

Forest resource assessment has been completed in all 38 gots where the project is working in Sheko wereda.

PFM agreements: These have been signed between the wereda (district) government and the got level PFM Groups in the 20 first priority gots. For this, forest management plans have been completed by the community – with government and project support, and formally agreed by the government as part of the PFM agreement. In addition, each community has established a got level forest management group.

Implementation of the PFM plan and monitoring and evaluation are the remaining steps to complete in the first 20 gots.

2. PFM Fine-Tuned for in situ Conservation

2.1 PFM fine-tuned with respect to community-based biodiversity conservation

2.2 Appropriate extension materials developed, distributed and applied

2.3 Baseline mapping for the application of PFM

Fine-Tuning: PFM when applied anywhere involves continual trial and testing and adjustment of the steps and process to fit the local circumstances. It is a bottom-up process which is applied in a participatory manner and involves repeated iterations. This contrasts with some rigid top-down approaches to conservation – some of which have had disastrous effects in area of Ethiopia neighbouring this project.

This project is applying the principles of PFM so that the communities are the key decision-makers and owners of the PFM process and the implementation of the forest management activities. (This, of course, is subject to signed agreements with the government which include the approved forest management plan, approved forest uses and the maintenance of present boundaries between the natural forest, the coffee forest, and the farm / settlement areas.) The main areas of adjustment to the simplified PFM method, established by the three lead partners in this project in their former work with the NTFP-PFM Project, has been with respect to Forest Management Planning. This has developed specific planning processes for different forest areas, coffee forest and natural forest. These are included in the Forest Management Plans of the gots / communities. This is a key part of the got-level PFM agreement with the wereda administration, along with maintenance of the boundary between the highly manipulated coffee forest (heavily affected by understorey clearance, canopy thinning and enhancement planting of wild coffee taken from the “natural” forest) and the “natural” forest.

As the PFM process progresses so specific adjustments / fine tuning will be made, tested and recorded so that by the end of the project an adjusted PFM process suited to supporting in situ conservation will be developed, and documented which is suitable for dissemination.

Extension materials: An Amharic version of the PFM Guidelines, developed by the previously established NTFP-PFM project, has been produced this year and this is now being used in training of government staff, communities and project field staff.

Baseline mapping: Land cover mapping of the wereda had been completed in 2010 showing land use change at intervals between 1973 and 2009. New mapping was undertaken in collaboration with the NTFP-PFM Project in late 2013 with data up to that year. This showed that forest loss in Sheko wereda was 0.2% per annum in the period 2001 to 2013. This is probably in part due to the value of the intensively managed coffee forest which acts as a buffer to agricultural settlement, as well as a result of community monitoring of the boundary of the natural forest.

Further vegetation collections and analysis have also been undertaken this year to feed into the biodiversity baseline.

3. Capacity of Govt Staff & Communities Strengthened

3.1 Training in participatory processes, PFM, CBO management, leadership etc

3.2 Training in joint planning, monitoring and evaluation

3.3 Training & development of extension materials

Training in participatory processes: This is a continual part of all project work and is the starting point for all work with communities and the government. This builds on specific PRA training which project staff received in 2011. Training in forest management plan planning and institutional development has been the main focus during this year with the 20 gots in the six first priority kebeles. This has allowed them to complete the PFM agreement processes. Forest resource assessment and forest management have been the main focus for the 18 kebeles in the six second priority gots so allowing them to start developing their management plans which are to be part of their PFM agreements.

Government staff have been involved in all trainings although their availability has varied due to commitments with campaigns over food production and land management which are regularly organised for several weeks at a time.

Training in Joint Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation: As the project was prevented by the regional government from appointing an M&E officer, there has been great pressure on the PC to undertake the M&E work needed for normal reporting. Development of a Monitoring and Evaluation system has been underway from the middle of this reporting year. Now that the formal activity monitoring is fully operational, the field based impact and opinion focused M&E is starting. As yet this is not well linked into the government system, but now that the wereda FMA is established and legalised this will also be included in this work. Hence by the end of the project joint government and community based forest management will be operating, to ensure that the forest management plans and PFM agreements are being implemented.

Training and development of Extension Materials: The main work on extension materials has been the translation of the English language PFM Guidelines into Amharic – funded by the NTFP-PFM Project. This has then been used as the basis of all project training.

4. Community Based PFM Institutions

4.1 Training & support for PFM CBOs, PLCs and Coops

4.2 Development of byelaws and regulations for CBOs

4.3 Legalisation of CBOs

4.4 Support for operation of CBOs.

During this year progress with CBO institutions has been considerable with the following activities:

- formation of wereda level FMA to coordinate and legalise the got level FM groups,
- legalisation of the wereda FMA and through that the first 20 got level FM groups, and
- establishment of two enterprise based cooperatives for forest coffee and wild forest products respectively.

Legalisation of the coops remains to be completed as it is a long process and the availability of government staff has been limited.

Linked to these activities have been appropriate training processes by the project and its consultants, as well as some use of government staff facilitated by the project.

5. Viable Forest Products Based Enterprises Operating

5.1 Support production of NTFPs focusing on quality and supply

5.2 Assess market opportunities & develop strategies and links for CBOs

5.3 Explore incentive payments for environmental services, e.g. carbon

5.4 Facilitate links with funding mechanisms for PES & implement pilot

During the year assessments have been made of the range of potential NTFPs which could be marketed from these forests. These have been discussed with communities with respect to the supply and quality, and with outlets / buyers in Addis Ababa in terms of demand and quality. In particular, assessments of the potential to improve the value chain for honey and to develop market analysis capacity in the new coops for different products have been undertaken. Due to delays in the process of forming the cooperatives, caused by the absence of government staff on campaigns, the cooperative were not able to operate in the 2013 coffee harvest season (September to December.)

The carbon assessment which has been completed, provides the basis for preparing PIN and PDD for carbon trading. The PIN was prepared in 2013 and submitted to Plan Vivo in Edinburgh for review in January 2014. Minor adjustments are needed for this to be registered.

6. Dissemination to Govt & Civil Society Agencies

6.1 Dissemination of project findings.

6.2 Contribution to policy debates

6.3 Advocacy on specific issues, esp. forest policy, PFM for biodiversity conservation and PES

6.4 Liaison with biosphere projects

Contributions to Policy Debates: The Project Coordinator has been involved in the discussions at the regional level with respect to the revision of the forest legislation. The new regional forest proclamation which was passed by the regional government in 2012 has still not been fully implemented as the Regulations (to guide implementation) remain to be finalised. This has become a major area of concern as there appears to be back-tracking by the regional government staff on the principles of PFM which were included in the Forest Proclamation. Discussions are continuing on the development of Regulations and are a major focus of project interactions with the Regional Government with EWNRA a key player

Advocacy and Dissemination: Initial documents on the project (two fliers) have been produced. Further materials to facilitate dissemination of project findings materials will be developed once field experience is obtained, monitored and assessed. An initial DVD on the project area has been prepared and will be available by the end of May 2014.

Biosphere Reserve Liaison: Contacts have been established with the three biosphere projects in the SW of Ethiopia and an assessment of this experience was undertaken in April 2013. The Zonal Administration for Bench Maji Zone, in which Sheko is located has decided that a biosphere reserve (BR) should be established in its zone. A top down approach to BR, as has been applied elsewhere in Ethiopia, could undermine the grassroots approach to biodiversity conservation through PFM of this project. During this year the project has been in discussions with the zonal administration, the zonal agricultural office and other interested parties, such as the NGO Mekane Yesus, and it has been agreed that PFM will be the basis of BR work and that this project will liaise with UNESCO on that matter. This has now begun.

3.2 Progress towards project outputs

With respect to the output level assumptions in the log frame they are all being maintained with concerns mostly concerning the delays in the production and approval of the Regulations for implementing the new regional forest proclamation. Stability of government staff is not always met with the need for retraining of staff. The availability of government staff for trainings and meetings is also a concern. This is being addressed by building the capacity of community members and institutions which will ensure the long term sustainability of the project outputs and outcome.

Progress towards outputs is considered below by output.

1. The forest and coffee biodiversity maintained (by the application of fine-tuned Participatory Forest Management (PFM) approach applied by the local communities and officially recognised by regional and local governments.)

[Indicators: Forest and coffee biodiversity maintained in Amora Gedal and Kontir Berhan forests against baseline assessment. Coverage of intervention forests under PFM. Communities applying PFM for forest conservation. Recognition of PFM for biodiversity conservation in legislation /policy and by agreements with local government offices.]

Monitoring of the forest cover has a baseline going back to 1973 and has been update in 2013/2014. This shows an annual rate of forest loss of only 0.2% per annum between 2001 and 2013.

The key step to forest maintenance is to end the “open access” status of the forest and obtain forest use and management rights for communities. This is being progressed through the PFM process which has brought the forest of 20 gots in six kebeles under community management in this second year of DI funding with PFM agreements signed between the communities and the wereda administration. In the other 18 gots the PFM process is nearing the signing step with management plans completed and institutional development being progressed.

Where PFM is being applied community policing of infringements into the forests for agriculture is already taking place and more than 20 cases have been brought either to the wereda court or resolved at the kebele level.

Almost all of the forested area of Sheko wereda (district) has now been mapped as the basis for the PFM which is being applied.

As yet the full support for PFM has not been completed at the regional level as the new (2012) forest proclamation has not yet been given full arrangements for implementation through the development and approval of Regulations. This is now a critical area where progress needs to be made. Nonetheless PFM remains an area of government commitment, nationally and regionally, and the regulations are expected to be approved within the project’s remaining year.

2. Participatory forest management (PFM) methods developed in the region, are adapted, fine-tuned and applied specifically for in situ conservation of forests and coffee biodiversity

[Indicators: PFM Methods fine-tuned and applied for in situ conservation of forest and coffee biodiversity, with feedback from field experience incorporated in revision of methods.]

PFM methods which were developed by the project partners in the preceding NTFP-PFM project and are being applied and adjusted in Sheko wereda so that PFM will supports in situ conservation of wild coffee.

Fine-tuning for in situ conservation is seen in the forest management plan development process and the identification of the different types of forest with different management regimes. This is applied in the PFM agreements. These adjustments are being documented. Other adjustments will occur over time and will be documented and used in fine-tuning PFM for in-situ coffee biodiversity conservation.

3. The capacity of community organisations (PFM Associations) and government agencies for the effective conservation of coffee biodiversity using PFM is significantly strengthened.

[Indicators: 60 communities (gots) in 14 kebeles (lowest administrative units) implementing PFM for forest and coffee biodiversity conservation through their local PFM Associations over

their recognised forest areas and reporting effective support from government extension staff and districts experts.]

Through the PFM work and the institutional development at the got and wereda level the capacity of communities to maintain and manage their forests through PFM is being developed. The Sheko wereda PFM Association was legalised by mid 2013 and in early 2014 the got-level agreements between the communities and the wereda administration were signed in 20 got in six kebeles to provide the basis for community based forest management, with use, protection and development.

The grass roots approach of the project which is the basis of PFM is highly appreciated by the communities and is building positive support for forest maintenance. Communities are keen to have clear rights over the forest to stop open access and to reduce the chances of land allocations to investors. (This positive view of the project and the PFM approach contrasts with burning of parts of the core zones in two Biosphere Reserves in nearby weredas in south-west Ethiopia by disgruntled local communities.)

Building of capacity in the government agencies for PFM based coffee biodiversity conservation is on-going through the involvement of government staff in the PFM process.

4. Community based PFM institutions for biodiversity conservation, sustainable forest management, and marketing of forest products and services established and operating sustainably.

[Indicators: Twelve community institutions (PLCs and Cooperatives) have legal establishment documents signed by government officials. Community institutions are operating and effective in terms of forest management, biodiversity conservation and marketing of forest products and carbon.]

Legalisation of the wereda PFM Association is complete. This provides a legal basis for PFM across the whole of Sheko wereda, and has provided legal status for the got level forest management groups, 20 of which have now signed agreements with the wereda administration. The other got level groups will have legal status through the wereda PFM Association once they have signed agreements for PFM with the wereda administration.

A review of the potential for forest enterprise development, including assessment of local experience with cooperatives, has shown that too many small coops exist which may be unviable. As a result the project is supporting the PFM communities to form only two specialist enterprise coops focusing respectively on “forest coffee” (from the coffee forest area with 94% of the wild coffee genetic resources under intensive management) and “wild forest products” from the natural forest, which will initially focus on honey and small amounts of “baboon coffee”. These choices have come about as a result of an informed participatory process in which the community made the decisions based on discussions amongst themselves and with the government, project staff and consultants. Careful market analysis and discussion with potential buyers has been undertaken in order to ensure commercial success and hence sustainability. The coops are established but legalisation is still an on-going process. They can only start to trade once legalised.

5. Viable forest product based enterprises operating with improved market linkages and services established and providing livelihood benefits without conflict with conservation goals. Carbon payments generating income for government and communities.

[Indicators: At least two forest product based enterprises operating. Carbon payment agreements made and implemented. No negative impacts on conservation goals for forests and coffee biodiversity.]

The two coops referred to in (4) above are starting to operate in the honey and coffee harvests during 2014. Forest coffee and honey are the initial enterprises chosen and whose value chains are being developed through contacts and discussions with buyers.

Monitoring and assessment of how the benefits from these will reach the different groups within the communities and can add value to the forest in their eyes and so help maintain the “natural” forest as a suitable environment for in situ conservation of the wild coffee is an on-going process.

Exploration of carbon payments has progressed with a draft PIN (Project Information Note) submitted to Plan Vivo in 2013. In the light of the comments received in 2014 it will be revised and then registered. A PDD (Project Development Document) will be prepared once the PIN is accepted.

6. Dissemination to other government and civil society agencies in Ethiopia and elsewhere of fine-tuned PFM methods for development of policy and practice of in situ biodiversity conservation.

[Indicators: Practice and policy development. Dissemination documents prepared and despatched. Conferences and meetings attended to undertake dissemination.]

The Amharic version of the PFM Guidelines has been shared with the regional government and the zonal and wereda administration and agricultural offices in the project area, and with other non-state actors working on this topic, including those undertaking work on biosphere reserves.

The new regional forest proclamation is in place and is publically available. This is relevant across the region and provides guidance for government and NGO agencies working in this region and has more general impacts for those working in other parts of Ethiopia.

Dissemination of material from this project is starting and a DVD film has been compiled and is currently being edited. A specific flier for use with coffee buyers has also been produced.

3.3 Progress towards the project Purpose/Outcome

Purpose: *Key areas of Amora Gedel and Kontir Berhan ‘wild coffee’ forests are conserved and providing sustainable livelihood benefits through Participatory Forest Management (PFM) by the local communities with full government support*

Assumptions: *Government policy remains supportive of PFM, community involvement in biodiversity conservation, and of biodiversity conservation in the south-west.*

Indicators: *Area of forest under PFM management with specific conservation aims / agreements with government. Sustainable livelihood benefits being generated from PFM forests. Number of communities / population engaged in PFM for conservation and benefitting from sustainable forest based livelihood benefits.*

The purpose level assumptions remain true, although the delay in getting the Regulations developed and issued to support the new pro-PFM Forest Proclamation are of concern. However, such delays are not uncommon.

The indicators are adequate for measuring the overall purpose / outcome.

Progress towards achieving the Purpose/Outcome is being made as planned with the implementation of PFM. Almost all of the forest in the project’s kebeles has been mapped and assessed with the boundaries demarcated for the natural forest, the coffee forest and the farmland / settlements. PFM is now being implemented in over half of the area.

A wereda PFM Association has been established and legalised providing the basis for PFM in Sheko wereda, including legalisation of the got-level PFM groups. Now PFM arrangements are operating in part of the project area the “open access” nature of the forest is coming to an end and sustainable livelihood development linked to maintaining the natural forest can be, and is being developed.

The wereda, zonal and regional government now strongly support the application of PFM. The communities have all requested PFM and are anxious for it to be applied to secure their forests from investors and other external threats, and to develop forest based livelihoods which are sustainable and compatible with the conservation of the wild coffee genetic resources.

The forest enterprise development coops are also established and will shortly be legalised and start operating. Through these the value of both the intensively managed coffee forests (where an estimated 94% of the genetic resources of the wild coffee in Sheko are found) and the natural forest (with the other 6% but under lightly managed / natural forest conditions is found) will be increased as a key economic motivation to maintaining these forests and their genetic resources, especially wild coffee.

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

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.*

The project is contributing to the higher level biodiversity conservation goals through the development of a more sustainable and locally appropriate / effective method for in situ conservation of forests and specific bio-diversity therein, such as *Coffea arabica*. Use of PFM engages communities and provides a more economically viable and hence sustainable approach, with local level monitoring by community and government staff.

The project is implemented in partnership with the Ethiopian Biodiversity Institute (EBI) and through this institute dissemination of this method is envisaged. The project is contributing to the following international conventions through EBI:

Convention on Biological Diversity

Article 8. In-situ Conservation, (d) Promote the protection of ecosystems, natural habitats and the maintenance of viable populations of species in natural surroundings:

Ethiopia is a centre of origin and diversity of *Coffea arabica*. The main objective of WCC project is to maintain a viable wild population of this species which is not found elsewhere in the world.

Article 8. In-situ Conservation, (j) Subject to its national legislation, respect, preserve and maintain knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities embodying traditional lifestyles relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and promote their wider application with the approval and involvement of the holders of such knowledge, innovations and practices and encourage the equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of such knowledge, innovations and practices:

The project is exercising PFM giving full recognition of communities and their involvement.

Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 and the Aichi Targets: “Living in Harmony with Nature”

Among the 20 targets there are two targets related to forestry:

Target 5: *By 2020, the rate of loss of all natural habitats, including forests, is at least halved and where feasible brought close to zero, and degradation and fragmentation is significantly reduced. Natural Forest Conservation by communities:*

The communities through this project have set aside some 28,000 hectare of forest for PFM based conservation of the forest.

Target 7: *By 2020 areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity*

Sustainable management of coffee forest with maintenance of the forest canopy is being sought through the community prepared forest management plans which include enrichment planting.

Reduced deforestation is also sought through sustainable land management in the adjoining farming areas to reduce the pressure on the forest.

Convention on Biological Diversity

Ethiopian Biodiversity Institute (EBI) (formerly IBC) is the national focal Institute. The Director, Dr Gemedo Dalle is the National Focal Person and has been appointed the National Focal Person of Global Taxonomic Initiative of CBD as counterpart to work on the project. Dr Tesfaye Awas, local consultant to the project, has helped to tackle taxonomic problems, bio-cultural aspects and in-situ conservation of wild populations of coffee.

With respect to human development, the project is now helping communities to identify forest products with market potential, explore how to develop the value chain for these products, and establish market linkages, especially through the enterprise coops which these communities are developing with support from the project. (See 3.2 – 5 above)

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

In addition to the points covered in point 3.4 the project has contributed to the 5th National CBD Report produced by EBI with a box on the success story of WCC project "Application of Participatory Forest Management in Wild Coffee Conservation in Sheko Forest".

5. Project support to poverty alleviation

The key feature of PFM is the economic motivation for communities to maintain their forests through the benefits which they can obtain from this. These benefits must be obtained in a sustainable way and in line with a management plan agreed with the government. This agreed plan includes the maintenance of the natural biodiversity and specifically in this project the wild coffee in the natural forest. The forest is seen in PFM as a renewable resource which can be harvested in a sustainable manner under PFM agreements while maintaining biodiversity.

The economic value of the forest is being enhanced to make the forest an attractive and competitive land use. This is being done through a series of activities undertaken by the recently appointed forest product marketing officer with support from two DI supported consultants with particular expertise in honey, coffee and other forest products. In this way the the project is now helping communities to identify forest products with market potential, explore how to develop the value chain for these products, and establish new market linkages, especially through the enterprise coops which these communities are developing with support from the project.

These coops were formed in 2013/14 and will be legalised shortly so that they can start to trade.

6. Monitoring, evaluation and lessons

The monitoring and evaluation of the project activities has been set in place during this year with the appointment of a Participatory, Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Officer. Monthly reports are provided from the project with reviews against the annual workplan, while quarterly reports are provided to the EU which is the major funder, including progress against OVs.

Baseline land cover data has been collected again in 2013, focusing on forest cover mapping and land cover change data is now available back to 1973 with data analysed at several different dates. Biomass data has been collected as required for carbon funding. Much data

collection of shrub and ground cover species has also been completed. Along with a bio-cultural study a biodiversity baseline is being completed.

Output monitoring is now in place with the appointment of the Participatory Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation officer.

A key area of work is to build the forest status monitoring capacity in the government staff and the communities to provide a sustainable basis for the long-term impact of this project.

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

A number of issues were raised especially concerning clarification of where the DI inputs fit. However, this is not such a simple matter as the availability of the DI funds allows 4 times the DI amount to be available to the project from the EU. The EU Log Frame which has been revised and approved in late 2013 is in Annex 4 with the areas of DI specific spending identified. This EU log frame is more specific and responds to the advice to make the OVI more time bound and specific.

Specific information about products and their impact upon the valuation of the forest are provided in the Mission Report of Dr Dena Freeman and Janet Lowere.

8. Other comments on progress not covered elsewhere

Through the project's work it is clear that the conservation of the wild coffee genetic resources in the natural forest is the correct focus, so that these plants can continue to evolve under natural conditions. However, there are a number of issues arising which require careful consideration.

First is the level of disturbance of the forest over the centuries due to buffalo – which are no longer present, and hunter / gatherer / shifting cultivators. Such disturbance has been critical for creating gaps in the canopy with partial shade which are the conditions wild coffee needs to grow. Hence a key question is to explore the degree of disturbance which PFM will allow compared to that which occurred naturally. As a result the management activities by communities will need fine-tuning to the biodiversity conservation needs.

Second is the issue of how to support the communities in the management of the individually managed “coffee forest”, which adjoins the natural forest, and whose coffee bushes have come from the natural forest. While the natural forest probably has somewhere in the order of 6% of the coffee bushes of natural forest origin, some 94% is in the coffee forest. Hence this forest is a major genetic store, albeit one at risk from disease and pests due to the concentration of plants.

A major challenge to the project is the political decision to create a biosphere reserve (BR) in the zone where the project is working. The BR approach in Ethiopia is traditionally very top down and not at all participatory – despite some signing of forms requesting the BR to be created. This BR approach is in complete contrast to the participatory, bottom up, and empowering approach of PFM. A dialogue has been started with the zonal administration and potential actors in the BR initiative and a visit organised to explore the experience to date with BRs in SW Ethiopia early in this project year. This project-led visit was highly informative and a critical report of BR experience to date has been produced. It is now agreed at the zonal level that PFM should be the basis of biodiversity conservation. The project has now been tasked with exploring how this will work and contacts have been established with UNESCO.

There has been a major enhancement of understanding of biodiversity conservation issues for PFM through the input of the DI funded adviser, Robert Wild. He has also encouraged the exploration of a bio-cultural approach for which a senior Ethiopian has been recruited as a consultant – Dr Mengistu.

Development of close links with the zonal administration over the biosphere reserve ideas has been led by the senior PFM adviser – Dr Mulugeta originally but he has now moved to Farm Africa. (Girma Shumi has taken over this post.).

9. Sustainability

Dissemination and profile raising is dependent on lessons being learned which can be based on analysis and documented. At present the focus is on implementation and testing the PFM methods. Profile raising will be increased in the coming year with a DVD – now prepared, which summarises the project approach, and the first of two national workshops.

In the project area there is strong support amongst the communities for the PFM approach to forest conservation and the government at the regional, zonal and wereda level recognise that PFM is potentially a way to enhance biodiversity conservation given the very limited state resources which are available. The Ethiopian Biodiversity Institute also sees the project as providing a testing ground for a new approach.

With respect to sustainability and exit strategy, the whole PFM approach to in situ conservation of biodiversity is based on ownership of the PFM process by the local community and their engagement throughout. It is a grassroots, or bottom-up, process, which is essential for local ownership which in turn leads to responsibility for sustaining actions beyond the period of project support or external funding from carbon or other sources.

Community based institutions, chosen by the communities are another key element of the exit strategy and are central to the work of this project.

Economically viable enterprises and marketing / processing institutions run by local communities which can support sustainable enterprises and livelihoods and so make the forest more valuable are also central to long term sustainability of maintenance of the forest. Generating value from diverse sources must be the basis of making PFM sustainable, and thereby the maintenance of the natural forest in which the wild coffee grows and can be conserved in situ.

10. Darwin Identity

The Darwin Initiative logo is used on all project publications, project office signs and on the website. The Darwin Initiative funding is also recognised in publications. It is one of three streams of support to this project, with the EU being the largest source followed by the Netherlands government - through their support for the Horn of Africa Regional Environment Centre (HOAREC). Hence, the Darwin Initiative is seen as part of the overall project rather than as a separate project.

The project links with the Ethiopian Biodiversity Institute has helped raise awareness of the Darwin Initiative within the institute and key staff with whom the project works.

Recognition of the Darwin Initiative will increase through the national level workshop for the project which will be funded primarily by the EU.

11. Project Expenditure

Table 1 project expenditure during the reporting period (1 April 2013 – 31 March 2014)

Project spend since last annual report	2013/14 Grant (£)	2013/14 Total actual Darwin Costs (£)	Variance %	Comments (please explain significant variances)
Staff costs (see below) (Host Country)			-28%	Key local staff resigned & was replaced after 3 months
Consultancy costs (UK Costs)			+95%	Marketing support brought forward to Year 2 to ensure sustainability. Discussed with DI Finance Unit
Overhead Costs			-14%	Result of underspend
Travel and subsistence			-42%	EU project covered some of staff travel
Operating Costs				
Capital items (see below)				
Others (see below)				
TOTAL				

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

A specific document for publicity use will be prepared with photographs and maps during the coming six months.

Annex 1: Report of progress and achievements against Logical Framework for Financial Year 2013-2014

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2012 - March 2013	Actions required/planned for next period
<p>Goal: <i>To draw on expertise relevant to biodiversity from within the United Kingdom to work with local partners in countries rich in biodiversity but constrained in resources to achieve</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ The conservation of biological diversity, ⇒ The sustainable use of its components, and ⇒ The fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilisation of genetic resources 			
<p>Purpose Key areas of Amora Gedel and Kontir Berhan ‘wild coffee’ forests are conserved and providing sustainable livelihood benefits through Participatory Forest Management (PFM) by the local communities with full government support</p>	<p>Area of forest under PFM management with specific conservation aims / agreements with government.</p> <p>Sustainable livelihood benefits being generated from PFM forests.</p> <p>Number of communities / population engaged in PFM for conservation and benefitting from sustainable forest based livelihood benefits.</p>	<p>Action planning for PFM managed forest has been completed in 38 priority Gots, some 28,356 ha of “natural” forest. Signing of PFM agreements between community and government for the first priority gots has been completed in March 2014. (Delayed due to pressure of campaigns on government time.) A Wereda (District) Forest Management Association was established and legalised.</p> <p>Research on products, markets and value chains for forest items which can contribute to sustainable livelihoods has continued and specific foci on wild products, notably honey, and the forest coffee has emerged as offering the best options. Two community led coops linked to the PFM process have been established and are in the process of being registered to facilitate this marketing.</p>	<p>The focus in Year 3 of the DI supported activities will be on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Ensuring that the PFM forest arrangements are being implemented, especially the forest management plans in Sheko; extending PFM into three adjoining wereds, and developing sustainable land management for a landscape approach to conservation. b) Developing the capacity and skills of the PFM institutions at wereda and gott level to ensure effective implementation of PFM. c) Developing the capacity of the coop members and their institutions for marketing and value chain development to ensure sustainable livelihoods from the forest. d) Building M&E capacity in the government and communities to monitor activities, forest

			<p>state and biodiversity related to wild coffee.</p> <p>e) Analysing finding and identifying lessons for development of lessons for dissemination, including further revision of the PFM guidelines.</p> <p>f) Supporting the regional government to development the Guidelines and Regulations is needed to ensure implementation of the new forest legislation and dissemination guidance on this for government & communities.</p> <p>g) Developing the biosphere reserve process with identified partners to strengthen community ownership of the forests.</p>
<p>Output 1.</p> <p>1. The forest and coffee biodiversity maintained by the application of fine-tuned Participatory Forest Management (PFM) approach applied by the local communities and officially recognised by regional and local governments.</p>	<p>Forest and coffee biodiversity maintained in Amora Gedal and Kontir Berhan forests against baseline assessment.</p> <p>Coverage of intervention forests under PFM.</p> <p>Communities applying PFM for forest conservation.</p> <p>Recognition of PFM for biodiversity conservation in legislation /policy</p>	<p>Biodiversity baseline has been completed led by IBC colleagues. This provides the basis for monitoring the biodiversity in the PFM forest.</p> <p>Approximately 14,793ha of “natural” forest, 13,353ha of “coffee” forest and 5,171ha of agricultural and settlement land in Sheko wereda (district) has been mapped as the basis for PFM being applied. As a result all forest land in the 13 kebeles of operation and more than 90% of the forest in Sheko wereda has been demarcated and mapped.</p> <p>All communities approached with respect to PFM have applied to the government for support to apply PFM. 100% of the communities with forest have applied for PFM. This process is now started in the three neighbouring weredas.</p> <p>There is an on-going process of reviewing the PFM process to simplify it and identify the linkages to biodiversity conservation which is beginning to see</p>	

	and by agreements with local government offices.	government recognition of the potential of PFM.
Activity 1.1 PFM training applied		Refresher awareness raising of PFM has been undertaken through regular, monthly or bi-monthly visits to all 38 gotts in the project area by the field staff. In addition a series of meetings were held related to the formation of the Wereda level PFM Association leading to the establishment and legalisation of the body for Sheko wereda (district).
Activity 1.2 Forest demarcation for PFM groups		Forest demarcation has been completed in in all 38 Gotts with 14,793ha of “natural” forest, 13,353ha of “coffee” forest and 15,171ha of agricultural and settlement land identified and mapped on the GIS system
Activity 1.3 PFM Agreements signed		PFM agreements are signed between the wereda (district) government and the first 20 gott level PFM Groups. Agreements for the remaining 15 second priority gotts are to be signed and progress made towards this in the neighbouring weredas.
Output 2. Participatory forest management (PFM) methods developed in the region, are adapted, fine-tuned and applied specifically for in situ conservation of forests and coffee biodiversity	PFM Methods fine-tuned and applied for in situ conservation of forest and coffee biodiversity, with feedback from field experience incorporated in revision of methods.	This is an on-going process. PFM step with responsibility for forest management now recognises the different forest types and the need for separate plans. Associated monitoring of the state of the forest and the biodiversity characteristics by communities and government is to be developed to confirm the value of PFM for biodiversity conservation.
Activity 2.1. PFM fine-tuned with respect to community-based biodiversity conservation		The process of applying PFM in this project involves continual trial and testing and adjustment. To date the main areas of adjustment from the simplified PFM method established by the partners in this project in their former work has been with respect to PFM Management Planning which has developed specific planning processes for different forest areas, coffee forest and natural forest. These two types of forest have different roles in the conservation of the coffee genetic resources.
Activity 2.2. Appropriate extension materials developed, distributed and applied		Extension materials have been developed to help the Got-level PFM groups discuss and decide about the formation of the wereda PFM Association. PFM Guidelines have been translated into Amharic to improve use by the government and project field staff.
Activity 2.3 Baseline mapping for the application of PFM		Land cover mapping of the wereda has been complete showing land use change at intervals since 1971. Detailed transects have also been undertaken for vegetation mapping which will feed into the biodiversity monitoring. This mapping has also included woody biomass measurement as the basis for carbon payment scheme development. This was supplemented in the second of the DI project by

		further biodiversity baseline work which will have long term importance.
Output 3. The capacity of community organisations (PFM Associations) and government agencies for the effective conservation of coffee biodiversity using PFM is significantly strengthened.	60 communities (gotts) in 14 kebeles (lowest administrative units) implementing PFM for forest and coffee biodiversity conservation through their local PFM Associations over their recognised forest areas and reporting effective support from government extension staff and districts experts.	20 gotts have now signed agreements with the wereda government and now have the legal basis for undertaking forest management. The wereda (district) level PFM Association is established and legalised. This provides the basis for the forest communities to coordinate themselves and to hold discussions with the government at that level to agree on forest management – as detailed in the gott level forest management plans. The PFM Association and the Wereda administration are developing agreed methods for monitoring of the forest.
Activity 3.1 Training in participatory processes, PFM, CBO management, leadership etc		Training in all PFM steps has been completed in the 20 priority gotts and is on-going in the 15 second priority gotts. A refresher programme for the 3 gotts in Shayita kebele is to be arranged – they already have signed PFM agreements.
Activity 3.2 Training in joint planning, monitoring and evaluation		This is starting now the wereda PFM Association is established and the biodiversity baseline is established.
Activity 3.3 Training & development of extension materials		The new Amharic PFM Guidelines is now used in trainings provided to government and community groups in PFM, participatory processes, biodiversity issues, PRA tools. In addition guidance in GIS and GPS handling, and CBNRM are provided regularly through the fieldwork for PFM.
Output 4. Community based PFM institutions for biodiversity conservation, sustainable forest management, and marketing of forest products and services established and operating sustainably.	Twelve community institutions (PLCs and Cooperatives) have legal establishment documents signed by government officials. Community institutions are operating and effective in terms of forest management, biodiversity conservation and marketing of forest products and carbon.	Two community-based cooperatives have been established One wereda level PFM Association has been established and legalised. Through that Association 20 gott (community) level PFM groups have been legalised. The coops are starting to trade in forest products to raise the value of the forest with the PFM groups monitoring the state of the forest. The Gott PFM Groups are managing their forest and are being supervised by the Wereda PFM Association and the government.
Activity 4.1. Training & support for PFM CBOs, PLCs and Coops		Training and support for these organisations has started now they have been legalised. Training on leadership and benefit sharing facilitated. MoU was reached between the new Forest Management Association in Sheko and the two new forest enterprise coops. Sites for the offices and stores for these organisations were selected.

Activity 4.2. Development of byelaws and regulations for CBOs		Regulations for the woreda PFM Association have been approved and are legal. Internal byelaws for Gott level PFM groups have been endorsed by each of the 20 first priority gotts now the PFM agreements are signed with the government.
Activity 4.3 Legalisation of CBOs		This has been completed for the two coops, one wereda PFM Association and 20 first priority gott level PFM Groups.
Activity 4.4 Support for operation of CBOs		Financial and technical support for the operations of the coops and wereda PFM Association is now being provided.
Output 5. Viable forest product based enterprises operating with improved market linkages and services established and providing livelihood benefits without conflict with conservation goals. Carbon payments generating income for government and communities.	At least two forest product based enterprises operating. Carbon payment agreements made and implemented. No negative impacts on conservation goals for forests and coffee biodiversity.	Two coops focusing on forest products are now operating. Carbon payments will be explored once the PIN and PDD are completed. The PIN has been submitted for comment by Plan Vivo and is being revised. The grass roots approach of the project which is the basis of PFM is highly appreciated by the communities and building positive support for forest maintenance. (This contrasts with recent burning of parts of the core zone in a Biosphere Reserve in another district in SW Ethiopia by disgruntled local communities.) The boundary between the coffee forest and the natural forest is being maintained apart from minor incursions which are now being brought to court by the gott level PFM groups.
Activity 5.1 Support production of NTFPs, focusing on quality & supply		Assessment has been made of the range of potential NTFPs which could be marketed from these forests. The focus for now is on coffee and honey.
Activity 5.2 Assess market opportunities & develop strategies and links for CBOs		Market opportunities and improving the value chain for both coffee and honey have been undertaken and the project marketing officer has these reports to guide him in his work.
Activity 5.3 Explore incentive payments for environmental services, e.g. carbon		Carbon assessment is completed and provides the basis for preparing PIN and PDD as needed for submission to Plan Vivo. Revision of the PIN is the current task.
Activity 5.4 Facilitate links with funding mechanisms for PES & implement pilot		To be applied after 5.3 completed
Output 6. Dissemination to other government and civil society agencies in Ethiopia and elsewhere of fine-tuned PFM methods for	Practice and policy development.	Progress with new legislation has been made with new forest proclamation allowing PFM. However, new guidelines and regulations remain an issue due to a change of staff in the Regional government and a negative reaction to the recently approved forest proclamation which is pro PFM.

development of policy and practice of in situ biodiversity conservation.	Dissemination documents prepared and despatched. Conferences and meetings attended to undertake dissemination.	Translation of the PFM Guidelines has been completed into Amharic and this document is being used in the field. A briefing note on the policy process – linked to the previous NTFP-PFM Project has been produced and circulated. Another series of guidance notes on PFM and Biodiversity Conservation is being produced. Plans for a series of workshops and round table meetings are being developed for Year 3 of DI support.
Activity 6.1. Dissemination of project findings		Presentations for local stakeholders and regular reporting takes place. The project experience has been communicated to the regional government and a team visit from the government to this project has been agreed.
Activity 6.2. Contribution to policy debates		The Project Coordinator has been involved in the discussions at the regional level with respect to the revision of the forest legislation. This is continuing with development of the Guidelines and Regulations which will be the basis of applying the legislation
Activity 6.3 Advocacy on specific issues, especially forest policy, PFM for biodiversity conservation and PES		The first note on PFM and Biodiversity has been drafted and is being reviewed. Further materials will be developed once field experience is obtained, monitored and assessed.
Activity 6.4 Liaison with biosphere projects		Contacts have been established with the three biosphere projects in the SW of Ethiopia and an assessment of this experience is to be undertaken in April 2013. Follow up of this through a round table meeting and briefing has led to this project being asked to take forward an initiative to develop a biosphere reserve in Bench Maji zone, where Sheko wereda is located.

Annex 2 Project's full current logframe

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
<p>Goal:</p> <p>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:</p> <p>Afromontane forests of south-west Ethiopia and associated <i>Coffea arabica</i> biodiversity are effectively conserved and providing ongoing community wellbeing and livelihood benefits</p>	<p>Decrease in forest degradation.</p> <p>Maintenance of <i>Coffea arabica</i> biodiversity.</p> <p>Forest based livelihood benefits generated sustainably.</p>	<p>Time series remote sensing.</p> <p>Biodiversity assessment in project areas.</p> <p>Livelihood surveys.</p>	
<p>Purpose</p> <p>Key areas of Amora Gedel and Kontir Berhan 'wild coffee' forests are conserved and providing sustainable livelihood benefits through Participatory Forest Management (PFM) by the local communities with full government support</p>	<p>Area of forest under PFM management with specific conservation aims / agreements with government.</p> <p>Sustainable livelihood benefits being generated from PFM forests.</p> <p>Number of communities / population engaged in PFM for conservation and benefitting from sustainable forest based livelihood benefits.</p>	<p>Mapping of project PFM areas and communities with PFM agreements. Listing of agreements registered.</p> <p>Survey of livelihoods in communities in project area.</p>	<p>Government policy remains supportive of PFM, community involvement in biodiversity conservation and of biodiversity conservation in south-west Ethiopia.</p>

<p>Outputs</p> <p>1. The forest and coffee biodiversity maintained by the application of fine-tuned Participatory Forest Management (PFM) approach applied by the local communities and officially recognised by regional and local governments.</p>	<p>Forest and coffee biodiversity maintained in Amora Gedal and Kontir Berhan forests against baseline assessment.</p> <p>Coverage of intervention forests under PFM.</p> <p>Communities applying PFM for forest conservation.</p> <p>Recognition of PFM for biodiversity conservation in legislation /policy and by agreements with local government offices.</p>	<p>Biodiversity assessments.</p> <p>PFM agreements and records of their operations for biodiversity conservation and areas of forest covered.</p> <p>Government legislation, policies and policy practice, including PFM agreements signed with local government offices.</p>	<p>Political will continues to involve communities in biodiversity conservation in forest areas.</p>
<p>2. Participatory forest management (PFM) methods developed in the region, are adapted, fine-tuned and applied specifically for in situ conservation of forests and coffee biodiversity</p>	<p>PFM Methods fine tuned and applied for in situ conservation of forest and coffee biodiversity, with feedback from field experience incorporated in revision of methods.</p>	<p>PFM for Biodiversity Manual and revisions.</p> <p>Reports of application of PFM for biodiversity conservation from community institutions (PFM Associations) and government.</p>	<p>PFM remains an approved and legally supported method in the region.</p>
<p>3. The capacity of community organisations (PFM Associations) and government agencies for the effective conservation of coffee biodiversity using PFM is significantly strengthened.</p>	<p>60 communities (gots) in 14 kebeles (lowest administrative units) implementing PFM for forest and coffee biodiversity conservation through their local PFM Associations over their recognised forest areas and reporting effective support from government extension staff and districts experts.</p>	<p>Training of communities, PFM Associations and government staff.</p> <p>Reports of the activities of PFM Associations.</p> <p>Survey of performance and capacity of PFM Associations.</p> <p>Record of government support to PFM Associations and assessment of performance.</p>	<p>Stability of staff in government agencies and stability in leadership and representation in community organisations.</p>

<p>4. Community based PFM institutions for biodiversity conservation, sustainable forest management, and marketing of forest products and services established and operating sustainably.</p>	<p>Twelve community institutions (PLCs and Cooperatives) have legal establishment documents signed by government officials.</p> <p>Community institutions are operating and effective in terms of forest management, biodiversity conservation and marketing of forest products and carbon.</p>	<p>Legal documents of PFMA's</p> <p>Record of PFMA's operations from their meeting minutes.</p> <p>Records of marketing of forest products.</p>	<p>Supportive government and policy environment for community-based institutions.</p>
<p>5. Viable forest product based enterprises operating with improved market linkages and services established and providing livelihood benefits without conflict with conservation goals. Carbon payments generating income for government and communities.</p>	<p>At least two forest product based enterprises operating.</p> <p>Carbon payment agreements made and implemented.</p> <p>No negative impacts on conservation goals for forests and coffee biodiversity.</p>	<p>Survey of forest product based enterprises.</p> <p>Assessment of their sustainability and impacts, both socio-economically and environmentally.</p> <p>Carbon payment agreements in place and assessed.</p>	<p>Favourable market opportunities for coffee, forest products and carbon.</p> <p>Support from regional and national governments for carbon payment with benefits reaching the communities.</p>
<p>6. Dissemination to other government and civil society agencies in Ethiopia and elsewhere of fine-tuned PFM methods for development of policy and practice of in situ biodiversity conservation.</p>	<p>Practice and policy development.</p> <p>Dissemination documents prepared and despatched.</p> <p>Conferences and meetings attended to undertake dissemination.</p>	<p>Records of developments in policy and practice of in situ conservation practice, dissemination meetings and communication process.</p>	<p>Political will for civil society and community participation in biodiversity conservation and related policy development.</p>

Activities (details in workplan)

1. Forest & Biodiversity Maintained as PFM Applied

PFM training applied

Forest demarcation for PFM groups

PFM Agreements signed

2. PFM Fine Tuned for *in situ* conservation

PFM fine tuned with respect to community-based biodiversity conservation

Appropriate extension materials developed, distributed and applied

Baseline mapping for the application of PFM

3. Capacity of Govt Staff & Communities strengthened, etc.

Training in participatory processes, PFM, CBO management, leadership etc

Training in joint planning, monitoring and evaluation

Training & development of extension materials

4. Community-based PFM institutions, etc

Training & support for PFM CBOs, PLCs and Coops

Development of byelaws and regulations for CBOs

Legalisation of CBOs

Support for operation of CBOs

5. Viable forest product based enterprises operating etc

Support production of NTFPs, focusing on quality & supply

Assess market opportunities & develop strategies and links for CBOs

Explore incentive payments for environmental services, e.g. carbon

Facilitate links with funding mechanisms for PES & implement pilot

6. Dissemination to other government etc

Dissemination of project findings

Contribution to policy debates

Advocacy on specific issues, especially forest policy, PFM for biodiversity conservation and PES

Liaison with biosphere projects

Annex 3 Standard Measures

Table 1 Project Standard Output Measures

Code No.	Description	Year 1 Total	Year 2 Total	Year 3 Total	Year 4 Total	Total to date	Number planned for reporting period	Total planned during the project
Established codes								
7	Number of (ie. different types - not volume - of material produced) training materials to be produced for use by host country	0	0			0	0	1
8	Number of weeks to be spent by UK project staff on project work in the host country	7	12			19	7	21
9	Number of species/habitat management plans (or action plans) to be produced for Governments, public authorities, or other implementing agencies in the host country	0	0			0	0	1
11B	Number of papers to be submitted to peer reviewed journals	0	0			0	0	2
12A	Number of computer based databases to be established and handed over to the host country	1	0				0	1
13A	Number of species reference collections to be established and handed over to the host country(ies)	0	0				0	1
14A	Number of conferences/seminars/workshops to be organised to present/disseminate findings	0	0				0	2
14B	Number of conferences/seminars/workshops attended at which findings from Darwin project work will be presented/disseminated.	1	1				1	3
15A	Number of national press releases in host country(ies)	0	0				0	2

17B	Number of dissemination networks to be enhanced/extended	0	0				0	1
19A	Number of national radio interviews/features in host county(ies)	0	0				0	2
23	Value of resources raised from other sources (ie. in addition to Darwin funding) for project work	£619k (est)	£309k (est)				£309k	£1.2m

Table 2 Publications

Type (eg journals, manual, CDs)	Detail (title, author, year)	Publishers (name, city)	Available from (eg contact address, website)	Cost £
Journal				

Annex 4 Onwards – supplementary material (optional but encouraged as evidence of project achievement)

To be submitted separately – see covering email.

Checklist for submission

	Check
Is the report less than 10MB? If so, please email to Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.uk putting the project number in the Subject line.	
Is your report more than 10MB? If so, please discuss with Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.uk about the best way to deliver the report, putting the project number in the Subject line.	
Have you included means of verification? You need not submit every project document, but the main outputs and a selection of the others would strengthen the report.	
Do you have hard copies of material you want to submit with the report? If so, please make this clear in the covering email and ensure all material is marked with the project number.	
Have you involved your partners in preparation of the report and named the main contributors	
Have you completed the Project Expenditure table fully?	
Do not include claim forms or other communications with this report.	