

Darwin Initiative Main Project 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

Darwin Project Information

Project Reference	20-022
Project Title	Enhancing habitat connectivity through sustainable development around the Gola Rainforest
Host Country/ies	Sierra Leone
Contract Holder Institution	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB)
Partner institutions	Gola Rainforest National Park (GRNP), Welt Hunger Hilfe (WHH), Conservation Society of Sierra Leone (CSSL), Forestry Division, Cambridge University Department of Land Economy and Rainforest Alliance (RA).
Darwin Grant Value	£271,075
Funder (DFID/Defra)	Dfid
Start/end dates of project	Start 1 st July 2013/End 30 th June 2017
Reporting period (e.g., Apr 2015 – Mar 2016) and number (e.g., Annual Report 1, 2, 3)	1 st July 2014-30 th April 2015. Annual Report 2
Project Leader name	Nicolas Tubbs
Project website/blog/Twitter	ht p://www.rspb.org.uk/ourwork/projects/details.aspx?id=234389 ht p://www.golarainforest.org/
Report author(s) and date	Nicolas Tubbs, Mark Hulme and Fiona Sanderson. 30 th April 2015

1. Project Rationale

The Gola Rainforest National Park (GRNP) is the largest remnant of Upper Guinea Forest in Sierra Leone, an internationally recognised biodiversity hotspot. The park is in three distinct blocks which are separated by a mosaic of villages, agricultural land and forests. As resource demands and population growth both increase, forest isolation worsens, threatening forest integrity and resulting in human-wildlife conflicts increasing.

Efforts to revive the cocoa sector in post-conflict Sierra Leone have not fully succeeded due to the prevalence of unproductive varieties, aging plantations and the preoccupation of communities with subsistence agriculture. Efforts are underway to address this so that shade-grown cocoa restoration can be a key part of a carbon financing project being developed to secure sustained income for the GRNP. However, it is unclear whether rehabilitated cocoa is best used to promote forest connectivity for wildlife.

Shade-grown cocoa restoration on a large scale is underway, aiming to secure sustained income for GRNP communities. The partners to this project aim at determining the multi-benefits for cocoa rehabilitation, promoting improved livelihoods in conjunction with the promotion of forest connectivity for wildlife. Directing cocoa restoration to increase yields while benefitting wildlife and minimising human-wildlife conflicts is therefore crucial for the success of the GRNP, for habitat connectivity and for sustainable livelihood improvement.

All problems were identified based on our 25 year experience in country and after extensive consultation with stakeholders.

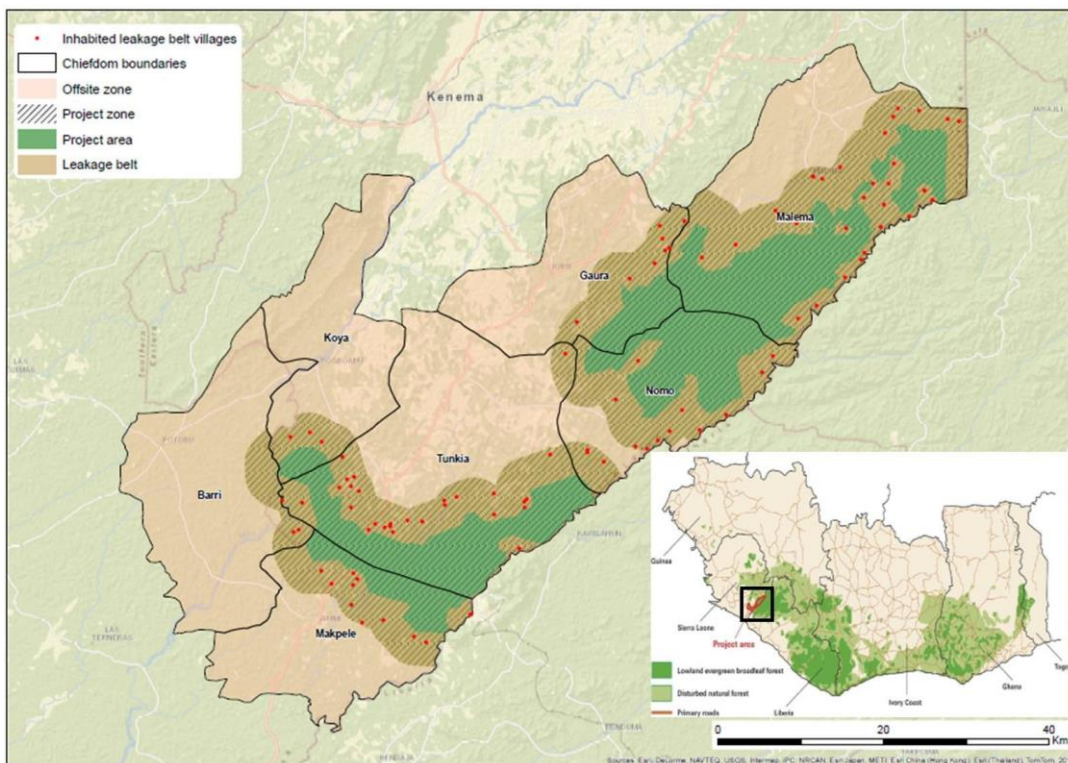


Fig1. Map of the Project Zone of this project (respecting REDD Terminology, the project area is the National Park).

2. Project Partnerships

The RSPB, CSSL and FD jointly manage the GRNP. All three have been partnering to conserve GRNP and its landscape for the last 25 years.

WHH has been delivering agricultural improvement projects in Sierra Leone for over 7 years and is considered the lead international development agency in the agricultural (rice, cocoa, coffee) sector there.

Cambridge University is working with Wageningen University as part of the Cambridge Conservation Initiative, conducting socioeconomic surveys around GRNP since 2009, building understanding of community development needs and measuring the success of the GRNP.

RA is an internationally recognised certification body which provides technical advice to ensure communities are aware of certification processes and requirements, build capacity on sustainable landscape practice and ensure this project meets certification processes and requirements. There is an increasing interest in certification in country as well as from international buyers.

In terms of decision making, RSPB, CSSL, FD, GRNP and WHH all sit on this project's Steering Committee. Day to day decisions are made jointly by the RSPB and the GRNP. In terms of achievements of this project's partnership, a true achievement has been to maintain strong ties amongst the partners despite the Ebola epidemic which ravaged West Africa and led the President to declare a State of Emergency. This partnership has managed to be highly adaptive and proactive considering the crisis at hand. This can be evidenced by the numerous trainings and briefings provided to GRNP staff on Ebola and its prevention, but also on the support provided to the emergency response and particularly to aid agencies. Please note however that none of these activities were funded by this project.

We previously reported that the partners forming the GRNP were in the final stages of setting up a non-profit company limited by guarantee, the Gola Rainforest Conservation LG. It will be the first of its kind in Sierra Leone, consisting of an international organisation (RSPB), a local civil society organisation (CSSL) and government. However, this entity has not been established as of yet due to the Ebola crisis even though all the legal documentation has been produced. We are now waiting for it to be passed through Cabinet.

Furthermore, after a review of the ongoing Memorandum of Understanding between the RSPB and RA which recognises mutual expertise and the beneficial collaboration, particularly for our project in Sierra Leone, both parties have expressed their intention to renew this agreement when it's up for renewal early 2016 and to scale up their efforts for joint external communication.

The partnership between GRNP and WHH within this project highlighted the complementary approach and expertise of both organisations. This project initiated broader collaboration with WHH, particularly in neighbouring Liberia for working on agroforestry. The strategic partnership framework between the two organisations was not finalised because of the Ebola outbreak, especially since WHH was heavily involved in the emergency response.

The project's partnership between RSPB, University of Cambridge and Wageningen University also served as a springboard to the development of a joint proposal to bring together their expertise in ecology, social sciences and economics to further investigate aspects of bushmeat, Ebola risk and transmission in and around GRNP. This proposal was submitted to the Cambridge Conservation Initiative.

3. Project Progress

3.1 Progress in carrying out project activities

Obviously the most notable development over the past year has been the Ebola outbreak which has, and still is, ravaging Sierra Leone. All community engagement was brought to a halt between June 2014 and 10th April 2015. In addition the State of Emergency declared by the President meant that no group gatherings were permitted. The Technical Advisor for Co-management, Livelihoods and Agriculture who is normally based in Sierra Leone left late June and only returned mid-April once the health and safety concerns were lifted.

This was not too serious initially as it was the beginning of the rainy season, however, the field work lead by the Conservation Scientist in Tropical Agriculture and Biodiversity which was meant to start in September to coincide with the cocoa harvesting season had to be put on hold due to practical and health and safety concerns. Hence the human-wildlife data to be collected, particularly focusing on crop raiding, has had to be postponed until the Ebola outbreak is under control.

The RSPB has been monitoring the situation closely and LTS have been kept closely informed (i.e. see HYR2). The situation was constantly evolving which has made it extremely challenging to predict when field activities could resume in full. In the meantime, focus has been shifted to office-based activities and outputs, such as the desk review of mitigation strategies for crop-raiding.

Finally, this crisis situation led us to request a one year no-cost extension to the project last January which was approved. The project will therefore end on the 30th June 2017.

Output 1: Assessing impacts on wildlife of restoring agro forestry (cocoa) systems

Activity 1.1: Mapping exercise to assess the extent of abandoned cocoa plantations

During the extensive field work season reported on in AR1 GPS points as well as descriptive information were collected which resulted in extensive mapping and polygon maps. In total cocoa plantations were mapped for 15 FECs with plantations varying from 35.9 Ha to 0.2 Ha. An illustration of the mapping completed so far of active and abandoned plantations is displayed Annex 4.

All data collected thus far has been meticulously entered and analysed in GIS software to generate the maps mentioned above. This mapping exercise has been completed as originally planned, though upcoming field work will be necessary to refine these since they rely on limited data.

Additionally, we modelled cocoa plantations across the entire project area by investigating land cover satellite imagery and groundtruthing it with the data points collected in the field. This has provided a crude measure of the extent of active and abandoned cocoa plantations around the entire National Park (Annex 4). However the statistical uncertainty is high so results need to be considered with caution, though we anticipate refining this model after the next field season.

Activity 1.2: Camera trapping/point counts of wildlife (mammals/birds) to survey resident and transient wildlife in habitats surrounding GRNP, including restored and abandoned plantations, and within GRNP to compare wildlife populations to the NP forest baseline. This would include measuring changes in wildlife following cocoa restoration.

A total of 323 point counts have been collected to date. Annex 4 details the breakdown which has been slightly revised compared to the one submitted in AR1 due to removing early visits of repeated points whilst data-collection training was still in progress.

Retrieval of the remaining 8 cameras and deployment of a further 12 cameras in 3 FECs was delayed due to movement restrictions following the recent Ebola outbreak. Cameras in the field were recently retrieved since health and safety concerns for staff were lifted. The data is currently being processed.

Activity 1.3: Analysing the camera trapping/point counts of wildlife in order to compare wildlife populations between different habitats (spatial comparison), in particular to the NP forest baseline but also between the farmed habitats studied, and before and after cocoa restoration (temporal comparison).

The analysis of the 323 point counts (see Activity 1.2) resulted in the identification of 143 different bird species, with 28 and 92 species which have a high and medium forest dependency respectively, as defined by BirdLife International (<http://www.birdlife.org/datazone/>).

Furthermore, 1 endangered, 5 vulnerable and 4 near threatened IUCN Red-listed species were identified on points, of which 9 were observed in the GRNP, including the endangered Gola malimbe,, and 7 observed outside in FECs, including the vulnerable Yellow-casqued Hornbill (Annex 4). Bird densities by habitat were then calculated based on Distance Sampling using Distance 6.2 software. Some examples of provisional densities by habitat are found in Annex 4,

demonstrating variation in habitat use from those only found in GRNP, such as the vulnerable Green-tailed Bristlebill, to those also common around FECs, such as the near threatened Rufous-winged Illadopsis, and those generalists found only outside GRNP such as the non-threatened (least concern) Common Bulbul.

Analytical efforts are underway to represent bird communities by habitat using different indices and species groupings. Early indications are that non-forest species may be important in distinguishing between non-GRNP habitats. A power analysis is being undertaken to assess the effectiveness of different indices in detecting community changes between habitats and years. This will then inform the comparisons between cocoa plantation types. See Annex 4 for example indices.

Output 2: Understanding of the costs of human–wildlife conflicts relating to cocoa farming is enhanced, together with knowledge of methods to mitigate these conflicts.

Activity 2.1 Monitor crop raiding throughout the project in restored and non restored sites

Though the activity survey which was reported on in AR1 was indeed developed to monitor the impact of GRNP's livelihood activities which includes dedicated sections on cocoa and crop raiding, no random selection of FEC farmers were interviewed as planned because of the Ebola restrictions.

Activity 2.2 Review existing practices of HWC prevention and mitigation.

An extensive review of all available publications relating to crop raiding worldwide, especially in the context of cocoa has taken place. This not only focused on peer-reviewed publications but also on grey literature. 158 documents were collected, though only 10 specifically involved cocoa and none of these had the combination expected of detailed estimates of proportionate yield loss due to specific crop-raiding species and associated assessments of mitigation method efficacy. We therefore decided to contact a selected number of experts to seek their advice and input to ensure our review was thorough and ensures we eventually pilot the most relevant and effective mitigation measures.

This activity will be completed, as planned, by the end of Year 2, which is June 2015.

Activity 2.3 Develop a list/framework of mitigation strategies/recommendations for dealing with HWC which may be applied in the immediate surroundings of the National Park.

This is dependent on Activity 2.2 being completed and is expected to be completed as planned by Q2 of Year 3.

Activity 2.4 Analyse existing socioeconomic data and monitor selected communities throughout the project to understand attitudes.

Existing socioeconomic data from past surveys was analysed by Cambridge and Wageningen Universities who produced a report (available upon request) which will serve as a Baseline for the 30 year vision for Gola. Please note that the report was structured against the socio-economic indicators of the 30 year vision. However, these are directly linked to this project (see AR1). Respondents were asked to report their income from the sale of 16 common crop types, and any other crops that were sold by the household. Total income from crop sales is calculated as the sum of net incomes from all crops in 2013, per household. In this survey, 48% of households (391 households) report no net income from the sale of crops. The average net income from all crops in 2013 is 220,000 Leones (\$51) per household¹, with a maximum reported income of 4653,000 Leones (\$1082). The crop that produces the highest income per

¹ * For the reporting of incomes in this document the 2013 the exchange rate of Leones to US dollars was taken to be 4300 Leones = 1USD (exchange rates published by HMRC for March 2014).

household is cocoa with a mean of 265,000 Leones (\$62) per household, with a maximum income of 900,000 Leones (\$209). The high average income applies only for those households that grow cocoa. Most households (80%) do not make an income from growing cocoa and the sale of cocoa is more common in households from non-FEC villages than from FEC villages, with the highest proportion of households selling cocoa are around Gola Central. This is also the geographic focus for targeting communities within this project.

Activity 2.5 Human Wildlife Conflict mitigation tools are demonstrated in selected GRNP forest edge communities (FECs) and surrounding land owners.

This activity was not due to be carried out in this reporting period, however this activity is likely to be delayed as a result of the Ebola crisis.

Activity 2.6 Dissemination through awareness building workshops FFS

This was not due to be carried out in this reporting period, however, this activity is likely to be delayed as a result of the Ebola crisis.

Output 3 Selected communities surrounding GRNP have improved capacity, access to advice and support to improve cocoa yields and enhance livelihoods

Activity 3.1: Support thirty FECs to link with farmer field schools which support farmers with tools, advice and support to improve yields.

The rehabilitation of 500acres planned to take place in 2014 (jointly with WHH for the A4D project) could not go ahead due to the Ebola Outbreak. This activity is currently being resumed with the exact acreage to be rehabilitated being determined and what restrictions for community gatherings remain in place is being established.

Activity 3.2: Analyses existing socioeconomic data and monitor selected communities throughout the project to understand value of cocoa as source of income.

Please see Activity 2.4 above concerning the existing socioeconomic data. Obviously, due to the Ebola outbreak, the monitoring of selected communities could not take place this past year.

Activity 3.3 Advice to promote a win-win solution to livelihoods and wildlife is given to ongoing initiatives on cocoa rehabilitation and new plantations

Not applicable for this reporting period.

Activity 3.4 Multi-stakeholder workshops to enhance local capacity around cocoa cultivation and human wildlife conflict issues so best sustainable landscape practices can be created and evaluated.

This did not take place because all group gatherings were forbidden due to the Ebola crisis. However, we hope to implement this activity as soon as the health and safety concerns are lifted.

Output 4 A livelihood development and habitat connectivity strategy that integrates cocoa rehabilitation is developed and adopted by the GRNP and disseminated for selected Protected areas in Sierra Leone

Activity 4.1 Criteria and principles for selecting priority cocoa development areas to enhance connectivity are produced

Not applicable for this reporting period.

Activity 4.2 Develop a map to demonstrate where cocoa can be used in the possible mosaic linking Gola South, with Gola Centre, and Gola centre with the Transboundary corridor to enhance habitat connectivity in the agricultural landscape

Not applicable for this reporting period.

Activity 4.3 Exercise to review and update GRNP management plan to include habitat connectivity

Not applicable for this reporting period.

Activity 4.4 National conference (end of Project) targeting selected Protected Areas focusing on replication potential focusing on habitat connectivity and human wildlife mitigation issues

Not applicable for this reporting period.

Output 5 Project managed efficiently and effectively and local staff trained so that they can continue to contribute to ensuring the project legacy.

Activity 5.1: Establish project steering committee from RSPB, GRNP, CSSL and FD and WHH to meet every 6 months

The project manager visited the team in country only once since the last annual report was submitted, which makes a total of five times since the project's start to ensure efficiency and robust monitoring. The project manager could not travel to Sierra Leone due to the travelling restrictions imposed by the Ebola outbreak.

Activity 5.2: Hold project level workshop to develop monitoring and evaluation plan to establish, roles and responsibilities of partners and associated methods, tools and timetable.

The second Steering Committee Meeting did not take place since no international participants were not allowed to travel due to the Ebola outbreak and the very limited network in country (phone and internet) prevented this from happening via teleconference. We anticipate to schedule a Steering Committee shortly into this new year.

Activity 5.3: Conduct training programme for National Staff from GFP, CSSL, FD and other partners where appropriate

No training directly relevant to this project was conducted for national staff considering no group gatherings were permitted, with the exception though of Ebola and Ebola prevention meetings which were provided to all staff with support from the aid organisation GOAL.

3.2 Progress towards project outputs

Output 1: The impacts on wildlife of restoring agro forestry systems, in particular abandoned cocoa plantations, to different levels of production is assessed

There has been limited progress over the past year as a direct result of the Ebola crisis. Considering the one year no-cost extension now approved for this project, this output is anticipated to be completed and achieved by the end of next year despite the delays resulting from the epidemic outbreak.

Indicator 1: Target research sites identified by EOY1

Completed (AR1).

Indicator 2: Fieldwork completed by EOY3

No progress to report here as a result of the Ebola crisis. All camera trap related work was only partially completed due to health and safety restrictions resulting from the Ebola Outbreak. Field activities are now expected to resume in full with the crop raiding monitoring due to take place in September.

Indicator 3: Data Analysis done by EOY3

There has been good progress on the analysis of previous data as well as data collected thus far. This will be completed and achieved as planned.

Indicator 4: Mapping exercise of cocoa plantations completed year 1

See Activity 1.2. The additional surveys due to be carried out during Year 2 (AR1) could not take place due to the Ebola crisis, but these will take place this coming year and the results will add to and refine the existing maps of the cocoa plantations. Indicator 5: Similarity index for wildlife in rehabilitated plantations verses pristine habitats is measured by end of project

Not applicable for this reporting period.

Indicator 6: Peer reviewed paper submitted by EOP

Not applicable for this reporting period.

Output 2 Understanding of the costs of human–wildlife conflicts relating to cocoa farming is enhanced, together with knowledge of methods to mitigate these conflicts.

There has been limited progress over the past year as a direct result of the Ebola crisis. Considering the one year no-cost extension now approved for this project, this output is anticipated to be completed by the end of next year and achieved despite the delays resulting from the epidemic outbreak.

Indicator 1: HWC attitude survey completed by EOY1

No progress to report here as a result of the Ebola crisis.

Indicator 2: Review of existing best practice done by EOY2

As reported for Activity 2.2 above, an extensive review of all available publications relating to crop raiding and crop raiding mitigation worldwide, especially in the context of cocoa has taken place. A total of 158 documents were collected. We are currently contacting a selected number of experts to seek their advice and input to ensure our review was thorough and ensures we eventually pilot the most relevant and effective mitigation measures. This activity will be completed, as planned, by the end of Year 2, which is June 2015. This will result in a report bringing together the relevant information from international publications and expert advice which will inform crop raiding work around GRNP.

Indicator 3: Fieldwork and analysis on impact of crop raiding on cocoa completed by EOY2

No progress to report here as a result of the Ebola crisis.

Indicator 4: HWC mitigation strategy demonstrated in at least 1community by EOP

Not applicable for this reporting period.

Indicator 5: 40% of the 30 focal communities have evidence based, agreed understanding of cause and impact of HWC by EOP as compared with baseline.

No progress to report here as a result of the Ebola crisis. This is expected to be completed by the new EOP.

Indicator 6: 10 dissemination workshops held in FECs by EOP.

No progress to report here as a result of the Ebola crisis. This is expected to be completed by the new EOP.

Output 3: Selected communities surrounding GRNP have improved capacity, access to advice and support to improve cocoa yields and enhance livelihoods

There has been no progress over the past year as a direct result of the Ebola crisis. Considering the one year no-cost extension now approved for this project, this output is anticipated to be completed and achieved by the end of next year despite the delays resulting from the epidemic outbreak.

Indicator 1 140 community members enrol with Farmer field schools by earlyY2

Completed. See AR1.

Indicator 2 140 community members trained in improved techniques by EOY2

No progress to report here as a result of the Ebola crisis.

Indicator 3 Meetings held with 3 new plantations during project

No progress to report here as a result of the Ebola crisis.

Output 4: A livelihood development and habitat connectivity strategy that integrates cocoa rehabilitation is developed and adopted by the GRNP and disseminated for selected Protected areas in Sierra Leone.

Not applicable for this reporting period.

Indicator 1: Zoning map developed by year 2

The rehabilitation and connectivity zoning map will obviously not be produced until the end of the project as it relies on the full results of the cocoa biodiversity work which won't be available until the end of the project; however the cocoa plantation distribution map which is close to finalisation is a cornerstone to the zoning map to be developed here. The production of this zoning map is therefore not possible until EOP.

Indicator 2: Plans for cocoa rehabilitation incorporated into a revised GRNP management plan by the EOP

The format of the management plan to be used by GRNP has been updated and a draft management plan produced. To finalise this plan, consultative meetings will need to take place with staff and local stakeholders. We anticipate completing the GRNP management plan by the end of 2015 and integrate plans for cocoa rehabilitation once further results from this project are available. This is therefore on schedule to be completed by the revised EOP.

Indicator 3: National Workshop held and key community, government, private sector and NGO stakeholders attend year 3

No progress to report here as a result of the Ebola crisis.

Output 5: Project managed efficiently and effectively and local staff trained so that they can continue to contribute to ensuring the project legacy.

Considering the extraordinary situation of crisis, there has been fair progress over the past year since project management has been responsive and resilient to the unique circumstances. No project staff were directly affected by Ebola at the time this report was written, partly due to the measures put in place by management to ensure the health and safety of all. Local staff were trained on Ebola and Ebola prevention, though this was far removed from the core functions of any partner involved in this project. The project manager reached out to the development and aid sectors with whom all project staff have managed to forge strong relationships. However, from a more conventional stand point, one needs to recognise that there has been limited progress over the past year to deliver this project as a direct result of the Ebola crisis. Considering the one year no-cost extension now approved for this project, this output is anticipated to be completed and achieved despite the delays resulting from the epidemic outbreak.

Indicator 1: M&E plan in place by mid yr1

The Monitoring and Evaluation plan is under the umbrella of the Gola REDD Project as it lays out the vision and objectives for the next 30 years to which this project is a cornerstone. The M&E plan has been developed to clearly link the 30 year Outputs, Outcomes and Measures of the Gola REDD project whilst detailing the specifics of this project. This has resulted in an extensive document which also details how the information is being collected and analysed. This document is submitted with this report. We therefore conclude that this indicator has been met.

Indicator 2: Staff training plan in place by EOY1 and carried out where appropriate throughout project

A draft staff training needs plan was produced by the Human Resources Manager of the GRNP who produced this consultatively with local staff, yet it resulted in a skewed set of expectations which did not match with the project's needs, objectives and resources. This draft therefore proved not to be fit for purpose. The Project Manager was taking action to correct this when the Ebola epidemic broke out, at which point the extreme breadth of training necessary for day to day operations to ensure the health and safety of all project staff took priority. Also, the state of emergency has meant that no group gatherings have been allowed for the past year. As a result of all these factors, the Project Manager took the executive decision to shelf the draft staff training needs plan and instead decided to focus and strengthen on-the-job trainings. For instance, staff were provided regular briefings and information on Ebola and Ebola prevention; during this reporting period the Technical Advisor for Co-management, Livelihoods and Agriculture spent significant time with the local staff to highlight the importance of monitoring and evaluation and developed with the team activity tracking sheets (this document is submitted with this report); these will be used from now on for the project (please see Indicator 1 above). The draft training needs plan will be (re)considered on a needs basis.

Indicator 3 Steering committee established by mid yr 1 and meets regularly

The second Steering Committee Meeting did not take place because international participants were not allowed to travel due to the Ebola outbreak. The very limited network in country (phone and internet) prevented this from happening via teleconference. We anticipate to schedule a Steering Committee shortly into this new year.

Indicator 4 Financial reporting system in place by end of first month and financial expenditure remains within contractual limits

Completed (AR1). Please see the financial report for the second year of the project.

3.3 Progress towards the project Outcome

The Project's outcome statement is:

"Gola Rainforest National Park (GRNP) stakeholders are enabled to restore local cocoa plantations for the benefits of livelihoods, carbon, biodiversity and habitat connectivity.

The project will contribute to reducing poverty through supporting the re-emerging cocoa sector cocoa in 30 forest edge communities. 70 households will increase incomes by 10% as a result of improved cocoa farming.

Human wildlife conflict research will inform a land management strategy to direct cocoa restoration to areas that minimises loss of wildlife and loss of cocoa due to conflicts.

The National Cocoa Working Group will recognise the strategy and interest shown by other protected areas in country."

Though this report is the Annual Report for 2014-2015, the project has only been operating for 22 months since the start date was the 1st of July 2013 and in 2014 at least 6 months worth of field activities had to be almost fully suspended due to the Ebola crisis. However, considering (i) the very high success in the enrolment of farmers into farmer field schools, (ii) the completion of all bird counts and (iii) the biodiversity and plantation monitoring being well advanced, we remain confident that with the one year no-cost extension approved, the project is likely to achieve the purpose/outcome by the revised end date of the project. We are confident that the purpose level assumptions still hold true and that the indicators are adequate for measuring outcomes.

3.4 Monitoring of assumptions

There have been no changes in outcome and output level assumptions. However, the risk of an epidemiological outbreak such as Ebola had not been considered as a critical condition and risk to the project. The 2014-2015 Ebola outbreak was the first in West Africa and took the entire international and regional community by surprise. Hence the risk of such an epidemic repeating itself and/or scaling up again is now being considered by the management team as part of its risk assessments. However, the project is going ahead and is operating back to normal since April this year.

3.5 Impact: achievement of positive impact on biodiversity and poverty alleviation

The Impact in the project's original application form was:

"The habitat connectivity across the Upper Guinea Forest is improved in a way that is favourable to livelihoods and forest dependent wildlife.

The project will contribute to poverty alleviation efforts by improving the livelihoods of cocoa growing communities in key forest habitat connectivity areas and showing how improved cocoa farming can work alongside wildlife conservation. This will be rolled out across the landscape so that mosaic of habitats favourable to livelihoods and wildlife link all GRNP forest blocks together and to the proposed Gola National Park in Liberia."

This project is providing an important contribution to this higher goal as it provides critical information on the biodiversity that exists outside the Gola Rainforest National Park, all within one of the largest remnants of the Upper Guinea Forest biodiversity hotspot and in areas that are important for habitat connectivity (Outcome Indicator 3 and 4). Attention has for long been on the biodiversity within the National Park's boundaries whilst not considering the immediate surroundings whether it be in community forests or plantations. This project is also of high importance to poverty alleviation as it targets the poorest of the poor in one of the nations at the bottom of the human development index and aims to sustainably improve their livelihoods (see Outcome Indicator 1 and 2). Also, it addresses a long standing grievance from local communities; that forest related wildlife reduces crop production. This project is a robust illustration of conservation and development being complementary and jointly addressed.

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

The project is supporting Conventions by contributing to the following objectives and targets:

Convention on Biological Diversity

Article 5. Cooperation between Sierra Leone and UK for the benefit of an internationally recognised biodiversity hotspot and to improve local livelihoods.

Articles 7c/7d. Identifying and Monitoring HWC and bushmeat hunting dynamics in the project area.

Articles 8e/8j. In-situ Conservation by promoting environmentally sound and sustainable development in communities around GRNP and ensuring their traditional knowledge and lifestyles are a core part of development.

Article 10c. Sustainable Use of Components of Biological Diversity, in particular customary uses will be incorporated into the plans for enhancing habitat connectivity developed by the project.

Article 12 b/c. Research and Training in field work and analytical approaches for assessing ways of integrating agricultural productivity with conservation at local/landscape scales and

quantifying real/perceived extents of HWC as part of balancing wildlife conservation and sustainable use.

Article 13a. Public Education and Awareness through education programmes in the 30 target communities to raise awareness of the importance of the conservation of biological diversity.

Article 18. Technical and Scientific Cooperation between the UK (through RSPB) and Sierra Leone results in the development of policy briefings and improved capacities to implement.

Aichi Biodiversity Targets 1, 7 and 14

When travelling to Sierra Leone, the project manager normally meets with Dr Kolleh Bangura, recently appointed as the Director to the newly created National Protected Areas Authority and the CBD Focal point. No such meeting took place during the past year due to the Ebola crisis; however the project manager has had regular phone conversations with him to report on the progress of the project.

5. Project support to poverty alleviation

There is evidence that the project is working to alleviate poverty alleviation as we are specifically targeting local communities' livelihoods and income at household level. The project contributes to reducing poverty by catalysing and supporting the re-emergence of cocoa as an effective way of reducing poverty in forest-edge communities. 70 households from project communities were targeted to enrol with farmer field schools in year 1 though this was surpassed by over seven folds (see Section 3.2). These farmers are being actively engaged in modern cocoa-farming that we anticipate to increase household incomes by 10% by the end of the project.

Please see the project's outcome and the indicators to Outcome 2,3 and 4, but specifically 3, for more detail.

6. Project support to Gender equity issues

This project is not directly working to address gender equality, nor are there any direct gender equality impacts here. However, this project tackles areas of development which indirectly impact gender equality. We work directly with cocoa producers with who we integrate a gender-sensitive approach, to simultaneously be working directly with producers to increase sustainable productivity and improve quality to raise incomes through higher yields and a higher sale price. This will impact household incomes and could indirectly benefit gender equality by allowing women to access and make use of cash owned from cocoa farming. Also, supporting the development of democratic, gender-just governance systems will provide a strong foundation for inclusive business. The evidence which can be used here is the employment policy of the GRNP which favours members of forest edge communities and women (see GRNP Staff Handbook, available upon request).

7. Monitoring and evaluation

In addition to what has been already mentioned in other sections: during this past year and since the Ebola outbreak greatly impacted field activities, project staff invested particular effort in setting a strong framework for monitoring and evaluation for this project as well as for the GRNP institutionally. This resulted in the production of an activity tracking document dedicated to cocoa as well as a report analysing relevant socio-economic data previously collected which directly informs this project (see Activity 2.4).

8. Lessons learnt

A key lesson for us this year has been to make sure we keep systems in place to detect early signs of epidemiological outbreak and to have mitigation strategies and contingency plans in place as well as procedures for closing operations down and repatriating expatriate staff at very short notice. We will need to pay particular attention to the impact that the Ebola epidemic will have had on the project's communities, infrastructure, and local economies to make sure we take this into account in planning the implementation of the rest of the project to ensure we meet this project's objectives.

This past year has shown the benefits of being flexible, adaptive and creative in managing a project in a country in crisis. We have had to rapidly react and instate protocols and restrictions, but have crucially been successful in maintaining the project framework supporting and retaining staff, ensuring confidence in the project and in management whether it be with project staff but also with local communities.

The next quarter will be particularly important in assessing the wider impacts of the Ebola outbreak on the project. Fortunately the project manager will be able to visit the project more often in the coming year (as he is also managing the RSPB's tropical forest work in Sierra Leone for which he has to visit five to six times a year, health and safety conditions allowing), therefore he will be able to give the project staff even more support to ensure the project progresses as quickly as possible.

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

The previous review mentioned the need to strengthen the monitoring and evaluation of the project which is to fall under the Gola REDD Project. Despite the crisis situation in the country, project staff have increased their effort in monitoring and evaluation during this past year as can be illustrated (see Section 7 above). As suggested, the capacity of local staff on M&E was strengthened through on the job training with the Technical Advisor for Co-management, Livelihoods and Agriculture.

10. Other comments on progress not covered elsewhere

The Ebola outbreak which began in Guinea (backdated to December 2013 following epidemiological studies) which subsequently spread to Liberia and Sierra Leone resulted in over 10,000 deaths to date. Despite support from the international community and DFID in particular, there are still new cases of Ebola being confirmed in Sierra Leone every week. The entire project team is in permanent contact with local authorities and health organisations, including with international bodies and epidemiologists. A series of measures were and still are put in place, including no go areas and a health and safety briefings to all field staff.

The entire project team remains extremely vigilant and is now better prepared.

11. Sustainability and legacy

Profiling the project this year in country has not been possible considering the Ebola crisis.

The project aims to reach a sustainable end point. The project builds upon, and links closely to, components of the GRNP, an ongoing programme that is close to securing its future sustainability (through an established trust fund and upcoming carbon revenues, see www.golarainforest.org). The project targets issues that are important to the success of the wider GRNP. Project actions are in the interest of GRNP, specifically the improvement of the delivery of its commitments to support livelihoods and the reduction of tension and hostility towards the aims of GRNP resulting from human wildlife conflict.

The sustainability of project actions is being ensured by engaging communities with established agricultural support structures, building their capacity and linking them with reputable traders.

The A4D and carbon projects will go beyond this project and will take cocoa through to the international markets with certification.

Research findings, mapping exercises and workshops will contribute to producing a habitat connectivity and livelihoods strategy for GRNP. This will be supported by the training of GRNP staff to support communities and implement habitat connectivity post-project.

12. Darwin Identity

The Darwin Initiative logo was used on the Gola Rainforest National Park website (www.golarainforest.org). The Darwin Initiative's support was repeatedly communicated by the Project Manager at Ebola Working Groups Meetings. The Project Manager was invited to sit on a number of Ebola Task Forces coordinated by BOND to help and assist DFID with the international response to the Ebola Outbreak in Sierra Leone. The project manager has used those bi-monthly meetings to engage with development aid organisations and DFID to profile the project and demonstrate that our project is at the nexus between development and conservation.

The larger programme, Gola REDD was profiled at the World Parks Congress 2014 during a 'Lightning talk' and an e-poster. It is worth flagging though the extremely strict and restrictive format required by the organisers.

Also, we have had an abstract accepted (which will profile the Darwin Initiative) for the 27th International Congress for Conservation Biology and the 4th European Congress for Conservation Biology due to take place in August 2015, Montpellier, France. Mark Hulme will attend and present a poster. The abstract is entitled 'Can cocoa improve conservation outcomes? Assessing the avian diversity of a tropical forest / agriculture landscape in West Africa'.

Finally, the Darwin Initiative's support was clearly recognised in an article submitted to the World Forestry Congress. This event is due to take place in September 2015 and the project manager is waiting to hear from the organisers about the outcome of our potential representation at this event.

13. Project Expenditure

Table 1 Project expenditure during the reporting period (1 April 2014 – 31 March 2015)

Project spend (indicative) since last annual report	2014/15 Grant (£)	2014/15 Total Darwin Costs (£)	Variance %	Comments (please explain significant variances)
Staff costs (see below)				
Consultancy costs				
Overhead Costs				
Travel and subsistence				As a result of the Ebola Outbreak, part of the rational for no-cost extension request
Operating Costs				As a result of the Ebola Outbreak, part of the rational for no-cost extension request
Capital items (see below)				

Others (see below)				
TOTAL	54,370.00	53,616.12		

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

I agree for 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)

The outstanding achievement for the past year considering the Ebola crisis has been to ensure the health and safety of all our staff. Considering that over 10,000 people (to date) have died of this virus and that Kenema where the GRNP office is was at some stage the epicentre of the outbreak, it is with great relief that we can report that no staff was victim of the outbreak. This is partly due to the measures put in place for health and safety, as well as the trainings, procedures and policies which were implemented. Also, I hereby want to recognise the great resilience and dedication of all the project staff during this outbreak. I also wish to thank the flexibility and understanding of the Darwin Initiative considering the extra-ordinary circumstances we faced.

Annex 1: Report of progress and achievements against Logical Framework for Financial Year 2014-2015

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2014 - March 2015	Actions required/planned for next period
<p>Impact</p> <p>The habitat connectivity across the Upper Guinea Forest is improved in a way that is favourable to livelihoods and forest dependent wildlife.</p>		n/a	
<p>Outcome</p> <p>Gola Rainforest National Park (GRNP) stakeholders are enabled to restore local cocoa plantations for the benefits of livelihoods, carbon, biodiversity and habitat connectivity.</p> <p>The project will contribute to reducing poverty through supporting the re-emerging cocoa sector cocoa in 30 forest edge communities. 70 households will increase incomes by 10% as a result of improved cocoa farming.</p> <p>Human wildlife conflict research will inform a land management strategy to direct cocoa restoration to areas that minimises loss of wildlife and loss of cocoa due to conflicts.</p> <p>The National Cocoa Working Group will recognised the strategy and interest shown by other protected areas in country.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. At least 40% of the 180 households (450 people) from the 30 project communities that enrolled with farmer field schools and farmer field schools are still actively engaged in them by the EOP 2. 10% increase in incomes from rehabilitated cocoa for 70 households by EOP. 3. The strategy to secure GRNP's habitat connectivity is implemented as part of the GRNP's Annual Operations Plan by EOP. 4. The GRNP's approach to restore local cocoa plantations for the dual benefit of livelihoods and biodiversity is recognised by the National Cocoa working group 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 1085 farmers have enrolled in 45 farmer field schools, reaching out to an estimated 2000 households. 	

<p>Output 1.</p> <p>Output 1. (insert original outputs with activities relevant to that outputs in lines below. Activities relevant to more than one output should be cross-referenced rather than repeated)</p> <p>The impacts on wildlife of restoring agro forestry systems, in particular abandoned cocoa plantations, to different levels of production is assessed</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Target research sites identified by EOY1 2. Fieldwork completed by EOY3 3. Data Analysis done by EOY3 4. Mapping exercise of cocoa plantations completed year 1 5. Similarity index for wildlife in rehabilitated plantations verses pristine habitats is measured by end of project 6. Peer reviewed paper submitted by EOP 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Study site selection completed by EOY1. 2. First point count visits conducted by EOY1 3. Initial data analysis underway in year 2 to assess species densities and bird community composition from year 1 data 4. Mapping of cocoa for point counts in study sites completed by EOY1 5. Initial data analysis underway in year 2 to assess species densities and bird community composition from year 1 data 6. Planned for EOP
<p>Activity 1.1 Mapping exercise to assess the extent of abandoned cocoa plantations</p>	<p>Mapping of active and abandoned cocoa for point counts in study sites completed by EOY1. Additional mapping likely to be carried out in year 3 as habitat management changes to map sites are required</p>	
<p>Activity 1.2 Camera trapping/point counts of wildlife (mammals/birds) to survey resident and transient wildlife in habitats surrounding GRNP, including restored and abandoned plantations, and within GRNP to compare wildlife populations to the NP forest baseline. This would include measuring changes in wildlife following cocoa restoration.</p>	<p>First point count visits conducted by EOY1. Additional points will be carried out in year 3 to add to sample size of habitats currently less-well represented in dataset.</p> <p>14 camera traps deployed and retrieved in year 1. Retrieval of the remaining 8 cameras was delayed due to movement restrictions following the recent Ebola outbreak, but retrieved when field activities resumed. Deployment of a further 12 cameras in 3 FECs delayed.</p> <p>Further camera trap deployments and bird points are planned this year in FECs in other chiefdoms to add to the sample of abandoned plantations and points will be visited for follow-up surveys after that. Field work will focus particularly on assessing wildlife crop raiding.</p>	
<p>Activity 1.3 Analysing the camera trapping/point counts of wildlife in order to compare wildlife populations between different habitats (spatial comparison), in particular to the NP forest baseline but also between the farmed habitats studied, and before and after cocoa restoration (temporal comparison).</p>	<p>Initial data analysis underway in year 2 to assess species densities and bird community composition from year 1 data</p> <p>Camera trap data currently being processed</p>	
<p>Output 2.</p> <p>Understanding of the costs of human-wildlife conflicts relating to cocoa farming is enhanced,</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. HWC attitude survey completed by EOY1 2. Review of existing best practice 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Literature review of crop raiding activities combined with expert advice is underway and will result in a report by the end of June 2015.

together with knowledge of methods to mitigate these conflicts.	<p>done by EOY2</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Fieldwork and analysis on impact of crop raiding on cocoa completed by EOY2 4. HWC mitigation strategy demonstrated in at least 1 community by EOP 5. 40% of the 30 focal communities have evidence based, agreed understanding of cause and impact of HWC by EOP as compared with baseline. 6. 10 dissemination workshops held in FECs by EOP. 	<p>3. Crop raiding fieldwork delayed to year 3 due to Ebola outbreak</p> <p>During the next reporting period, we plan to recover delays caused by the Ebola outbreak as much as possible.</p>
Activity 2.1. Monitor crop raiding throughout the project in restored and non restored sites		Fieldwork delayed due to Ebola outbreak and is planned to take place this upcoming period.
Activity 2.2. Review existing practices of HWC prevention and mitigation.		Literature review of crop raiding activities combined with expert advice is underway and will result in a report by the end of June 2015.
Activity 2.3. Develop a list/framework of mitigation strategies/recommendations for dealing with HWC which may be applied in the immediate surroundings of the National Park.		For the next reporting period, we plan to recover delays caused by the Ebola outbreak as much as possible.
Activity 2.4. Analyse existing socioeconomic data and monitor selected communities throughout the project to understand attitudes		Though some data has already been analysed, we plan to recover delays caused by the Ebola outbreak as much as possible.
Activity 2.5. Human Wildlife Conflict mitigation tools are demonstrated in selected GRNP forest edge communities (FECs) and surrounding land owners		For the upcoming period, we plan to recover delays caused by the Ebola outbreak as much as possible.
Activity 2.6. Dissemination through awareness building workshops FFS		For the upcoming period, we plan to recover delays caused by the Ebola outbreak as much as possible.
<p>Output 3.</p> <p>Selected communities surrounding GRNP have improved capacity, access to advice and support to improve cocoa yields and enhance livelihoods</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 140 community members enrol with Farmer field schools by early Y2 2. 140 community members trained in improved techniques by EOY2 3. Meetings held with 3 new 	

	plantations during project	
Activity 3.1. Support thirty FECs to link with farmer field schools which support farmers with tools, advice and support to improve yields.		For the upcoming period, we plan to recover delays caused by the Ebola outbreak as much as possible.
Activity 3.2. Analyse existing socioeconomic data and monitor selected communities throughout the project to understand value of cocoa as source of income		For the upcoming period, we plan to recover delays caused by the Ebola outbreak as much as possible.
Activity 3.3. Advice to promote a win-win solutions to livelihoods and wildlife is given to ongoing initiatives on cocoa rehabilitation and new plantations		For the upcoming period, we plan to recover delays caused by the Ebola outbreak as much as possible.
Activity 3.4. Multi-stakeholder workshops to enhance local capacity around cocoa cultivation and human wildlife conflict issues so best sustainable landscape practices can be created and evaluated		For the upcoming period, we plan to recover delays caused by the Ebola outbreak as much as possible.
Output 4 A livelihood development and habitat connectivity strategy that integrates cocoa rehabilitation is developed and adopted by the GRNP and disseminated for selected Protected areas in Sierra Leone.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Zoning map developed by year 2 2. Plans for cocoa rehabilitation incorporated into a revised GRNP management plan by the EOP 3. National Workshop held and key community, government, private sector and NGO stakeholders attend year 3 	
Activity 4.1. Criteria and principles for selecting priority cocoa development areas to enhance connectivity are produced		For the upcoming period, we plan to recover delays caused by the Ebola outbreak as much as possible.
Activity 4.2. Develop a map to demonstrate where cocoa can be used in the possible mosaic linking Gola South, with Gola Centre, and Gola centre with the Transboundary corridor to enhance habitat connectivity in the agricultural landscape		n/a
Activity 4.3. Exercise to review and update GRNP management plan to include habitat connectivity		n/a
Activity 4.4. National conference (end of Project) targeting selected Protected Areas focusing on replication potential focusing on habitat connectivity and human wildlife mitigation issues		n/a

<p>Output 5. Project managed efficiently and effectively and local staff trained so that they can continue to contribute to ensuring the project legacy.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. M&E plan in place by mid yr1 2. Staff training plan in place by EOY1 and carried out where appropriate throughout project 3. Steering committee established by mid yr 1 and meets regularly 4. Financial reporting system in place by end of first month and financial expenditure remains with contractual limits 	
<p>Activity 5.1. Establish project steering committee from RSPB, GRNP, CSSL and FD and WHH to meet every 6 months.</p>		<p>For the upcoming period, we plan to recover delays caused by the Ebola outbreak as much as possible.</p>
<p>Activity 5.2. Hold project level workshop to develop monitoring and evaluation plan to establish, roles and responsibilities of partners and associated methods, tools and timetable.</p>		<p>For the upcoming period, we plan to recover delays caused by the Ebola outbreak as much as possible.</p>
<p>Activity 5.3. Conduct training programme for National Staff from GRNP, CSSL, FD and other partners where appropriate</p>		<p>For the upcoming period, we plan to recover delays caused by the Ebola outbreak as much as possible.</p>

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>Outcome:</p> <p>Gola Rainforest National Park (GRNP) stakeholders are enabled to restore local cocoa plantations for the benefits of livelihoods, carbon, biodiversity and habitat connectivity.</p>			
<p>Outputs:</p> <p>1. The impacts on wildlife of restoring agro forestry systems, in particular abandoned cocoa plantations, to different levels of production is assessed</p>	<p>1a. Target research sites identified by EOY1</p> <p>1b. Fieldwork completed by EOY3</p> <p>1c. Data Analysis done by EOY3</p> <p>1d. Mapping exercise of cocoa plantations completed year 1</p> <p>1e. Similarity index for wildlife in rehabilitated plantations verses pristine habitats is measured by end of project</p> <p>1f. Peer reviewed paper submitted by EOP</p>	<p>Indicator 1. Research site selection report.</p> <p>Indicator2. Field work summary reports</p> <p>Indicator3. Peer reviewed articles submitted.</p> <p>Indicator4. Presentations & Posters at international arena (e.g. World Parks Congress 2014)</p> <p>Indicator5. HWC mitigation best practice review report</p> <p>Indicator6. Community attitude survey baseline, monitoring and end line reports</p>	<p>1. Local communities and staff are receptive to the training and capacity-building we offer.</p> <p>2. The global market for cocoa does not collapse unexpectedly.</p> <p>3. WHH are successful in their A4D funding bid.</p>
<p>2. Understanding of the costs of human-wildlife conflicts relating to cocoa farming is enhanced, together with knowledge of methods to mitigate these conflicts.</p>	<p>2a. HWC attitude survey completed by EOY1</p> <p>2b. Review of existing best practice done by EOY2</p> <p>2c. Fieldwork and analysis on impact of crop raiding on cocoa completed by EOY2</p> <p>2d. HWC mitigation strategy demonstrated in at least 1community by</p>	<p>Indicator7. 10 forest edge community road shows including HWC awareness</p> <p>Indicator8. 20 radio talk shows including HWC awareness</p> <p>Indicator9. Forest edge community Workshop reports and feedback.</p> <p>Indicator10. Cocoa plantation</p>	

	<p>EOP</p> <p>2e. 40% of the 30 focal communities have evidence based, agreed understanding of cause and impact of HWC by EOP as compared with baseline.</p> <p>2f. 10 dissemination workshops held in FECs by EOP.</p>	<p>distribution Map</p> <p>Indicator11. Rehabilitation and connectivity Zoning Map</p> <p>Indicator12. Revised Management plan</p> <p>Indicator13. National workshop report and attendance list.</p> <p>Indicator14. The GRNP through the National Protected Area Authority has disseminated report to selected Protected Areas in Sierra Leone.</p>	
<p>3. Selected communities surrounding GRNP have improved capacity, access to advice and support to improve cocoa yields and enhance livelihoods</p>	<p>3.a 140 community members enrol with Farmer field schools by earlyY2</p> <p>3b. 140 community members trained in improved techniques by EOY2</p> <p>3c. Meetings held with 3 new plantations during project</p>	<p>Indicator15. M&E monitoring reports</p> <p>Indicator16. Revised Log frame where appropriate</p> <p>Indicator17. Training plan document</p>	
<p>4. A livelihood development and habitat connectivity strategy that integrates cocoa rehabilitation is developed and adopted by the GRNP and disseminated for selected Protected areas in Sierra Leone.</p>	<p>4a. Zoning map developed by year 2</p> <p>4b. Plans for cocoa rehabilitation incorporated into a revised GRNP management plan by the EOP</p> <p>4c. National Workshop held and key community, government, private sector and NGO stakeholders attend year 3</p>	<p>Indicator18. Training session reports and content</p> <p>Indicator 19. Steering group TOR and minutes.</p> <p>Indicator20. Financial guidance document and quarterly financial reports</p>	
<p>5. Project managed efficiently and effectively and local staff trained so that they can continue to contribute to ensuring the project legacy.</p>	<p>5a. M&E plan in place by mid yr1</p> <p>5b. Staff training plan in place by EOY1 and carried out where appropriate throughout project</p> <p>5c. Steering committee established by mid yr 1 and meets regularly</p> <p>5d. Financial reporting system in place by end of first month and financial expenditure remains with contractual limits</p>		

Activities

- 1.1. Mapping exercise to assess the extent of abandoned cocoa plantations.
- 1.2. Camera trapping/point counts of wildlife (mammals/birds) to survey resident and transient wildlife in habitats surrounding GRNP, including restored and abandoned plantations, and within GRNP to compare wildlife populations to the NP forest baseline. This would include measuring changes in wildlife following cocoa restoration.
- 1.3. Analysing the camera trapping/point counts of wildlife in order to compare wildlife populations between different habitats (spatial comparison), in particular to the NP forest baseline but also between the farmed habitats studied, and before and after cocoa restoration (temporal comparison).
- 2.1 Monitor crop raiding throughout the project in restored and non restored sites
- 2.2 Review existing practices of HWC prevention and mitigation
- 2.3 Develop a list/framework of mitigation strategies/recommendations for dealing with HWC which may be applied in the immediate surroundings of the National Park.
- 2.4 Analyse existing socioeconomic data and monitor selected communities throughout the project to understand attitudes.
- 2.5 Human Wildlife Conflict mitigation tools are demonstrated in selected GRNP forest edge communities (FECs) and surrounding land owners.
- 2.6 Dissemination through awareness building workshops FFS
- 3.1 Support thirty FECs to link with farmer field schools which support farmers with tools, advice and support to improve yields.
- 3.2 Analyse existing socioeconomic data and monitor selected communities throughout the project to understand value of cocoa as source of income.
- 3.3 Advice to promote a win-win solutions to livelihoods and wildlife is given to ongoing initiatives on cocoa rehabilitation and new plantations
- 3.4 Multi-stakeholder workshops to enhance local capacity around cocoa cultivation and human wildlife conflict issues so best sustainable landscape practices can be created and evaluated.
- 4.1 Criteria and principles for selecting priority cocoa development areas to enhance connectivity are produced
- 4.2 Develop a map to demonstrate where cocoa can be used in the possible mosaic linking Gola South, with Gola Centre, and Gola centre with the Transboundary corridor to enhance habitat connectivity in the agricultural landscape
- 4.3 Exercise to review and update GRNP management plan to include habitat connectivity
- 4.4 National conference (end of Project) targeting selected Protected Areas focusing on replication potential focusing on habitat connectivity and human wildlife mitigation issues
- 5.1 Establish project steering committee from RSPB, GRNP, CSSL and FD and WHH to meet every 6 months.
- 5.2 Hold project level workshop to develop monitoring and evaluation plan to establish, roles and responsibilities of partners and associated methods, tools and timetable.
- 5.3 Conduct training programme for National Staff from GFP, CSSL, FD and other partners where appropriate.

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								
5	Farmer Field Schools	45	45				30	30
5	Community members enrolled to Farmer Field Schools	1085	1085				140	140
5	Cocoa Extension Officers (Sierra Leoneans)	4	4				4	4
5	Research Technicians monitoring cocoa plantations and crop raiding (Sierra Leoneans)	1-2	1-2				1-2	
8	Mark Hulme spends half his time in Sierra Leone and half in the UK (#weeks)	19					20	84
	Steering Committee TOR and minutes	1	0				2	5
	Community attitude survey baseline, monitoring and end line reports	1					1	1
	Financial guidance document and quarterly financial reports	3	4				4	12
23	Co-funding from the A4D project							

Table 2 Publications

Title	Type (e.g. journals, manual, CDs)	Detail (authors, year)	Gender of Lead Author	Nationality of Lead Author	Publishers (name, city)	Available from (e.g. website link or publisher)