

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 no more than 10 pages in length, excluding annexes

Submission Deadline: 30 April

Darwin Project Information

Project Reference	22-017
Project Title	Mutually supportive implementation of the Nagoya Protocol and Plant Treaty
Host Country/ies	Madagascar and Benin
Contract Holder Institution	Bioversity International
Partner institutions	ABS Capacity Development Initiative; Service d'Appui à la Gestion de l'Environnement (SAGE) (Madagascar); Ministry of Agriculture (MinAgri) (Madagascar); ONG Cercle de Sauvegarde des Ressources Naturelles (CeSaReN) (Benin); Institut National des Recherches Agricoles du Benin (INRAB); Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity; ITPGRFA Secretariat, Food and Agricultural Organisation of the United Nations (FAO); African Union Commission
Darwin Grant Value	£ 290,502
Funder (DFID/Defra)	DFID
Start/end dates of project	1 April 2015 – 31 March 2018
Reporting period (e.g., Apr 2015 – Mar 2016) and number (e.g., Annual Report 1, 2, 3)	1 April 2015 to 31 March 2016, Annual Report 1
Project Leader name	Michael Halewood
Project website	http://bit.ly/DarwinInitiative
Report author(s) and date	Michael Halewood, Ana Bedmar, Andreas Drews, Lena Fey, Naritiana Rakotoniaina, Michelle Andriamahazo, Bienvenu Bossou, Toussaint Mikpon, Kathryn Garforth, Kent Nnadozie, Mahlet Teshome Kebede 30 April 2016

1. Project Rationale

Biodiversity challenge: Biodiversity is often treated like a global public good—free to exploit without reciprocal obligations to conserve. Local biodiversity stewards often go unnoticed; their contributions overlooked as positive externalities. This neglect contributes to biodiversity's erosion. Madagascar and Benin have ratified the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources (ITPGRFA) and Nagoya Protocol (NP). Neither country has mechanisms to implement either agreement separately, much less in a mutually supportive manner.

Poverty alleviation challenge: Local communities' capacity to exploit these agreements is low in both countries, so their contributions to poverty-alleviation, benefit-sharing, conservation and sustainable use are sub-optimal.

How problems were identified: All partners identified problems together at a workshop in June 2014 entitled 'The International Treaty and the NP – a tandem workshop for National Focal Points'.

2. Project Partnerships

This project is ambitious in scope, so it is important to develop highly efficient common approaches that are clearly understood by all the partners. Consequently, all major project partners are members of the project's Expert Guidance Committee (EGC). It includes the National ITPGRFA and the NP Focal Points from Madagascar and Benin, and representatives from the CBD and ITPGRFA Secretariats, the African Union Commission, the ABS Capacity Development Initiative and Bioversity International. The EGC met four times during Year 1 to make plans, develop common methods, and discuss progress: in Benin, May 2015; Madagascar, July 2015, and Ethiopia, November 2015 and April 2016.

Bioversity International sourced financial support from another project (GRPI 2 project) for: i) additional workshops coordinated by national partners to raise awareness about ITPGRFA, ii) to support the four national partners attending a four-day 'Workshop to develop a decision-making tool for developing national policies to implement the multilateral system of ABS' in Rome, June 2015; and iii) a five-day workshop entitled "Embedding mutually supportive implementation of the Plant Treaty and the NP in the context of broader national policy goals – A workshop for national teams of policy actors" in Ethiopia, in November 2015.

The ABS Capacity Development Initiative co-organised a community-to-community exchange workshop and capacity building for traditional knowledge in India, September 2015, with participants from Benin and Madagascar attending. The ABS Capacity Development Initiative has also supported a range of activities in both Madagascar and Benin focussing on the NP. These activities are a source of lessons learned and information and enhanced capacity upon which this project is able to capitalize and build.

The Secretariat of the CBD also leveraged funding from the Japan Biodiversity Fund to support the participation of a representative of the Secretariat in the work of the EGC.

3. Project Progress

3.1 Progress in carrying out project activities

Here, we report against activities scheduled during project first year.

Activity 1.1 Form national project oversight committees, drawing on existing mechanisms, or created de novo, including representatives of farmer, local community, civil society, private sector organisations, ensuring equitable representation of women and men.

At its first meeting, the EGC consensually changed the name of the "National Project Steering Committees" to "National Project Implementation Committees" (as used hereafter).

As a result of the project, National Project Implementation Committees (NPICs) have been formed in both countries, representing all relevant stakeholder groups. In both countries, the NPIC is currently being co-chaired by the National Focal Points of the NP and ITPGRFA, as planned. In Madagascar, the NPIC has been created by merging two existing separate committees that were formed to lead implementation of each agreement separately. In Benin, an ABS National Committee was created to address the implementation of the CBD and later, the NP.

With the Darwin Project, the leading agencies decided to expand the mandate of the Committee to explicitly include implementation of the ITPGRFA, and added a range of new members to the committee to reflect that expanded mandate including plant breeders, and farmers and producer organizations from communities. Consultations between the Institut National des Recherches Agricoles du Bénin (INRAB), and the Direction Générale des Forêts et des Ressources Naturelles resulted in an agreement on the essential contents and the establishment of the NPIC. A formal INRAB Decision¹ defining the duration, duties, composition and operation of the Darwin NPIC is included in Annex 4.1 to this report.

Activity 1.2 Project steering committee coordinates and oversees project supported research and capacity building and policy development activities.

The NPICs of both countries have met regularly to assess the status of the implementation of the project. Main tasks undertaken by these committees during this first year of the project include developing the detailed action plan for the implementation of the project based on the project implementation logframe; establishing the terms of reference for the consultants in charge of conducting the baseline survey; and validating the baseline surveys (see Output 5).

Activity 2.1. Steering committees identify implementation options based on baseline survey, expert knowledge, stakeholder consultations.

Based on the results of the baseline surveys, expert consultations and outcomes of other related projects in the country (including those supported by the ABS Initiative to which links are made through the EGC) the teams from Madagascar and Benin developed road maps of the legal and policy instruments that need to be developed for mutually supportive national level implementation of the ITPGRFA and the NP in their respective countries. Benin will develop unified, 'one window' system for the implementation of both agreements together, an approach which requires the lead agencies responsible for the implementation of the two agreements to work together to develop a common overall policy framework for both. In Madagascar, the lead agencies will develop separate systems for implementation of the two agreements, but with clearly defined boundaries between the two and coordination mechanisms, where necessary, to address 'boundary issues' that could arise in the day-to-day implementation of the system. A comparative summary of these approaches are set out in Annex 4.2 to this report.

Activity 4.1 Identify a lead organization in each of the 4 communities across the two countries for in-depth project research, capacity building.

The lead organization in each of the communities of Benin and Madagascar has been identified. In Benin, the lead organizations are local biodiversity management committees: the "Comité de gestion des forêts sacrées de Bonou" (13 members), and a newly established committee (eight members) in Tori Bosito, which is supported by Jeunesse Sans Frontière (NGO active in agricultural production and medicinal plants). The lead organizations in the communities of Madagascar are "VOI Firaisan-Kina", a local community-based organization dealing with forest management, in Antavolobe, and "Santatra", a local farmer seed group, in Analavory.

Activity 4.2 Conduct initial awareness raising and capacity strengthening workshops (including 'capacity strengthening for capacity strengtheners'), Co-organised with national competent authorities. Workshops to ensure equitable representation of women and men, proactively promoting participation of women's organisations.

The project organized/sponsored awareness-raising workshops in both countries to boost ITPGRFA awareness and enhance related technical expertise of a few key actors helping implement both agreements. Workshop participants included researchers from the national agricultural research institutes, university researchers and students, women leaders, and representatives from extension services, local NGOs, the private sector, farmers' associations, local community based organizations, and local authorities. In both countries, the event was covered by local media. In Madagascar, a national workshop was held in November 2015, with 130 participants (80 men and 50 women), including representatives from central government and the 22 regions of Madagascar. In Benin, a national awareness-raising workshop was conducted and attended by 39 men and 13 women. Five additional department-level

¹ Decision No. 0798 / INRAB / DG / DS / DAHR / DRF / CRA-Sud / SA of 03/07/2016

workshops were organized by the National Agricultural Research Institute of Benin, with support of Bioversity-Benin and the NGO CeSaReN in December 2015 and attended by 43 women and 175 men.

Additional local-level awareness-raising and training workshops were held in both countries. In Madagascar, two awareness-raising workshops were organized for small groups in the two project sites in November 2015. Twenty people were trained on biodiversity assessment in Antavolobe in preparation for the baseline study. In Benin, four ITPGRFA and NP awareness-raising workshops for local communities were held in Bonou.

The ABS Capacity Development Initiative, as part of another project, supported local-level workshops in Bonou (one of the four sites) to raise awareness on biocultural community protocols (BCPs) (~ 200 people participated); and biodiversity registration (60 participants) focussing mainly on wild forest genetic resources. This Darwin Funded project provided resources (experts, additional workshop time) to increase the scope of the exercises to include farmers, representatives from national agricultural research organizations and crop, forage and agroforestry genetic resources. Bioversity also worked with the partners from Benin and Madagascar to organize an additional (beyond what was proposed in this Darwin project) workshop on resilient seed systems and adaptation to climate change in Tori Bosito, Benin, in December 2015. Its objectives were to enhance the capacities of national partners and communities to identify useful and potentially adaptable genetic resources for climate change adaptation from other potential sources both inside and outside of Benin and Madagascar. Twenty participants, 12 from Benin and eight from Madagascar were trained. This additional workshop was supported through available funds from the Netherlands-supported GRPI 2 project. More details about all of these activities are available on the project website at [<http://bit.ly/DarwinInitiative>].

Activity 5.1 The national steering committees develop terms of reference for the baseline surveys and engage research teams, including equitable representation of women and men.

Both country NPICs reviewed and adapted terms of reference for the baseline studies. They also coordinated individual researchers and surveyors to do the survey.

Activity 5.2 Researchers appointed by the steering committee complete baseline survey and synthesis. Present to stakeholders at workshops for feedback and revisions.

Baseline studies of both countries were finalised. Main findings were presented during national and local workshops. The baseline surveys are included in Annexes 4.3 and 4.4 of this report. An (in-kind) contribution to the baseline surveys was made by the ABS Initiative, which conducted country diagnostic missions on the status quo of ABS in both countries in the context of its current programme of work.

Activity 5.3 Publish synthesis on line and ‘spin off’ policy briefs related to policy options and processes that need to be followed to put systems in place in each country.

The ‘spin off’ policy briefs are drafted, laid out and included in Annexes 4.5 and 4.6 of this report. They will be published on the project website and partner websites within one week of the submission of this report.

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3.2 Progress towards project outputs

OUTPUT 1: New national interagency access and benefit-sharing policy coordinating committee in Benin and Madagascar established, instigating and reviewing research, capacity building and policy development and implementation activities.			
	Baseline	Change recorded by 2016	Source of evidence
Indicator 1.1: Within 6 months, representatives of lead agencies and other stakeholder groups agree concerning membership, modus operandi for each national project steering committee (SC) (in Benin and Madagascar) & its relationship to other in-country coordination mechanisms.	Neither country had a NPIC in place (see Activity 1.1, Section 3.1). Benin had a committee for implementation of Nagoya, but not the ITPGRFA. Madagascar had two separate committees: one for Nagoya, and one for the ITPGRFA.	NPICs have been formed in both countries for coordination of implementation of both agreements. The members are appointed, and they have adopted terms of reference for their activities vis-à-vis the project.	Annex 4.1: Decision No. 0798 / INRAB / DG / DS / DAHR / DRF / CRA-Sud / SA of 03/07/2016)
Indicator 1.2: Within 8 months, 2 working papers (one each in Benin & Madagascar) outlining portfolio of legislation, policies & guidelines and complementary research and capacity building activities which need to be developed over life of project endorsed by SCs.	Neither country had identified or developed the full set of policy and legal instruments that are necessary for mutually supportive implementation of the ITPGRFA and the NP at the national level.	A road map has been produced for Benin & Madagascar for coming year, specifying policy & legal instruments to be developed in the frame of the project (see Activity 2.1, Section 3.1).	Annex 4.2: White paper: Combined roadmap from Benin and Madagascar.
Indicator 1.3: SC meeting organized in Benin and Madagascar every 4 months to guide project implementation & associated minutes disseminated to stakeholders.	Neither country had a NPIC in place.	The NPICs of both countries have met regularly to assess the status of the implementation of the project and meetings minutes were distributed.	Minutes of the meetings available upon request.
Indicator 1.4: Confirmation by end of project by competent national authorities responsible for implementation of CBD/NP and ITPGRFA that coordination activities as supported by SC during project will be sustainably continued after project end.	No established mechanisms facilitating collaboration between national authorities responsible for implementing CBD/NP & ITPGRFA.	Early stage piloting experience of NPICs, bringing together lead agencies and stakeholder previously working separately on implementation of the ITPGRFA and NP. Demonstrated interest and positive political will from national policy makers in both countries.	NPIC minutes available upon request. Articles in the press covering the official launch of the project in Benin and Madagascar can be found on the project website at http://bit.ly/DarwinInitiative .

OUTPUT 2: Draft policies, guidelines, orders, legislation, to implement both CBD/NP & ITPGRFA including provisions recognising role of local communities as biological diversity stewards with attendant interests and rights. Mechanisms to promote mutual support in daily administration of those systems.			
	Baseline	Change recorded by 2016	Source of evidence
Indicator 2.1: In years 1, 2 and 3, local and national level consultation meetings are held in Benin and Madagascar, regarding implementation options and policies under development, with equitable representation of women and men, local peoples and farmer organisations.	Some draft juridical instruments re ITPGRFA in Madagascar since 2009. Recently rejected. Also earlier draft ABS law that was not successful.	National-level and community level consultation meetings have taken place in both countries for developing the baseline surveys and policy and legal instrument roadmaps.	Annexes 4.2, 4.3, and 4.4 of this report: Base line surveys and policy and legal instrument road maps.
Indicator 2.2: Expert drafting committee (EDC), including experts from local community and women's organisations, selected by national project SC, with ToR developed by the committee in consultation with Bioversity International and ABS Initiative.		Due in Year 2. Some more details in Annex 1 re work in Year 1.	
Indicator 2.3: 2 White Papers (1 each in Benin and Madagascar) outlining options with annexed drafts of policies, laws, guidelines developed by 18 months, drafted by EDC and submitted to SCs, and subsequently shared in national level consultations. Revised policies approved by SCs introduced into formal national decision-making processes by end of year 3.		Due in Year 2. Some more details in Annex 1 re work in Year 1.	
Indicator 2.4: Interagency guidelines for addressing uncertainties about which agreements applies under different situations, promoting efficient, proactive cooperation between functionaries implementing the CBD/NP and ITPGRFA. Guidelines will be submitted in year 2.5 by the SC to the competent national authorities for the implementation of the CBD/NP and ITPGRFA.		Due in Year 3. Some more details in Annex 1 re work in Year 1.	

OUTPUT 3: Critical mass of national actors in each country trained to implement, & operate under, the international regime on access and benefit sharing.			
	Baseline	Change recorded by 2016	Source of evidence
Indicator 3.1: By 18 months, list confirmed in Benin and Madagascar of public offices, officers, and other stakeholders that will be involved in the daily implementation of the ABS measure to be implemented, including 'outreach' officers who will be needed to help stakeholders operate under the systems created.	No such list compiled	In Madagascar national partners have just started to work on identifying potential partners. Partners from Benin, based on national-level consultations conducted, have identified preliminary list of potential partners who could be involved in daily implementation of ABS measure.	
Indicator 3.2: Approximately 50 functionaries per country in Benin and Madagascar trained to implement the international regime of ABS in a series of training sessions, by end of year 3.		Not due until Years 2 and 3. Some more details in Annex 1 re work in Year 1.	
Indicator 3.3: User manual for the ABS mechanisms developed by the SCs in Benin and Madagascar and submitted to the competent national authorities for adoption and disseminated to a wider range of national actors by end of year 3.		Not due until Year 3. Some more details in Annex 1 re work in Year 1.	

OUTPUT 4: Organisations have capacities strengthened to provide specialised assistance services for communities to access and provide biological resources and know-how pursuant to ABS rules. Representatives from local community, women and farmer organisations receive assistance in making decisions about resources they want to provide or access, and to negotiate access and benefit-sharing agreements. Model community protocols which guarantee participation of women's organisations in governance developed for decision-making and negotiating by communities.			
	Baseline	Change recorded by 2016	Source of evidence
Indicator 4.1: Identification of lead partners (1 in each community) subject to approval by national project steering committee and women and men community representatives within 6 months.	No lead partners prior to project starting	The lead organization in each of the communities of Benin and Madagascar has been identified (see Activity 4.1, Section 3.1).	
Indicator 4.2: 2 awareness-raising workshops per country by mid-year 2 for women and men from the four communities, and 2 capacity-strengthening workshops per country by year 3, including focussed 'capacity strengthening for capacity strengtheners' engagement, co-organized by, and with technical support from national competent authorities and scientists from national agricultural research and environmental research organizations.	Some awareness raising in one community, Bonou, through ABS Initiative activities	Awareness raising workshops and trainings have been conducted in both countries (see Activity 4.2, Section 3.1).	Minutes of the workshops available upon request. Articles published in the press from Madagascar and Benin about the raising awareness on the IT workshop on the project website at http://bit.ly/DarwinInitiative . Link videos from Madagascar will be on the project website as soon as permissions are obtained from

OUTPUT 4: Organisations have capacities strengthened to provide specialised assistance services for communities to access and provide biological resources and know-how pursuant to ABS rules. Representatives from local community, women and farmer organisations receive assistance in making decisions about resources they want to provide or access, and to negotiate access and benefit-sharing agreements. Model community protocols which guarantee participation of women's organisations in governance developed for decision-making and negotiating by communities.			
	Baseline	Change recorded by 2016	Source of evidence
			television broadcast companies.
Indicator 4.3: Community protocols adopted by relevant community authorities by year 3 in the four project communities.		Not due until Year 3. Some more details in Annex 1 re work in Year 1.	
Indicator 4.4: At least 6 ABS agreements piloted with community organisations as providers or recipients of GR and/or associated knowledge in Benin and Madagascar by year 3.		Not due until Year 3. Some more details in Annex 1 re work in Year 1.	

OUTPUT 5: Baseline survey of information about local biodiversity status, trends and needs: women and men users: potential markets. Documentation concerning GRs that are potentially available from Madagascar and Benin for access seekers, including information about potentially valuable traits, geographic areas, uses, etc. Documentation of genetic resources needed by farmers in Madagascar and Benin for improved food security in light of current stresses to agricultural production systems. Conservation investment strategies developed for local communities.			
	Baseline	Change recorded by 2016	Source of evidence
Indicator 5.1: 1 baseline survey and synthesis per country presented to stakeholders consultation and Steering Committee in year 1; published online by end of year 1.		The baseline studies of both countries have been conducted and finalised. Workshops were organized in both countries to present the main findings.	Annexes 4.3, and 4.4 to this report: Base line surveys.
Indicator 5.2: 4 community biodiversity registries developed by specialist steward/user groups (e.g. traditional healers, women's market-chain development initiatives, custodian farmers), with technical support from national and district agricultural and environmental organisations by end of year 3.		Not due until Year 3. Some more details in Annex 1 re work in Year 1.	
Indicator 5.3: 2 reports, prepared by local farmer organisations and national and district agricultural and environmental organisations, which analyse stresses to the communities' agricultural production systems and related needs for adapted germplasm in Benin and Madagascar from domestic and international sources, by year 2.		This is not due until later in Year 2. Already during the training workshop conducted in December 2015 in Tori Bosito (see Activity 4.2, Section 3.1) farmers identified climate change stresses, desired gene-based traits in adapted germplasm, and potential sources of such germplasm. Similar exercises will be conducted in the other three communities in the first half of Year 2. They will be written up by teams of Bioversity researchers, community members and national researchers.	Report of December training workshop available upon request.

Indicator 5.4: 4 communities develop conservation investment strategies, by year 3, with technical support from national competent authorities.		Not due until Year 3. Some more details in Annex 1 re work in Year 1.	
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3.3 Progress towards the project Outcome

Outcome: In Madagascar and Benin, a range of stakeholders will make access and benefit-sharing agreements that contribute to pro-poor rural development and offset the cost of conserving genetic resources.			
	Baseline	Change by 2016	Source of evidence
Indicator 0.1: Access and benefit-sharing policies, orders, guidelines, legislation, community protocols and processes to implement the NP and ITPGRFA/MLS are formally adopted by year 3 (or are in the pipeline for adoption having been properly submitted to the appropriate policymaking bodies).	In Benin, a national strategy for ABS is in place, focussing mainly on the NP. There is no ABS legislation yet. In Madagascar, there is a national ABS policy focussing mainly on the NP, but no ABS legislation. Much earlier attempts to develop juridical instruments to implement the CBD and ITPGRFA were abandoned.	The existing legal space for the implementation of the NP and the ITPGRFA in both Benin and Madagascar has been analysed (see Output 5). Discussions with stakeholders on policy options have been continued on a constant basis through informal meetings and workshops. National partners have developed roadmaps for the policy and legal instruments that need to be developed.	Annexes 4.2, 4.3, and 4.4 of this report: Base line surveys and policy and legal instrument road maps. ABS strategies (with focus mainly on NP)
Indicator 0.2: Formal governmental recognition, by year 3, of the rights of four groups of local communities (and the rights of women within those communities) in Benin and Madagascar to participate in decision-making regarding management of biological/genetic resources and to a share of benefits derived from others uses of those resources. By year 3, protocols developed by communities to guide how the communities themselves will exercise their rights.	In both countries, local communities do have certain, yet limited rights to participate in natural resource management and benefit-sharing. However, these rights only cover certain areas, resources and/or communities and are not always duly applied. All in all, in neither country, communities have clear and comprehensive rights to genetic resources, their management and the participation in ABS under the NP and the ITPGRFA.	National project teams visited all four communities to discuss the project with community leaders, members of local organizations, including women's groups, and to invite them to be involved. Agreements in principle for participation in project activities were secured from combinations of local government officials and traditional leaders.	Reports of community visits. Annexes 4.3, and 4.4 of this report: Base line surveys.
Indicator 0.3: By year 3, organisations from four groups of pilot communities will access genetic resources (and related know-how) of food-security crops, that are adapted for use	Lack of capacities at the community level to access germplasm from national and international providers.	Assessments of the state of biodiversity in the four communities have been initiated. These assessments also include impacts of climate change on the species grown at the	Annexes 4.3, and 4.4 of this report: Base line surveys.

Outcome: In Madagascar and Benin, a range of stakeholders will make access and benefit-sharing agreements that contribute to pro-poor rural development and offset the cost of conserving genetic resources.			
	Baseline	Change by 2016	Source of evidence
in their stressed agricultural production systems. At present the communities are not empowered/ able to initiate/negotiate such agreements on their own terms with a range of national and international GR providers.		local level, which will allow identifying potential germplasm needs in these communities.	
Indicator 0.4: Investments by communities (year 1), public authorities (year 2) and access-seekers (at least two agreements by year 3) to strengthen the communities' capacity to conserve and sustainably use biological/genetic resources. There are currently no investments in genetic resource conservation programmes in the 4 tentatively identified groups of communities.	No investments	National public agencies have invested in kind contributions in time and resources to launch project activities in the communities concerned. Community level biological diversity conservation and sustainable use plans will be developed during Year 2.	Annexes 4.3, and 4.4 of this report: Base line surveys. Community level workshops supported through the project.

3.4 Monitoring of assumptions

Assumption 1: There is political will to implement the NP and ITPGRFA in the countries.

Comments: Both countries have had changes in national governments over the course of the last year, with new Ministers responsible for agriculture and environment being put in place. As a result, it is necessary to re-start relatively fundamental levels of awareness-raising among relevant national policy decision makers in both countries. That said, in both countries the new governments have not indicated any unwillingness to continue with the project and its objectives.

Assumption 2: The lead agencies in both countries will work together to develop mutually supportive policies, laws, guidelines and mechanisms and actively promote their adoption by relevant decision-making bodies.

Comments: In both countries, the two lead agencies cooperate successfully and meet regularly, e.g. in the frame of the regular meetings of the National ABS Committee.

Assumption 3: The national governments are willing to promote indigenous peoples, local communities and farmer organisations proactive, empowered engagement in regulating access to genetic resources and related traditional knowledge, including equitable representation of women and men.

Comments: Both countries have recently adopted policies to encourage political and administrative decentralization, and community led management of natural resources. We continue to be hopeful that these policies will create space and enthusiasm for the project's work on empowering local communities to play a role in decision-making on ABS issues. The national level partners are very proactive and optimistic in this regard.

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

Shortness of space does not allow us to repeat the sections in the approved proposal that address these issues. In short, the project will promote access to women and men farmers to genetic resources and knowledge assets for introduction and use in their local production systems. It will also promote women and men farmers to participate in decision-making about when, and under what circumstances, they shall allow others to access their own genetic resources and traditional knowledge. It will promote stronger constructive links between local communities and national and international organizations involved in conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity. Since we have only completed diagnostics in Year 1, the project cannot claim yet to have actually achieved any of these impacts.

4. Contribution to SDGs

By promoting the mechanisms of access and benefit-sharing under the NP and the ITPGRFA, this project directly contributes to SDG 2 (Zero Hunger), Target 5 and SDG 15 (Life on Land), Target 6, which make direct reference to ABS, one in the frame of food security and sustainable agriculture, and one in the frame of the conservation and sustainable management of terrestrial ecosystems. The activities under this project contribute to the preservation of global genetic diversity through promoting the sharing and sustainable use of GRFA among local communities as well as between local communities and external actors. The project supports the development of functioning ABS frameworks and facilitates the negotiation and conclusion of ABS agreements between local communities/traditional knowledge holders and users from the research or private sector. More indirectly, this project contributes to several other SDGs, in particular: By conducting research on and promoting the exchange of germplasm for adaptation to climate change, the project supports the implementation of Target 13.1 ("Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries"); by putting an emphasis of its activities on the empowerment and resource rights of local communities, the project contributes to Target 1.4 ("...ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources..."); and by including the development of sound and just legal instruments in its activities, the project contributes to Target 16.6 ("Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels").

5. Project support to the Conventions, Treaties or Agreements

As the title of the project indicates, it focuses on putting systems in place for national level implementation of the ITPGRFA and the NP to the CBD. The National Focal Points for both of these

agreements, from both Madagascar and Benin, are the main national partners; they are also members of the project's EGC.

6. Project support to poverty alleviation

One of the main focuses of the project is to create systems to implement policies and legislation that in the long term will ultimately translate into sustainable benefits to the poor areas. The project anticipates that main beneficiaries of the work being currently being implemented will ultimately be local communities, holders of traditional knowledge, farmers, peasants, and local enterprises, including women's groups. Direct participation of women and men in developing biodiversity investment plans, developing and implementing community protocols to a) project genetic resources and traditional knowledge and b) identify and access needed genetic resources and information from outside the communities. These protocols – and local people's rights pursuant to them – should be recognized under the national laws that will be established to implement both agreements.

7. Project support to Gender equity issues

The project is placing particular emphasis on increasing the participation of women in the community level plans described in 6 above. Boosting women's participation in such governance mechanisms will be reflected in national laws that currently being examined (and that will recognize the local level protocols). There are no noticeable achievements in this regard yet excepting that during all the meetings and workshops held at both, the local and national level, a gender-balanced participation has been vigorously promoted (see for example report in activity 4.2 under section 3.1 above).

8. Monitoring and evaluation

The fact that we developed the project proposal with our national partners, and the proposal includes highly detailed logframe with outputs and activities, has helped us in our approach to M&E. That said, it became clear in the second half of the year that different project partners were interpreting some of the deliverables and related activities in different ways. Because the EGC has met 4 times, we were able to identify these issues and address them before the end of the Year. But we came close to having a few such issues slip through the cracks. As a result, Bioversity is making provision for additional time in Years 2 and 3 for a research assistant help keep in touch with partners and keep track of product development and activities, to ensure regular, clear communication with the other partners. Bioversity will support this additional time through other, additional sources of funds.

9. Lessons learnt

One thing that worked well in both countries was bringing together stakeholders who identified more or less exclusively with either the ITPGRFA or the NP. In both countries national policy actors appeared quick to appreciate the potential synergy between the two instruments, and the importance of trying to implement them in synergistic ways.

Community level engagement did not progress much beyond sharing objectives of the project, getting agreement in principle to work together, and raising awareness about the two international agreements and their potential relevance to the communities. It would have been good to have more time for more focussed work with the communities in Year 1.

If we were to do it again, we would define the full requisite portfolio of tools and methodologies for working with local communities on developing community biological diversity registers and ABS protocols in the first months of the project. In fact, during Year 2 one of the priorities will be substantially boosting community-level engagement.

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

Bioversity will retain a research assistant to help with M&E on rolling basis, and to ensure opportunities for all partners to raise issues/uncertainties they may have. Bioversity and national partners will work with communities early in Year 2 to identify best practices, based on local needs and capacities, for developing community registers and protocols. Bioversity and ABS Initiative will coordinate provision of additional technical assistance to national teams while they are developing draft juridical instruments in Year 2.

11. Other comments on progress not covered elsewhere

In October 2015, project partners developed a side event during the Sixth Session of the Governing Body of the ITPGRFA, Rome, Italy, entitled 'Mutually Supportive Implementation of the Plant Treaty and the NP. Details are available on the project website. Partners are planning to conduct a similar event during the COP MOP for the NP in Mexico in December 2016.

12. Sustainability and legacy

While it is too early to predict if the sustainability plans included in the approved proposal for this project will come to fruition, there are some positive signs, particularly in Benin where national public authorities from both agriculture and environment have been quick to take advantage of project resources, expertise and initiatives to bring the relevant actors involved in using and implementing the ITPGRFA and NP together whenever possible and proactively promote mutually supportive implementation.

13. Darwin Identity

Bioversity has created a space within the webpage of Bioversity dedicated to this project. Information about the different workshops, trainings and other events conducted under the scope of this study can be all found there. Available link at: <http://bit.ly/DarwinInitiative>. Initiation meetings in both countries provided considerable visibility for Darwin Initiative with logo placement on banners and agendas, recognition of support from partners, etc. In addition, the UK Government's contribution to the project was recognised during the side event at Governing Body meeting, Rome, 2015 (see Section 2), opening remarks were provided by UK delegate, Julian Jackson, with strong ties to Darwin Initiative. Most of the side event was dedicated to describing the project, its objectives and modus operandi.

14. Project Expenditure

Table 1 Project expenditure during the reporting period (1 April 2015 – 31 March 2016)

Project spend (indicative) since last annual report	2015/16 Grant (£)	2015/16 Total Darwin Costs (£)	Variance %	Comments (please explain significant variances)
Staff costs (see below)			-4%	
Consultancy costs			4%	
Overhead Costs			-15%	
Travel and subsistence			-5%	
Operating Costs			10%	
Capital items (see below)			4%	
Others (see below)			0%	
TOTAL				

Annex 1: Report of progress and achievements against Logical Framework for Financial Year 2015-2016

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2015 - March 2016	Actions required/planned for next period
<p>Impact Increased investment in the conservation and sustainable use of genetic resources in Benin and Madagascar and increased equitable benefit-sharing with stewards and providers of those resources.</p>		<p>A range of governmental and non-governmental organizations in both Madagascar and Benin were mobilized in support of developing systems to conserve, sustainably use genetic diversity and share benefits associated with their use. It takes a long time to develop national level policies, and link their implementation to local level activities, but in Year 1 the project successfully started things in a positive direction.</p>	<p>Develop laws and policies to mutually implement the ITPGRFA/MLS and NP. Develop community level pilots concerning how communities can organize themselves to take advantage of the national and international infrastructure that is being put in place under these two agreements. Actually make agreements for accessing and using genetic resources and benefit-sharing.</p>
<p>Outcome In Madagascar and Benin, a range of stakeholders will make access and benefit sharing agreements that contribute to pro-poor rural development and offset the cost of conserving genetic resources.</p>	<p>Indicator 1. Access and benefit-sharing policies, orders, guidelines, legislation, community protocols and processes to implement the CBD/NP and ITPGRFA/MLS are formally adopted by year 3 (or are in the pipeline for adoption having been properly submitted to the appropriate policymaking bodies).</p> <p>Indicator 2. Formal governmental recognition, by year 3, of the rights of four groups of local communities (and the rights of women within those communities) in Benin and Madagascar to participate in decision-making around management of biological/genetic resources, and to a share of benefits derived from other uses of those resources. By year 3, protocols developed by communities to guide how the communities themselves will exercise their rights.</p> <p>Indicator 3. By year 3, organisations from four groups of pilot communities will access genetic resources (and related</p>	<p>Indicator 1. The existing legal space for the implementation of the NP and the ITPGRFA in both Benin and Madagascar has been analysed (see Output 5). Discussions with stakeholders on policy options have been continued on a constant basis through informal meetings and workshops.</p> <p>Indicator 2. National project teams visited all four communities to discuss the project with community leaders, members of local organizations, including women's groups, and to invite them to be involved. Agreements in principle for participation in project activities were secured from combinations of local government officials and traditional leaders.</p> <p>Indicator 3. Assessments of the state of biodiversity in the four communities have been initiated. These assessments also include impacts of climate change on the species grown</p>	<p>-Expert groups drafts policy, legal instruments and guidelines identified in roadmap developed in Year 1;</p> <p>-Develop annotated organigram in each country of governmental and non-governmental actors that need to be engaged in daily administration of mutually supportive mechanisms;</p> <p>-Support women and men in at least two communities (probably all four) to identify appropriate mechanisms (e.g. biodiversity registers, community ABS protocols, organisations to develop specialised capacity) to help communities address ABS related issues;</p> <p>-Development of community biodiversity conservation investment plans by community partners, with support provided by national competent authorities for the implementation of the ITPGRFA, CBD/NP and scientists from national agricultural and environmental organizations.</p>

	<p>know-how) of food-security crops, that are adapted for use in their stressed agricultural production systems. At present the communities are not empowered/able to initiate/ negotiate such agreements on their own terms with a range of national and international GR providers.</p> <p>Indicator 4. Investments made by communities (year 1), public authorities (year 2) and access-seekers (at least two agreements by year 3) to strengthen the communities' capacity to conserve and sustainably use biological/genetic resources. There are currently no investments in genetic resource conservation programmes in the four tentatively identified groups of communities.</p>	<p>at the local level, which will allow identifying potential germplasm needs in these communities. The national teams (including local organizations) are being trained in modelling methods to publicly available data sets to identify potentially adapted germplasm in collections around the world. The project will support the national partners to access such materials.</p> <p>Indicator 4. Some in kind investment on the part of public authorities in terms of time and resources introducing project and working with local communities to puts systems in place for the project.</p>	
<p>Output 1. New national interagency access and benefit-sharing policy coordinating committee in Benin and Madagascar established, instigating and reviewing research, capacity building and policy development and implementation activities.</p>	<p>Indicator 1. Within 6 months, representatives of lead agencies and other stakeholder groups agree concerning membership, modus operandi for each national project steering committee (SC) (in Benin and Madagascar), and its relationship to other coordination mechanisms in the country.</p> <p>Indicator 2. Within 8 months, two working papers (one each in Benin and Madagascar) outlining a portfolio of legislation, policies and guidelines and complementary research and capacity building activities, which need to be developed over the life of the project, endorsed by the SCs.</p> <p>Indicator 3. SC meetings organised in Benin and Madagascar every 4 months to guide project implementation, and associated minutes disseminated to</p>	<p>Indicator 1. NPICs have been formed in both countries. The members are appointed, and they have adopted terms of reference for their activities vis-à-vis the project.</p> <p>Indicator 2. A road map has been produced for Benin & Madagascar's road map for coming year, specifying policy & legal instruments to be developed in the frame of the project (see Activity 2.1 and Annex 4.2 to this report).</p> <p>Indicator 3. The NPICs of both countries have met regularly to assess the status of the implementation of the project and meetings minutes were distributed.</p> <p>Indicator 4. National authorities have been invited to the different national and regional project workshops, starting from the official launch of the project in both countries (in May 2015 in Benin and in July 2015 in Madagascar) (Articles in the press covering the official launch of the project in Benin and Madagascar can be found on the project website at http://bit.ly/DarwinInitiative). Representatives of all relevant national public organizations have agreed to participate on the project NPICs.</p>	

	<p>relevant stakeholders.</p> <p>Indicator 4. Confirmation by the end of the project, by competent national authorities responsible for implementation of the CBD/NP and ITPGRFA, that the coordination activities as supported by the Steering Committee during the project will be continued, in a sustainable form, after the life of the project.</p>	
<p>Activity 1.1 Form national project oversight committees, drawing on existing mechanisms, or created de novo, including representatives of farmer, local community, civil society, private sector organisations, ensuring equitable representation of women and men.</p>		<p>As a result of the project, National Project Implementation Committees (NPICs) have been formed in both countries, representing all relevant stakeholder groups. In both countries, the NPIC is currently being co-chaired by the National Focal Points of the NP and ITPGRFA, as planned. In Madagascar, the NPIC has been created by merging two existing separate committees that were formed to lead implementation of each agreement separately. In Benin, an ABS National Committee was created to address the implement the CBD and later, the NP. With the Darwin Project, the leading agencies decided to expand the mandate of the Committee to explicitly include implementation of the ITPGRFA, and added a range of new members to the committee to reflect that expanded mandate including plant breeders, and farmers and producer organizations from communities. Consultations between the Institut National des Recherches Agricoles du Bénin (INRAB), and the Direction Générale des Forêts et des Ressources Naturelles resulted in an agreement on the essential contents and the establishment of the NPIC. A formal INRAB Decision² defining the duration, duties, composition and operation of the Darwin NPIC is included in Annex 4.1 to this report.</p>
<p>Activity 1.2, Project steering committee coordinates and oversees project supported research and capacity building and policy development activities.</p>		<p>The NPICs of both countries have met regularly to assess the status of the implementation of the project. Main tasks undertaken by these committees during this first year of the project include developing the detailed action plan for the implementation of the project based on the project implementation logframe; establishing the terms of reference for the consultants in charge of conducting the baseline survey; and validating the baseline surveys (see Output 5).</p>
<p>Activity 1.3 Project steering committees submits proposal to competent national authorities for sustainable, coordination between the organizations responsible for implementation of the ITPGRFA/MLS and CBD/NP after the three year life of the project (with continued support from Steering Committee if deemed appropriate by the competent national authorities).</p>		<p>Planned for year 3</p>

² Decision No. 0798 / INRAB / DG / DS / DAHR / DRF / CRA-Sud / SA of 03/07/2016

<p>Output 2. Draft policies, guidelines, orders, legislation, to implement both the CBD/NP and ITPGRFA including provisions recognising of the role of local communities as biological diversity stewards with attendant interests and rights. Mechanisms to promote mutual support in daily administration of those systems.</p>	<p>Indicator 1. In year 1, year 2 and year 3, local and national level consultation meetings are held in Benin and Madagascar, regarding implementation options and policies under development, with equitable representation of women and men, local peoples and farmer organisations.</p> <p>Indicator 2. Expert drafting committee (EDC), including experts drawn from local community and women's organisations, selected by the national project steering committee, with terms of reference developed by the committee in consultation with Bioversity International and ABS Initiative.</p> <p>Indicator 3. 2 White Papers (1 each in Benin and Madagascar) outlining options with annexed drafts of policies, laws, guidelines developed by 18 months, drafted by EDC and submitted to SCs, and subsequently shared with national level consultation meetings. Revised policies approved by SCs introduced into formal national decision-making processes by end of year 3.</p> <p>Indicator 4. Interagency guidelines for addressing uncertainties about which agreements applies under different situations, promoting efficient, proactive cooperation between functionaries implementing the CBD/NP and ITPGRFA. The guidelines will be submitted in year 2.5 by the steering committee to the competent national authorities for the implementation of the CBD/NP and the ITPGRFA.</p>	<p>Indicator 1. National-level and community level consultation meetings have taken place in both countries for developing the baseline surveys and policy and legal instrument roadmaps (see Annex 4.2 to this report). Indicator 2. Drafting committees will start working in Year 2.</p> <p>Indicator 3. The schedule for these white papers is not in synch with the schedule for developing the draft juridical instruments that are to be annexed to the White papers. The juridical instruments drafting stage is scheduled to carry out until the first quarter of Year 3. While the White Papers referred to hear can be finished and circulated before Year 3, it is too early to say they will be done by Month 18.</p> <p>Indicator 4. These are not to be developed until Year 2.5 and their development will depend upon the content of the juridical instruments that will be developed beforehand.</p>
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<p>Activity 2.1. Steering committees identify implementation options based on baseline survey, expert knowledge, stakeholder consultations.</p>	<p>Based on the results of the baseline surveys, the teams from Madagascar and Benin developed a road map, each identifying policy and legal instruments to be developed for mutually supportive national level implementation of the ITPGRFA and the NP. Benin will develop unified, 'one window' system for the implementation of both agreements together, an approach which requires the lead agencies responsible for the implementation of the two agreements to work together to develop a common overall policy framework for both. In Madagascar, the lead agencies will develop separate systems for implementation of the two agreements, but with clearly defined boundaries between the two and coordination mechanisms, where necessary, to address 'boundary issues' that could arise in the day-to-day implementation of the system.</p>
<p>Activity 2.2. Expert groups draft policy, legal instruments and guidelines.</p>	<p>National teams have identified the juridical instruments that need to be developed in Years 2 and 3. See White paper/roadmap included in Annex 4.2</p>
<p>Activity 2.3 Steering committees organise further consultation on drafts and oversee process of revision.</p>	<p>Planned to start next period.</p>
<p>Activity 2.4 Steering committees submit draft policies laws, guidelines to relevant competent authorities for consideration/adoption and support follow-up processes.</p>	<p>Planned to start next period.</p>
<p>Output 3. Critical mass of national actors in each country trained to implement, and operate under, the international regime on access and benefit sharing, etc.</p>	<p>Indicator 1. By 18 months, list confirmed in Benin and Madagascar of public offices, officers, and other stakeholders that will be involved in the daily implementation of the ABS measure to be implemented, including 'outreach' officers who will be needed to help stakeholders operate under the systems created</p> <p>Indicator 2. Approximately 50 functionaries per country in Benin and Madagascar trained to implement the international regime of ABS, through a series of training sessions, by end of year 3.</p> <p>Indicator 3. User manual for the ABS mechanisms developed by the SCs in Benin and Madagascar and submitted to the competent national authorities for adoption and disseminated to a wider range of national actors by end of year 3.</p> <p>Indicator 1. In Madagascar national partners have just started to work on identifying potential partners. Partners from Benin, based on national-level consultations conducted, have identified preliminary list of potential partners who could be involved in daily implementation of ABS measure.</p> <p>Indicator 2. Training of functionaries has not started yet, nor is such training included in the plans for the project in Year 1.</p> <p>Indicator 3. This will be done in Year 3. It cannot be started until other activities and deliverable are finished first.</p>

<p>Activity 3.1 National project steering committees develop annotated organigram of governmental and non-governmental actors, promoting equitable representation of women and men, that need to be engaged in daily administration/functioning of the CBD/NP, MLS, including mutually supportive mechanisms, roles, responsibilities, connections, decision-points, processes for consultation through committee on difficult-to-decide cases.</p>	<p>This will be done during Year 2. Madagascar is in the initial stages of discussing and identifying actors to be included in the organigram. Benin has already presented a preliminary list of actors to be involved in the mutually supportive implementation of the two instruments (see Output 3.1).</p>
<p>Activity 3.2 For functionaries identified in 3.1 above, provide awareness raising and training on how the system will function, how to execute their responsibilities.</p>	<p>Planned to start next period.</p>
<p>Activity 3.3 Develop and disseminate manual(s) providing guidance for people operating and using the ABS mechanisms in Benin and Madagascar.</p>	<p>Planned for final year.</p>
<p>Output 4. Organisations have capacities strengthened to provide specialised assistance services for communities to access and provide biological resources and know-how pursuant to ABS rules. Representatives from local community, women and farmer organisations receive assistance in making decisions about resources they want to provide or access, and to negotiate access and benefit-sharing agreements. Model community protocols which guarantee participation of women's organisations in governance developed for decision-making and negotiating by communities.</p>	<p>Indicator 1. Identification of lead partners (1 in each community) subject to approval by national project steering committee and women and men community representatives within 6 months.</p> <p>Indicator 2. 2 awareness-raising workshops per country by mid-year 2 for women and men from the four communities, and 2 capacity-strengthening workshops per country by year 3, including focussed 'capacity strengthening for capacity strengtheners' engagement, co-organized by, and with technical support from national competent authorities and scientists from national agricultural research and environmental research organizations.</p> <p>Indicator 3. Community protocols adopted by relevant community authorities by year 3 in the four project communities.</p> <p>Indicator 4. At least 6 ABS agreements piloted with community organisations as providers or recipients of GR and/or associated knowledge in Benin and Madagascar by year 3.</p> <p>Indicator 1. The lead organization in each of the communities of Benin and Madagascar has been identified (see Activity 4.1).</p> <p>Indicator 2. Awareness raising workshops and trainings have been conducted in both countries (see Activity 4.2).</p> <p>Indicator 3. There have been some discussions regarding options for protocols in one of the four communities supported by the ABS Capacity Development Initiative (through another project). Discussions with the other three communities are at preliminary stages.</p> <p>Indicator 4: Tori Bosito has completed exercises to identify potentially adapted germplasm from a range of possible sources. Similar exercises will be conducted in the other four communities in the first half of Year 2. These will give rise to the first tranche of potential ABS requests and possible agreements, with the communities as receivers.</p>

<p>Activity 4.1 Identify 1 lead organization in each of the 4 communities across the two countries for in-depth project research, capacity building.</p>	<p>The lead organization in each of the communities of Benin and Madagascar has been identified. In Benin, the lead organizations are local biodiversity management committees: the “Comité de gestion des forêts sacrées de Bonou” (13 members), and a newly established committee (eight members) in Tori Bosito, which is supported by Jeunesse Sans Frontière (NGO active in agricultural production and medicinal plants). The lead organizations in the communities of Madagascar are “VOI Firaisan-Kina”, a local community-based organization dealing with forest management, in Antavolobe, and “Santatra”, a local farmer seed group, in Analavory.</p>
<p>Activity 4.2 Conduct initial awareness raising and capacity strengthening workshops (including ‘capacity strengthening for capacity strengtheners’), Co-organised with national competent authorities. Workshops to ensure equitable representation of women and men, proactively promoting participation of women’s organisations.</p>	<p>The project organized/sponsored awareness-raising workshops in both countries to boost ITPGRFA awareness and enhance related technical expertise of a few key actors helping implement both agreements. Workshop participants included researchers from the national agricultural research institutes, university researchers and students, women leaders, and representatives from extension services, local NGOs, the private sector, farmers’ associations, local community based organizations, and local authorities. In both countries, the event was covered by local media In Madagascar, a national workshop was held in November 2015, with 130 participants (80 men and 50 women), including representatives from central government and the 22 regions of Madagascar. In Benin, a national awareness-raising workshop was conducted and attended by 39 men and 13 women. Five additional department-level workshops were organized by the National Agricultural Research Institute of Benin, with support of Bioversity-Benin and the NGO CeSaReN in December 2015 and attended by 43 women and 175 men.</p> <p>Additional local-level awareness-raising and training workshops were held in both countries. In Madagascar, two awareness-raising workshops were organized for small groups in the two project sites in November 2015. Twenty people were trained on biodiversity assessment in Antavolobe in preparation for the baseline study. In Benin, four ITPGRFA and NP awareness-raising workshops for local communities were held in Bonou.</p> <p>The ABS Capacity Development Initiative, as part of another project, supported local-level workshops in Bonou (one of the four sites) to raise awareness on biocultural community protocols (BCPs) (~ 200 people participated); and biodiversity registration (60 participants) focussing mainly on wild forest genetic resources. This Darwin Funded project provided resources (experts, additional workshop time) to increase the scope of the exercises to include farmers, representatives from national agricultural research organizations and crop, forage and agroforestry genetic resources. Bioversity also worked with the partners from Benin and Madagascar to organize an additional (beyond what was proposed in this Darwin project) workshop on resilient seed systems and adaptation to climate change in Tori Bosito, Benin, in December 2015. Its objectives were to enhance the capacities of national partners and communities</p>

		to identify useful and potentially adaptable genetic resources for climate change adaptation from other potential sources both inside and outside of Benin and Madagascar. Twenty participants, 12 from Benin and eight from Madagascar were trained. This additional workshop was supported through available funds from the Netherlands-supported GRPI 2 project. More details about all of these activities are available on the project website at [http://bit.ly/DarwinInitiative] .
Activity 4.3 Support women and men in at least two communities to identify appropriate mechanisms (e.g. biodiversity registers, community ABS protocols, organisations to develop specialised capacity) to help communities address ABS issues.		Some consultations in one of the four communities, Bonou.
Activity 4.4 Draft protocols, hold consultations, redraft protocols and/or other forms of guidelines for ABS related decision making at community level, including equitable representation of women and men, with technical support from national competent authorities and scientists from national agricultural and environment research organizations.		Planned for next period.
Activity 4.5 Adoption of protocol and possibly related guidelines.		Planned for final year.
Activity 4.6 Development of community biodiversity conservation investment plans by community partners, with support provided by national competent authorities for the implementation of the ITPGRFA, CBD/NP and scientists from national agricultural and environmental organizations.		Planned for next period.
Activity 4.7 Support discussions/negotiations between potential providers and potential recipients of genetic resources and traditional knowledge, (with at least one recipient or provider being located in Madagascar and Benin) with objective of developing access and benefit sharing agreements. If negotiations are successful, finalise ABS agreements. National competent authorities and scientists from national research organizations will provide support for this process as appropriate.		Planned for next period.
Activity 4.8 Identify the potential interest of the private sector to collaborate with the project local communities.		Planned for next period.
Output 5. Baseline survey of information about local biodiversity status, trends and needs; women and men users; and potential markets. Documentation concerning GRs that are potentially available from Madagascar and Benin for access seekers, including information about potentially valuable traits, geographic areas, uses, etc. Documentation of genetic resources needed by farmers in Madagascar and Benin for improved food security in light of current stresses to agricultural production systems. Conservation investment strategies	<p>Indicator 1. 1 baseline survey and synthesis per country presented to stakeholders consultation and Steering Committee in year 1; published online by end of year 1.</p> <p>Indicator 2. 4 community biodiversity registries developed by specialist steward/user groups (e.g. traditional healers, women's market-chain development initiatives, custodian farmers), with technical support from national and district agricultural and environmental organisations by end of year 3.</p>	<p>Indicator 1. The baseline studies of both countries have been conducted and finalised.</p> <p>Indicator 2. In Benin, a template for the conduction of biodiversity registers in Bonou has been drafted. However, its focus is mainly on wild resources and associated traditional knowledge. In Year 2, the project will work with the communities to confirm tools and methods relevant for developing community biodiversity registers focussing mainly on agricultural plant diversity. In Madagascar, the baseline surveys involved some exercises with farmers and key informers to identify species and varieties grown by farmers in the two sites. This will be useful information when determining what kinds of tools and methods to use for the community biodiversity registers.</p> <p>Indicator 3. During the training workshop conducted in December 2015 in Tori Bosito (see Activity 4.2) farmers identified useful and potentially adaptable</p>

<p>developed for local communities.</p>	<p>Indicator 3. 2 reports, prepared by local farmer organisations and national and district agricultural and environmental organisations, which analyse stresses to the communities' agricultural production systems and related needs for adapted germplasm in Benin and Madagascar from domestic and international sources, by year 2.</p> <p>Indicator 4. 4 communities develop conservation investment strategies, by year 3, with technical support from national competent authorities.</p>	<p>genetic resources for climate change adaptation. On the same occasion, stakeholders from both Benin and Madagascar were introduced to the methodology used in this exercise, so that it can be replicated in other three communities in the project in Year 2.</p> <p>Indicator 4. This will be done in Year 2. The community biodiversity register and protocol development exercises will provide useful inputs and context for the development of these plans.</p>
<p>Activity 5.1 The national steering committees develop terms of reference for the baseline surveys and engage research teams, including equitable representation of women and men.</p>		<p>Both NPICs reviewed and adapted terms of reference for the baseline studies. They also coordinated individual researchers and surveyors to do the survey.</p>
<p>Activity 5.2 Researchers appointed by the steering committee complete baseline survey and synthesis. Present to stakeholders at workshops for feedback and revisions.</p>		<p>Activity successfully accomplished in both countries. Baseline studies of both countries were finalised. Main findings were presented during national and local workshops. The baseline surveys are included in Annexes 4.3 and 4.4 of this report. An (in-kind) contribution to the baseline surveys was made by the ABS Initiative, which conducted country diagnostic missions on the status quo of ABS in both countries in the context of its current programme of work.</p>
<p>Activity 5.3 Publish synthesis on line and 'spin off' policy briefs related to policy options and processes that need to be followed to put systems in place in each country.</p>		<p>The 'spin off' policy briefs are drafted, laid out and included in Annexes 4.5 and 4.6 of this report. They will be published on the project website and partner websites within one week of the submission of this report.</p>
<p>Activity 5.4 Women and men in biodiversity-rich communities develop biodiversity registries (or other forms of collating information about biological diversity and uses) to, among other things, increase local awareness of biological diversity and issues associated with its erosion or conservation, increase their capacity to attract access-seekers, and to develop more advantageous ABS agreements. Women and men in communities working in close collaboration with scientists from national agricultural and environmental research organisations identify stresses to local agricultural production systems, and potentially adapted germplasm (and associated know-how) from national and foreign sources that could assist in addressing local needs/vulnerabilities.</p>		<p>Planned to start next period.</p>

Annex 2 Project's full current logframe as presented in the application form (unless changes have been agreed)

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
<p>Impact: Increased investment in the conservation and sustainable use of genetic resources in Benin and Madagascar and increased equitable benefit-sharing with stewards and providers of those resources.</p>			
<p>Outcome: In Madagascar and Benin, a range of stakeholders will make access and benefit sharing agreements that contribute to pro-poor rural development and offset the cost of conserving genetic resources.</p>	<p>Measuring outcomes – Indicator 1. Access and benefit-sharing policies, orders, guidelines, legislation, community protocols and processes to implement the CBD/NP and ITPGRFA/MLS are formally adopted by year 3 (or are in the pipeline for adoption having been properly submitted to the appropriate policymaking bodies).</p> <p>Measuring outcomes – Indicator 2. Formal governmental recognition, by year 3, of the rights of four groups of local communities (and the rights of women within those communities) in Benin and Madagascar to participate in decision-making around management of biological/genetic resources, and to a share of benefits derived from other uses of those resources. By year 3, protocols developed by communities to guide how the communities themselves will exercise their rights.</p> <p>Measuring outcomes – Indicator 3. By year 3, organisations from four groups of pilot communities will access genetic resources (and related know-how) of food-security crops, that are adapted for use in their stressed agricultural production systems. At present the communities are not</p>	<p>Verifying outcomes - Indicator 1. National gazette, council and parliamentary records of draft laws, policies, and decisions introduced for consideration by national policymaking bodies. Confirmation of plant genetic resources from Benin and Madagascar included in the multilateral system of access and benefit sharing by 2017. (Madagascar published a list in 2010. The list needs to be re-examined in the context of fuller national implementation).</p> <p>Verifying outcomes - Indicator 2. National gazette, council and parliamentary records of draft laws, policies, decisions introduced for consideration by national policymaking bodies. Guidelines adopted by competent ABS authorities. Community protocols published by community, civil society, governmental organisations. Annual reports from partnering local organisations and the national focal points for the ITPGRFA and CBD/NP.</p> <p>Verifying outcomes - Indicator 3. Records published in the clearing house mechanisms established under the CBD/NP and ITPGRFA regarding completed ABS agreements. Project reports and publications, impact assessment reports.</p> <p>Verifying outcomes - Indicator 4. Project</p>	<p>Assumption 1. There is political will to implement the CBD/NP and ITPGRFA in the countries.</p> <p>Assumption 2. The lead agencies in both countries will work together to develop mutually supportive policies, laws, guidelines and mechanisms and actively promote their adoption by relevant decision-making bodies.</p> <p>Assumption 3. The national governments are willing to promote indigenous peoples, local communities and farmer organisations proactive, empowered engagement in regulating access to genetic resources and related traditional knowledge, including equitable representation of women and men.</p>

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
	<p>empowered /able to initiate/negotiate such agreements on their own terms with a range of national and international GR providers.</p> <p>Measuring outcomes – Indicator 4.</p> <p>Investments made by communities (year 1), public authorities (year 2) and access-seekers (at least two agreements by year 3) to strengthen the communities' capacity to conserve and sustainably use biological/genetic resources. There are currently no investments in genetic resource conservation programmes in the 4 tentatively identified groups of communities.</p>	<p>reports regarding conservation programmes in the communities; community organisation websites. Conservation investment strategies. Records published in the clearing house mechanisms established under the CBD/NP and ITPGRFA regarding completed ABS agreements.</p>	
<p>Output 1 New national interagency access and benefit-sharing policy coordinating committee in Benin and Madagascar established, instigating and reviewing research, capacity building and policy development and implementation activities.</p>	<p>1a. Within 6 months, representatives of lead agencies and other stakeholder groups agree concerning membership, modus operandi for each national project steering committee (SC) (in Benin and Madagascar), and its relationship to other coordination mechanisms in the country.</p> <p>1b. Within 8 months, two working papers (one each in Benin and Madagascar) outlining a portfolio of legislation, policies and guidelines and complementary research and capacity building activities, which need to be developed over the life of the project, endorsed by the SCs.</p> <p>1c. SC meetings organised in Benin and Madagascar every 4 months to guide project implementation, and associated minutes disseminated to relevant stakeholders.</p> <p>1d. Confirmation by the end of the project, by competent national authorities</p>	<p>1a. Newspaper reports, publications, meeting minutes and reports, on-line data bases, project partners websites</p> <p>1b. Training materials</p> <p>1c. Records published in clearing house mechanisms established under the CBD/NP and ITPGRA, community biodiversity registries</p>	

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
	responsible for implementation of the CBD/NP and ITPGRFA, that the coordination activities as supported by the Steering Committee during the project will be continued, in a sustainable form, after the life of the project.		
<p>Output 2 Draft policies, guidelines, orders, legislation, to implement both the CBD/NP and ITPGRFA including provisions recognising of the role of local communities as biological diversity stewards with attendant interests and rights. Mechanisms to promote mutual support in daily administration of those systems</p>	<p>2a. In year 1, year 2 and year 3, local and national level consultation meetings are held in Benin and Madagascar, regarding implementation options and policies under development, with equitable representation of women and men, local peoples and farmer organisations.</p> <p>2b. Expert drafting committee (EDC), including experts drawn from local community and women's organisations, selected by the national project steering committee, with terms of reference developed by the committee in consultation with Bioversity International and ABS Initiative.</p> <p>2c. 2 White Papers (1 each in Benin and Madagascar) outlining options with annexed drafts of policies, laws, guidelines developed by 18 months, drafted by EDC and submitted to SCs, and subsequently shared with national level consultation meetings. Revised policies approved by SCs introduced into formal national decision-making processes by end of year 3.</p> <p>2d. Interagency guidelines for addressing uncertainties about which agreements applies under different situations, promoting efficient, proactive cooperation between functionaries implementing the</p>	<p>2a. <Verified by consultation meeting reports, video, photographs ... (example)> 2b.</p>	<p>2a. <We are assuming that people are willing and able to express their views freely without social or political pressures to follow a certain line. (example)></p>

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
	<p>CBD/NP and ITPGRFA.</p> <p>The guidelines will be submitted in year 2.5 by the steering committee to the competent national authorities for the implementation of the CBD/NP and the ITPGRFA.</p>		
<p>Output 3</p> <p>Critical mass of national actors in each country trained to implement, and operate under, the international regime on access and benefit sharing</p>	<p>3a. By 18 months, list confirmed in Benin and Madagascar of public offices, officers, and other stakeholders that will be involved in the daily implementation of the ABS measure to be implemented, including 'outreach' officers who will be needed to help stakeholders operate under the systems created</p> <p>3b. Approximately 50 functionaries per country in Benin and Madagascar trained to implement the international regime of ABS, through a series of training sessions, by end of year 3.</p> <p>3c. User manual for the ABS mechanisms developed by the SCs in Benin and Madagascar and submitted to the competent national authorities for adoption and disseminated to a wider range of national actors by end of year 3.</p>	3a.	
<p>Output 4</p> <p>Organisations have capacities strengthened to provide specialised assistance services for communities to access and provide biological resources and know-how pursuant to ABS rules. Representatives from local community, women and farmer organisations receive assistance in making decisions about resources they want to provide or access, and to negotiate access and benefit-</p>	<p>4a. Identification of lead partners (1 in each community) subject to approval by national project steering committee and women and men community representatives within 6 months.</p> <p>4b. 2 awareness-raising workshops per country by mid-year 2 for women and men from the four communities, and 2 capacity-strengthening workshops per country by year 3, including focussed 'capacity strengthening for capacity strengtheners'</p>		

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
<p>sharing agreements. Model community protocols which guarantee participation of women's organisations in governance developed for decision-making and negotiating by communities.</p>	<p>engagement, co-organized by, and with technical support from national competent authorities and scientists from national agricultural research and environmental research organizations.</p> <p>4c. Community protocols adopted by relevant community authorities by year 3 in the four project communities.</p> <p>4d. At least 6 ABS agreements piloted with community organisations as providers or recipients of GR and/or associated knowledge in Benin and Madagascar by year 3.</p>		
<p>Output 5 Baseline survey of information about local biodiversity status, trends and needs; women and men users; and potential markets. Documentation concerning GRs that are potentially available from Madagascar and Benin for access seekers, including information about potentially valuable traits, geographic areas, uses, etc. Documentation of genetic resources needed by farmers in Madagascar and Benin for improved food security in light of current stresses to agricultural production systems. Conservation investment strategies developed for local communities</p>	<p>5a. 1 baseline survey and synthesis per country presented to stakeholders consultation and Steering Committee in year 1; published online by end of year 1.</p> <p>5b. 4 community biodiversity registries developed by specialist steward/user groups (e.g. traditional healers, women's market-chain development initiatives, custodian farmers), with technical support from national and district agricultural and environmental organisations by end of year 3.</p> <p>5c, Indicator 3. 2 reports, prepared by local farmer organisations and national and district agricultural and environmental organisations, which analyse stresses to the communities' agricultural production systems and related needs for adapted germplasm in Benin and Madagascar from domestic and international sources, by year 2.</p> <p>5d. 4 communities develop conservation investment strategies, by year 3, with</p>		

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
	technical support from national competent authorities.		
<p>Activities (each activity is numbered according to the output that it will contribute towards, for example 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 are contributing to Output 1)</p> <p>Activity 1.1 Form national project oversight committees, drawing on existing mechanisms, or created de novo, including representatives of farmer, local community, civil society, private sector organisations, ensuring equitable representation of women and men.</p> <p>Activity 1.2 Project steering committee coordinates and oversees project supported research and capacity building and policy development activities</p> <p>Activity 1.3 Project steering committees submits proposal to competent national authorities for sustainable, coordination between the organizations responsible for implementation of the ITPGRFA/MLS and CBD/NP after the three year life of the project (with continued support from Steering Committee if deemed appropriate by the competent national authorities).</p> <p>Activity 2.1 Steering committees identify implementation options based on baseline survey, expert knowledge, stakeholder consultations.</p> <p>Activity 2.2 Expert groups draft policy, legal instruments and guidelines.</p> <p>Activity 2.3 Steering committees organise further consultation on drafts and oversee process of revision.</p> <p>Activity 2.4 Steering committees submit draft policies laws, guidelines to relevant competent authorities for consideration/adoption and support follow-up processes.</p> <p>Activity 3.1 National project steering committees develop annotated organigram of governmental and non-governmental actors, promoting equitable representation of women and men, that need to be engaged in daily administration/functioning of the CBD/NP, MLS, including mutually supportive mechanisms, roles, responsibilities, connections, decision-points, processes for consultation through committee on difficult-to-decide cases.</p> <p>Activity 3.2 For functionaries identified in 3.1 above, provide awareness raising and training on how the system will function, how to execute their responsibilities.</p> <p>Activity 3.3 Develop and disseminate manual(s) providing guidance for people operating and using the ABS mechanisms in Benin and Madagascar.</p> <p>Activity 4.1 Identify at 1 lead organization in each of the 4 communities across the two countries for in-depth project research, capacity building</p> <p>Activity 4.2 Conduct initial awareness raising and capacity strengthening workshops (including 'capacity strengthening for capacity strengtheners'), Co-organised with national competent authorities. Workshops to ensure equitable representation of women and men, proactively promoting participation of women's organisations.</p> <p>Activity 4.3 Support women and men in at least two communities to identify appropriate mechanisms (e.g. biodiversity registers, community ABS protocols, organisations to develop specialised capacity) to help communities address ABS issues.</p> <p>Activity 4.4 Draft protocols, hold consultations, redraft protocols and/or other forms of guidelines for ABS related decision making at community level, including equitable representation of women and men, with technical support from national competent authorities and scientists from national agricultural and environment research organizations.</p> <p>Activity 4.5 Adoption of protocol and possibly related guidelines</p> <p>Activity 4.6 Development of community biodiversity conservation investment plans by community partners, with support provided by national competent authorities for the implementation of the ITPGRFA, CBD/NP and scientists from national agricultural and environmental organizations.</p> <p>Activity 4.7 Support discussions/negotiations between potential providers and potential recipients of genetic resources and traditional knowledge, (with at least one recipient or provider being located in Madagascar and Benin) with objective of developing access and benefit sharing agreements. If negotiations are successful, finalise ABS agreements. National competent authorities and scientists from national research organizations will provide support for this process as appropriate.</p> <p>Activity 4.8 Identify the potential interest of the private sector to collaborate with the project local communities.</p>			

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
Activity 5.1			The national steering committees develop terms of reference for the baseline surveys and engage research teams, including equitable representation of women and men.
Activity 5.2			Researchers appointed by the steering committee complete baseline survey and synthesis. Present to stakeholders at workshops for feedback and revisions
Activity 5.3			Publish synthesis on line and 'spin off' policy briefs related to policy options and processes that need to be followed to put systems in place in each country
Activity 5.4			Women and men in biodiversity-rich communities develop biodiversity registries (or other forms of collating information about biological diversity and uses) to, among other things, increase local awareness of biological diversity and issues associated with its erosion or conservation, increase their capacity to attract access-seekers, and to develop more advantageous ABS agreements. Women and men in communities working in close collaboration with scientists from national agricultural and environmental research organisations identify stresses to local agricultural production systems, and potentially adapted germplasm (and associated know-how) from national and foreign sources that could assist in addressing local needs/vulnerabilities.

Annex 3 Standard Measures

Table 1 Project Standard Output Measures

Code No.	Description	Gender of people (if relevant)	Nationality of people (if relevant)	Year 1 Total	Year 2 Total	Year 3 Total	Total to date	Total planned during the project
14A	Three workshops for presenting baseline survey results in Madagascar.		Malagasy	3				

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. weblink or publisher if not available online)
*Baseline study Benin	Report	Bienvenu Bossou Toussaint Mikpon	M	Beninese		Link will be available on the project website soon.
*Baseline study Madagascar	Report	Naritiana Rakotoniaina Michelle Andriamahazo	F	Malagasy		Link will be available on the project website soon.
*Info Note Madagascar	Info note	Naritiana Rakotoniaina Michelle Andriamahazo	F	Malagasy	Copenhagen, Denmark. CGIAR Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS).	Link will be available on the project website soon.
*Info Note Benin	Info note	Bienvenu Bossou Toussaint Mikpon	M	Beninese	Copenhagen, Denmark. CGIAR Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS).	Link will be available on the project website soon.
TV report Benin	Video	Espace Agro, 2015	F	Beninese	Benin	Available link at: Lancement officiel de la mise en oeuvre du projet Mutuel soutien du Protocole de Nagoya et le Traité international au Benin
TV report Madagascar	Video	Service Information et Communication du MinAgri (novembre 2015)	M	Malagasy	TVM, Madagascar	Link will be available on the project website soon (waiting for permissions from television broadcast companies)
Media coverage Madagascar	TV journal	TV PLUS Madagascar TVM Madagascar	F F	Malagasy Malagasy	TV PLUS Madagascar TVM Madagascar	Link will be available on the project website soon (waiting for permissions from television broadcast companies)

