

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	22-018
Project Title	Mainstreaming biodiversity and ecosystem services into community forestry in Nepal
Host Country/ies	Nepal
Contract Holder Institution	BirdLife International
Partner institutions	Bird Conservation Nepal (BCN), Nepal department of Forests (DoF), Federation of Community Forest Users, Nepal (FECOFUN)
Darwin Grant Value	£264,951
Funder (DFID/Defra)	DFID
Start/end dates of project	1 st June 2015 – 31 st May 2018
Reporting period (e.g., Apr 2015 – Mar 2016) and number (e.g., Annual Report 1, 2, 3)	1 st June 2015 – 31 st March 2016 Annual report 1
Project Leader name	David Thomas
Project website/blog/Twitter	http://www.birdlifeneal.org/project-detail.php?id=291 http://www.birdlife.org/asia/news/community-forestry-benefit-nature-and-people
Report author(s) and date	Billy Fairburn, David Thomas, Ishana Thapa, Parbat Thani (April 2016)

1. Project Rationale

Community Forestry in Nepal is considered successful (improving livelihoods, strengthening institutional capacity), attracting significant support for expansion. However, existing guidance and planning frameworks largely focus on forest productivity/silviculture without addressing wider biodiversity or ecosystem service values, of which people are often unaware.

Whilst examples of positive biodiversity outcomes exist, an institutionalised focus on limited forest products (e.g. fuelwood, timber) and lack of knowledge and capacity has caused biodiversity declines. There is evidence of long-term socio-economic consequences including reductions in: resilience to climate change; ES health and provision (water; soil formation; pollination); equity; and pest/disease resistance of trees. With 1.7 million ha under CF, involving 2.24 million households, potential consequences of biodiversity loss from CFs are significant.

CF is a strategic pillar within Nepal's NBSAP. However, linked conservation and development will only be achieved if communities and CF agencies can understand and assess biodiversity and ES values and have capacity and tools to mainstream them into CFM, through inclusive, participatory processes, such that communities benefit. This project aims to deliver these conditions.

This project is demonstrating, documenting, and promoting the link between conserving biodiversity, improving livelihoods and reducing multi-dimensional poverty, and integrating key lessons into national training, tools, and guidelines for forest officers, NGOs and local communities, and into national frameworks for forest management planning (building the capacity for long-term, sustainable impact).

The project will then support the application of the tools/frameworks and 'good practice' to develop forest management plans at 14 'pilot' Community Forests – identifying measures in each case which have potential (based on experience) to improve livelihoods and reduce multi-dimensional poverty (incomes, equity, resilience) through conservation of biodiversity. The experience from these 'case studies' will in turn be used to inform future application of the national guidance.

2. Project Partnerships

The main project partners are BirdLife International, Bird Conservation Nepal (BCN), Nepal's Department of Forests (DoF) and the Federation of Community Forest Users, Nepal (FECOFUN).

BirdLife has worked with BCN, the BirdLife Partner in Nepal, for over 18 years, collaborating on capacity-building, biodiversity surveys and prioritisation, national and international policy, ecosystem service assessments and local-level development projects. BCN is the oldest and largest CSO in Nepal dedicated to bird and habitat conservation, and is leading on project implementation in Nepal.

A national project management committee has been formed by BCN to guide project implementation. High-level representatives from each collaborating organisation (including the Chairperson of FECOFUN and the Director General of the Department of Forests) are active members of this group, demonstrating the commitment of both organisations to the project and its relevance to forest stakeholders and national policy objectives. In addition to this high-level commitment, a project focal point has been appointed within each of these institutions to support implementation of the project. At each of our project workshops so far (at both the national and regional levels) there has been good representation of both DoF and FECOFUN.

In year 1 of the project, the Ministry of Soil and Forest Conservation's Central Forests Training and Extension Centre (CFTEC) has been identified as a key government stakeholder

(alongside DoF). CFTEC will provide valuable expertise to the development of the training, and it is crucial for post-project sustainability that CFTEC take ownership of the training provided. BCN will lead on managing this new partnership.

3. Project Progress

3.1 Progress in carrying out project activities

In year one of the project, our revised project timetable contained activities under **Output 1**, **Output 2**, and **Output five**. In addition, we have managed to make some progress under **Output 4**. Activities to initiate the project were also undertaken. The activities that we have completed or progressed are detailed below, reported under the appropriate output.

- **Project start-up**

In this first year we have successfully initiated the project, despite challenges caused by the Nepal earthquake in April 2015. We have recruited project staff and consultants and have set up the required management, administrative and reporting structures to allow effective communications between the lead organisation and collaborating partners.

The disruption caused by the earthquakes in April and May throughout Nepal caused a two month delay in project start. Through a formal change request we applied for a shift of two months in our project timetable, and have been working to the revised, approved timetable attached as annex 4.

Output 1: *Information and knowledge on ecosystem service and biodiversity linkages to livelihoods and wellbeing, in the context of community forestry (including cultural, social, gender-based and institutional differences in understanding, interpretation, practice and impact) are compiled, documented and shared with state and civil society forest management stakeholders; entry points for mainstreaming biodiversity into pro-poor CFM identified.*

Activity 1.1: *Hold workshop and meetings to start collating case studies and link to networks of organisations and individuals working together on CFM and biodiversity in Nepal*

- **National workshop on biodiversity and ecosystem services in Community Forestry (CF)**

On the 4th & 5th August 2015, Bird Conservation Nepal (BCN – the BirdLife International Partner in Nepal and main project partner), in collaboration with BirdLife, the Department of Forests (DoF) and the Federation of Community Forestry Users Nepal (FECOFUN), organized a two-day national workshop on ‘Mainstreaming biodiversity and ecosystem services into Community Forestry’ with the aim of sharing information, knowledge and good practice in integrating biodiversity into community forestry in Nepal. Twenty participants from a range of government and non-governmental organisations presented their research (annex 5 – Abstracts from National Workshop), providing important insights into how biodiversity is being conserved through community forestry, the benefits that biodiversity has brought for communities, and the challenges that many communities face.

Activity 1.2: *Conduct a comprehensive and up-to-date review of CFM, ES, biodiversity and livelihoods in Nepal, including social dimensions, and drawing from case studies provided through the network under 1.1*

- **National Review of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services in CF**

The national workshop on biodiversity and ecosystem services in CF was used to launch an in-depth national review of biodiversity and ecosystem services in community forestry. Through two project consultants we have reviewed published and grey literature, government policy related to biodiversity and ecosystem services in CF in Nepal, experience of CFUGs and district forest offices, and have documented experience on the positive links between conserving biodiversity and improved livelihoods (and conversely between biodiversity loss and

negative effects on livelihoods) within Nepal. A particular focus (through the regional workshops detailed below) has been to collect case-studies that demonstrate good practice.

- **Collating positive experience of integrating biodiversity and ecosystem services in CF**

Three regional workshops were held each in Nepal's Middle Hills (annex 6 – Regional Workshop Report 1), Mountain (annex 7 – Regional Workshop Report 2), and Terai (annex 8 – Regional Workshop Report 3) regions. These workshops brought together 93 representatives of 48 Community Forest User Groups (CFUGs) from 24 of the 75 districts of Nepal, alongside local and regional DoF officials and FECOFUN representatives to discuss how biodiversity is currently addressed in CF policy and practice, and the current and potential benefits that community user groups could gain from their forests. Figure 1 shows the districts from which CFUGs were represented.

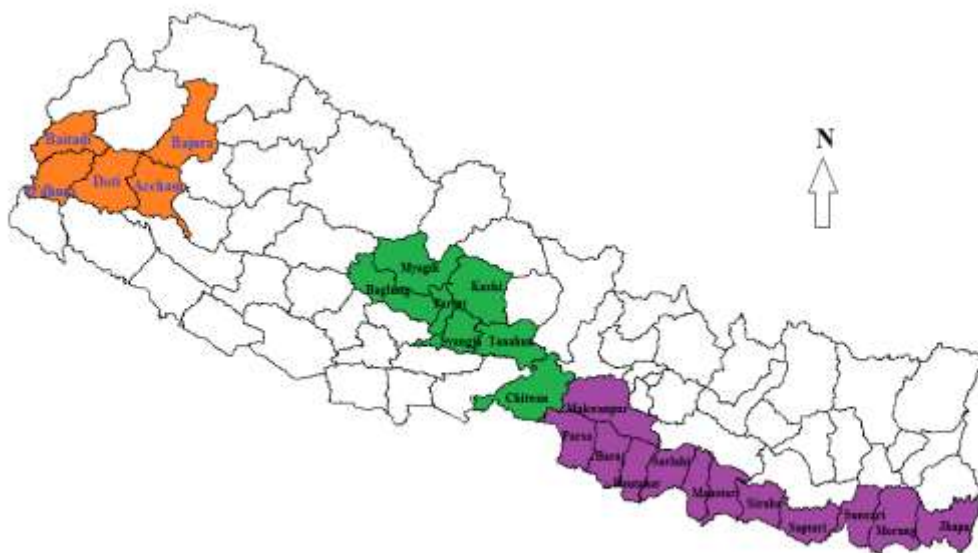


Figure 1 - Map showing Districts from where CFUG representatives attended Regional workshops

Activity 1.3: Publish results of the review in an open-access peer reviewed journal or other appropriate format

Work is ongoing to synthesise the extensive review reports into a format publishable in a peer-reviewed paper. Opportunities to publish in a national forestry journal in Nepal as well as an international journal are being explored.

Output 2: Training courses for forestry professionals revised to include modules relating to the integration of ES and biodiversity into CFM planning (that also addresses issues of equity, indigenous knowledge, gender) and, through training of trainers, 50 FOs and 50 FECOFUN staff trained; with appropriate tools, guidelines, and awareness materials available for use in guiding CFUGs.

Activity 2.1: Hold expert consultative meeting to agree and design content of training materials, tools and guidelines (and drawing from Output 1); and develop approach for integration of biodiversity and ecosystem services training modules into curricula and content of existing training courses of DoF and FECOFUN

- **Experts workshop held to begin to develop training materials**

A meeting was held on 4th March, with representatives of the Central Forests Training and Extension Centre – the main training body within the Ministry of Soil and Forests Conservation – as well as representatives of four of the five regional training centres based throughout Nepal. Involving both central and regional training centre staff provided insights into both the steps to be taken to integrate a biodiversity and ecosystem services training course into the formal

national training curriculum, as well as practical experience from trainers working at the front line of forest officer training in rural areas of Nepal.

The two project consultants that have undertaken our in-depth review of biodiversity and ES in CF presented their findings to this workshop and played an active role in discussions, to showcase their documented experience and the materials that will inform training development in year 2.

Output 4: National biodiversity supplement to the CF guidelines (integrated with CF initiatives concerning REDD+ and EbA), published by DoF and in use, with high level of awareness of its existence and relevance among key CFM stakeholders and practitioners.

Activity 4.1: Hold meetings with experts (including communications/educators) and DoF to agree content and format of biodiversity supplement

- **Experts workshop held to kick-start development of Biodiversity Supplement**

A first consultation workshop was held on 3rd March 2016 to develop the process needed to integrate biodiversity and ecosystem services into community forestry management in Nepal. The simple process (Figure 2), which it is envisaged will be implemented by Community Forest User Groups (supported by forest officers) will form the basis of the biodiversity supplement, as well as training materials under output 2.

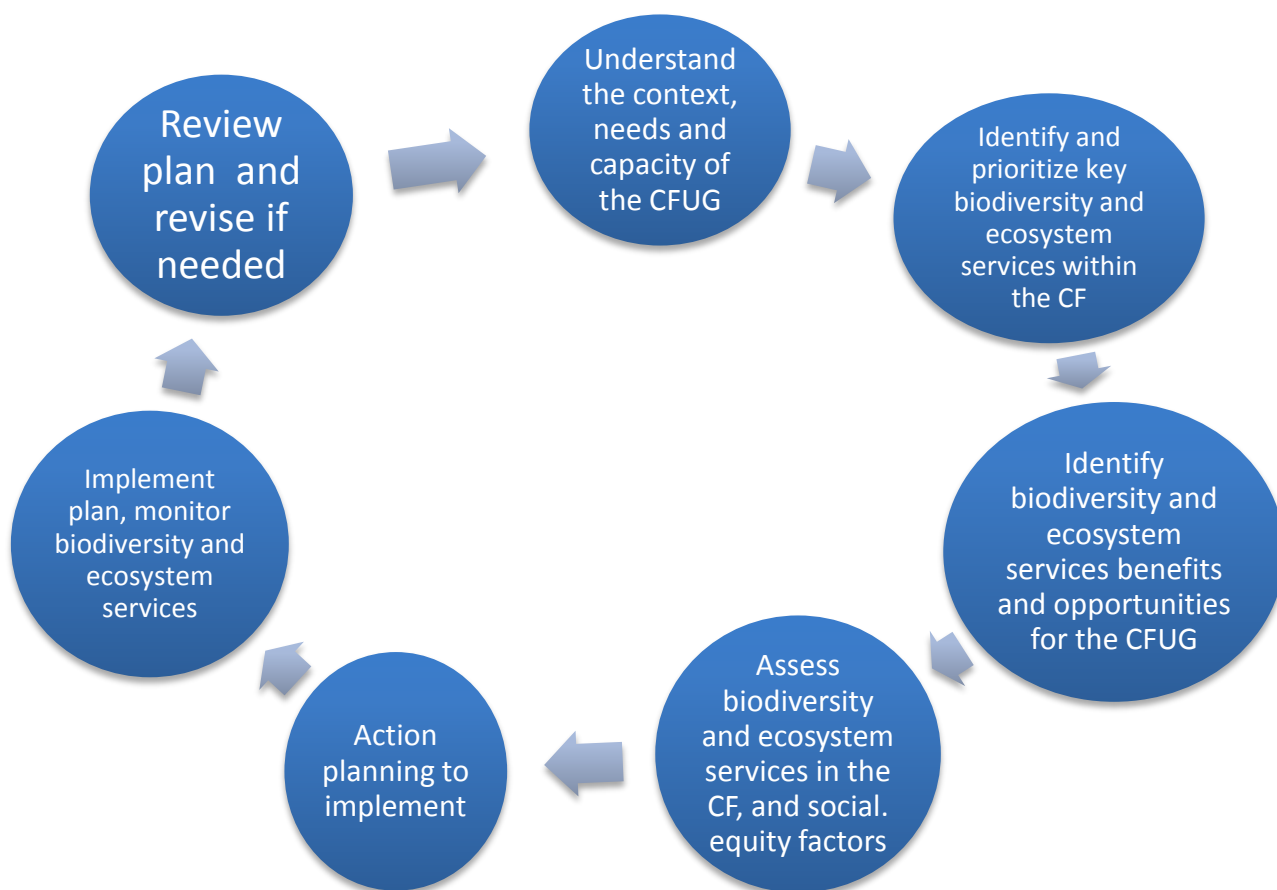


Figure 2 - draft process for CFUGs to integrate biodiversity and ecosystem services into CF operational planning

Workshop participants advised that there had to be clear linkages between the implementation of this process and the existing Community Forest Operational Planning Guidelines, and provided insights as to where these linkages could be made.

Output 5: CFM stakeholders nationally and regionally aware of the lessons learned from the project.

Activity 5.1: *Organise national level awareness and lesson-sharing events at meetings of relevant government bodies and other key CFM stakeholders*

The various workshops held by the project (and especially the national workshop that was held in August 2015) have raised the profile of the project among government bodies and other important national and regional stakeholders.

A national project management committee has also been formed to guide project implementation. High-level representatives from each collaborating organisation (including the Chairperson of FECOFUN and the Director General of the Department of Forests) are active members of this group, demonstrating the commitment of both organisations to the project and its relevance to forest stakeholders and national policy objectives.

In year two, we will endeavour to share widely the results of the review, including at meetings of Government bodies and FECOFUN chapters where possible, to raise awareness of biodiversity and ES as well as our project aims.

3.2 Progress towards project outputs¹

Output 1: *Information and knowledge on ecosystem service and biodiversity linkages to livelihoods and wellbeing, in the context of community forestry (including cultural, social, gender-based and institutional differences in understanding, interpretation, practice and impact) are compiled, documented and shared with state and civil society forest management stakeholders; entry points for mainstreaming biodiversity into pro-poor CFM identified.*

We have made good progress towards achieving this output in year 1. We have collated, compiled and documented information and knowledge on ecosystem service and biodiversity linkages to livelihoods and wellbeing, in the context of community forestry. We are now taking this wealth of information and synthesising it into key recommendations, for presentation to government. National policies have been reviewed. Our progress towards this output is highlighted below using our output indicators.

Indicator 1

Source list and key stakeholders for consultation drawn up by end of Quarter 1, Year 1 (Q2 year 1)

Key national-level stakeholders in community forest management were identified and invited to a national workshop on biodiversity and ecosystem services in community forestry in Nepal. Twenty speakers representing a range of key government and non-governmental stakeholders were asked to present their experience and expertise in integrating biodiversity and ecosystem services into community forestry management. (Annex 5: Abstracts from National Workshop, Annex 9: Participants of National Workshop)

Indicator 2

Desk top research of published material, site visits and consultation meetings completed with CF practitioners and policy makers (to understand entry points) and database of case studies compiled on CF, biodiversity and ecosystem services by end of Quarter 2, Year 1 (Q3 year 1)

¹ We had a delayed start and 2 month shift in project activities approved by Darwin due to the Earthquakes in Nepal in April and May, along with a revised project Gantt chart . However we have not yet submitted a revised logframe. Therefore, our indicators have timeframes related to our original proposal in black, revised timeframes in red reflect our new project timetable. We will submit a revised logframe as a change request shortly after this report.

An in-depth desktop review of peer-reviewed, as well as grey and unpublished literature, has been completed to understand how biodiversity and ecosystem services are currently addressed in community forestry, covering the following areas:

- Biodiversity and community forest management
- Biodiversity conservation and local livelihood
- Opportunities and approaches for biodiversity linked livelihood development
- Biodiversity loss in community forests and impact on human wellbeing
- Social dimensions to CF in Nepal

See annex 10 – Draft literature review of biodiversity and community forestry in Nepal.

In addition, the case studies presented through the national workshop were submitted as short papers and have been reviewed and edited by BCN for collation into a proceedings document that is currently undergoing final design before printing.

Three regional workshops that aimed to collect additional case studies from the perspective of CFUGs were held, and reports produced (annexes 3, 4 and 5– Regional workshop reports 1, 2, 3).

Finally, a review of relevant government policies has been undertaken to support identification of entry points for the project's mainstreaming aims (annex 11 – Review of Government Policy, Biodiversity and Community forestry in Nepal)

Indicator 3

Case studies and report on community forest management practices enhancing biodiversity conservation and livelihood development published and submitted to DoF/FECOFUN/MoFSC by end of Year 1 (Q1 year 2)

A project consultant is currently producing a succinct summary of the desktop review report, including key conclusions and recommendations, for publication and formal presentation to government. Additionally, the results of the review were presented to key government figures including the chief, community forestry division and other stakeholders (annex 12 – participants list) at an expert's workshop in March 2016.

Indicator 4

Review of CFM, biodiversity and livelihoods in Nepal published in peer reviewed journal by end of Q1, yr 2 (Q2 year 2)

Work is also ongoing to synthesise the extensive review reports into a format publishable in a peer-reviewed paper. Opportunities to publish in a national forestry journal in Nepal as well as an international journal are being explored.

Output 2. *Training courses for forestry professionals revised to include modules relating to the integration of ES and biodiversity into CFM planning (that also addresses issues of equity, indigenous knowledge, gender) and, through training of trainers, 500 FOs and 50 FECOFUN staff trained; with appropriate tools, guidelines, and awareness materials available for use in guiding CFUGs.*

In year 1 we have begun work towards this output. However the majority of activities will be occurring in years 2 and 3. Our progress to date is outlined against our indicators below.

Indicator 1

Course content reviewed with course administrators to determine how and where to integrate modules relating to biodiversity and ES conservation by end of Year 1 (Q1 year 2)

Existing training provided by the government (Central Forests Training and Extension Centre (CFTEC) and other stakeholders (mainly NGOs working in community forestry in Nepal and

South Asia) has been reviewed through interviews with course administrators, and from studying the training centre's prospectus and documents describing the content of existing courses.

See annex 13 – Review of training provided by CFTEC – and annex 14 – Review of training provided by NGOs).

Indicator 2

Training materials developed based on case studies and good practice [as documented in Output 1] and in consultation with course administrators by Quarter 2 of Year 2 (Q3 year 2)

A workshop was held on 4th March 2016 with Central Forests Training and Extension Centre officials and regional trainer staff explored current gaps related to biodiversity in the formal forestry training curriculum.

This workshop identified our main target groups, as well as the capacity gaps and training needs, alongside training methods that are regularly used in existing training by the Regional Training Centres. Course duration, format and outline were also discussed.

It is very important that there should be linkages between the biodiversity supplement (see output 4 below) and the training. The training course will build the capacity of forestry officers and other stakeholders to effectively use the supplement to integrate biodiversity into operational planning. Therefore, content of the training materials will be heavily influenced by the final form and content of the biodiversity supplement – and outputs from the 3rd March workshop (focused on the biodiversity supplement - see below) will further inform the content of the training course. A news story can be found here: <http://birdlifeneal.org/news-detail.php?id=309>

Indicator 3

Training of trainers completed, pilot training courses held with 28 Forest Officers, and 14 FECOFUN staff with training materials revised as necessary, by end of Year 2 (Q1 year 3)

Training of trainers and pilot training courses are planned for years 2 and 3.

Indicator 4

Through trained-trainers, training completed of 500 Forest Officers and 50 FECOFUN staff using revised course module, by end of Year 3 (Q1 year 4)

Training of forest officers is planned for years 2 and 3.

Indicator 5

Awareness materials for CFUGs produced and disseminated via DoF, FECOFUN and projects and programmes, to all 14 administrative zones, from middle of year 2

Work towards achieving this indicator is scheduled for year 2.

Output 3: *CFUGs in a minimum of 14 community forests have the understanding and capacity for inclusive planning, integration and monitoring of biodiversity and ES in their forests for combined and balanced livelihoods-resilience-conservation outcomes that benefit women and men; and have revised and adopted Operational Plans accordingly.*

We have not yet made any progress towards this output, as work towards output 3 is scheduled for years 2 and 3.

Output 4: *National biodiversity supplement to the CF guidelines (integrated with CF initiatives concerning REDD+ and EbA), published by DoF and in use, with high level of awareness of its existence and relevance among key CFM stakeholders and practitioners.*

We have begun to work towards this output (specifically towards achieving indicator 1) as outlined below.

Indicator 1

Consultation workshop organised by DoF, and involving FECOFUN, Institute of Forestry, NGO stakeholders etc. to review experience and agree content of Biodiversity Supplement to CF guidelines, by end of Q2, Year 2 (Q3 year 2)

A first consultation workshop was held on 3rd March 2016 to develop the process needed to integrate biodiversity and ecosystem services into community forestry management in Nepal. This process, which will be implemented by CFUGs supported by forest officers, will be the focus of the biodiversity supplement, as well as training materials under output 2.

Indicator 2

Biodiversity supplement to CFM Guidelines drafted by DoF (with support from project partners), through an iterative process involving early experience from pilots, and shared for comment by Quarter 1 of Year 3 (Q2 year 3)

Work towards achieving this indicator is planned for years 2 and 3.

Indicator 3

Biodiversity supplement to CFM Guidelines, tools and guidance disseminated to all DoF and FECOFUN District Offices, IoF, forest projects and programmes and INGOs/NGOs working in the CFM sector and made available on-line through appropriate forestry networks, with high level of awareness among forestry personnel; by end of Year 3. (End of project Q1 year 4)

Work towards achieving this indicator is planned for years 2 and 3.

Indicator 4

DoF integrates learning from the project into the CBD reporting process and preparation by end of Year 3 (End of project Q1 year 4)

Work towards achieving this indicator is planned for years 2 and 3.

Output 5: *CFM stakeholders nationally and regionally aware of the lessons learned from the project.*

Indicator 1

Project partners share lessons learned at relevant national and regional forestry meetings of DoF (District Forest Officers' annual national seminar and 5 annual regional meetings) and

FECOFUN (National community forestry workshop, FECOFUN annual general meeting and 75 district chapter meetings) (each year, especially years 2 and 3)

National Workshop and three regional workshops held in year 1.

Indicator 2

Lessons shared at 1 regional workshop by end of year 3

Regional meeting will be held in year 3.

Indicator 3

Project materials, lessons, case studies etc. shared through appropriate channels (websites, networks etc.), by end yr 3

All project materials will be made available by the end of the project.

3.3 Progress towards the project Outcome

Our project outcome is that through capacity development, tools, policy and process, biodiversity conservation is mainstreamed into Community Forestry in Nepal, alongside livelihood improvement, creating conditions for poverty alleviation and resilience among community forest-users.

In year 1 we have focussed on reviewing existing experience and good practice in biodiversity and ecosystem services integration into community forestry management. By documenting this experience we have ensured that we will have a strong baseline from which to advocate and provide the technical basis for biodiversity mainstreaming into community forestry.

We have also worked hard to raise awareness and foster buy-in within government of our project aim, by making explicit the linkages between our project outputs and Nepal's commitments within their NBSAP. We have so far been successful in engaging senior figures in our project workshops (see annexes 6 and 9 – participants' lists of national workshops). The fact that the Director General, Department of Forests is sitting on our national Project Management Committee demonstrates the institutional commitment to the project that BCN has continued to build nationally. This institutional platform will be integral in us delivering our outcome by the end of the project.

Progress against specific outcome indicators has been outlined below.

Indicator 1

A 'state of knowledge' and good practice review documents how CF management can maximise biodiversity and ES benefits while protecting or enhancing livelihood diversity and resilience; findings of review inform development of training materials and guidelines; by end of Year 1 (Q1 Year 2).

The good practice review has been a major focus of year 1, and is reaching completion.

Indicator 2

Course curricula, guidelines and tools are available for integration of biodiversity into CFM, by Quarter 2 of Year 2 (Q3 Year 2).

FOs, and other forestry professionals targeted by the project (including FECOFUN) have the capacity to support and advise CFUGs in developing Operational Plans that integrate (and measure) biodiversity conservation and ecosystem services in order to improve livelihood diversity and resilience in community forest management, by end Year 2 (Q1 Year 3).

By the end of year 3 (year 4 Q1), a total of 500 forestry officers trainees are trained.

Outline of content, preferred training tools, and key audiences have been developed and identified.

Indicator 3

Introductory meetings completed with the 14 CFUGs and the relevant FECOFUN staff and a process is established for increasing the participation of underrepresented groups by end of year 2 (year 3 Q1).

CFUGs from 14 community forests distributed across Nepal's administrative zones have developed, through an inclusive participatory process (involving women and men), Operational Plans that incorporate biodiversity and ecosystem services conservation objectives for enhanced, more equitable and sustainable livelihoods, and have monitoring systems to measure and record biodiversity and livelihood outcomes, by end of Year 3 (year 4 Q1).

Project Partners (BCN and FECOFUN) have existing relationships with many of the 14 CFs that are likely to be chosen as pilots under this project. Also, representatives from some of those CFUGs were invited to the regional workshops (Activity XXX) so starting the process of introducing the project.

Indicator 4

The draft structure and content for a supplement to the national CFM Guidelines (that govern CF management across Nepal) that provides guidance, manuals and tools for FOs and CFUGs on integrating biodiversity and ES into CF (e.g. covering biodiversity survey/inventory; biodiversity monitoring; integration of ITK; gender and forest use) is approved by end of year 2 (year 3 Q1).

A DoF-produced supplement to the national CFM Guidelines is published and integrated into the national CFM process by end of Year 3 (year 4 Q1).

An initial structure and list of contents was developed at the meeting on 3rd March. However, a lot more consultation and development is needed.

3.4 Monitoring of assumptions

Outcome level assumptions:

1. Nepal remains politically stable throughout the project period
 - There has been some political instability in Nepal over this first year of the project, causing a fuel blockade and affecting project implementation in the first year. This is ongoing, however there are signs of a resolution in the near future. See section 10 for more details.
2. National policies remain supportive of Community Forestry as an approach to forest management, benefit sharing, local empowerment, and biodiversity conservation
 - This still holds true, with NBSAP and new forest policy (2015) both recognising the importance of biodiversity and ecosystem services, and opportunity of their conservation through community forestry.
3. Key institutions, programmes and projects remain receptive to development of a biodiversity supplement to the CFM guidelines, and to integration of biodiversity and ecosystem services modules in training programmes.
 - There is still support by key institutions. However staff turnover within government has led to some challenges of institutional memory of the project. It is important to keep engaging key institutions on a regular and frequent basis.
4. The OP process with CFUGs/communities recommended in the biodiversity supplement can overcome any barriers to equitable participation from women, minority ethnic groups and low castes, to support poverty alleviation goals.
 - This assumption still remains crucial. We will monitor closely as we begin to pilot with CFUGs in year 2.

Output level assumptions:

1. That good practice recorded through the review of CFs can be translated into training and guidance to achieve replication.
 - This is a key assumption and we have included the project consultants that have undertaken the review in project workshops that focus on tool, training and guidance development in year 1. We will continue to engage the review consultants in years 2 and 3 (possibly through a technical advisory committee) to support incorporation and replication of their findings in tools and guidance.
2. Key institutions, programmes and projects remain receptive to development of a biodiversity supplement to the CFM guidelines, and to integration of biodiversity and ecosystem services modules in training programmes
 - A major challenge within year 1 has been staff turnover within government institutions. There has been a need to induct multiple focal points and senior staff to the project. However, in a year 1 change request we added a small amount of time for the CEO of BCN into the project, to support continued and new engagements with high-level government staff. As noted above, high-level support from government remains strong.
3. The policy entry points that have been identified for the outputs of the project remain valid
 - Commitment in Nepal's NBSAP remains valid, and has been bolstered by the publication of a new Forest Sector Policy in 2015 that sees opportunities for the forestry sector to contribute more to biodiversity conservation and livelihood development.
4. Forest Officers and FECOFUN staff that attend training courses apply what they have learned about biodiversity and ecosystem services in supporting revision of OPs, and staff turnover remains low
 - This remains a key assumption, and we will apply learnings from our pilots in years 2 and 3 to the final outputs of the project.
5. CFUGs have the capacity to update their OPs in the timeline of the project
 - We will work with CFUGs in areas around important sites where BCN currently work through other projects. An ongoing BCN presence will ensure that CFUGs can get the support needed to finalise the operational planning process within the timeline of the project.

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

It is too early for the project to be able to demonstrate attributable impact relating to either poverty or biodiversity.

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

Nepal's NBSAP includes the objective: 'By 2020, all community managed forests to include a biodiversity chapter in their management or Operational Plan and respective user groups to effectively implement those plans' (FB-C1). The project is directly supporting this aim.

The NBSAP also recognises that CFs can make a significant contribution to biodiversity and ecosystem services (ES) conservation, whilst contributing to health, livelihoods and wellbeing. This project is helping achieve these twin aims, and therefore Aichi Targets [AT] 11 &14, plus:

AT1 - Integrating biodiversity and ES into forest officer training and CF guidelines will raise awareness of the values of biodiversity and how to conserve and use it sustainably.

AT2 - Tools developed through this Darwin Initiative project will ensure integration of biodiversity and ES into local-level forest management plans, whilst implementation will ensure CFs are managed sustainably, to greater biodiversity and livelihoods benefit (AT7).

AT15 - Supporting Community Forest Management (CFM) which values and manages for biologically-diverse habitats (rather than a few, high value species) will help strengthen ecosystem resilience to climate change.

AT18 - The operational processes for CF and biodiversity developed by the project will promote recognition, respect for and integration of traditional knowledge, innovations and practices.

5. Project support to poverty alleviation

Nepal is ranked 145 out of 187 in the HDI, and 80% of poor people are rural (IFAD) with high dependence on natural resources. For CFM in Nepal to realise its potential for biodiversity conservation and poverty alleviation, a change is required to the way in which the natural assets and values of CFs are assessed, monitored and managed for maximum shared benefit. This, in turn, requires additional skills on the part of those responsible for supporting CFUGs in this process, and the procedures that ensure the adoption of best practice.

By institutionalising community-based forest biodiversity management, this project will create an enabling environment for tackling the dual objectives of biodiversity conservation and poverty alleviation through CF.

In year 1 of the project (through the national review), we have identified examples of good practice of biodiversity-based livelihood development, which will be incorporated into guidance and tools in years 2 and 3.

There is an existing requirement in the community forestry operational planning process for the CFUG to prioritise the needs of poor and disadvantaged members of the user groups. However, a current lack of recognition of wider biodiversity and ES values means that not all forest products and services that could benefit the poor are identified and catered for through the operational planning process. Over the following two years our project will support better biodiversity integration into operational planning.

In years 2 and 3 we will work with 14 CFUGs to pilot our tools and guidance in revision of operational plans. This will give us the opportunity to directly impact on poverty alleviation in these target groups.

6. Project support to Gender equity issues

Women are the primary users of forest products in Nepal, therefore any activity relating to access and/or improvement in the condition and diversity of forest resources will have a bearing on women. However, only about 24% of CFUG members are women.

Reflecting women's important role in forest resource use, this project sees women's involvement – as participants and beneficiaries – as vital. Training, guidelines and tools concerning mainstreaming of biodiversity into CFM will include specific content which helps raise awareness of women's role, and creates a process for women's participation and empowerment as managers, users and beneficiaries of forest biodiversity.

In our three regional workshops in year 1, we aimed for equal representation of men and women, to ensure that all experience of biodiversity and ecosystem services within community forestry was captured. 45% of the 93 attendants from Community forest user groups were women.

7. Monitoring and evaluation

Monitoring of day-to-day project implementation has been carried out through regular communication between BirdLife and BCN, through quarterly reporting from BCN to BirdLife as well as regular (at least monthly) skype calls. Two visits by BirdLife project staff to Nepal have assisted greatly both in planning of future work and monitoring what has thus far been achieved.

In this reporting period we have also made good progress in setting baselines and developing monitoring protocols for outputs and our outcome – with specific relevance to outputs 2 and 3 thus far.

Output 2 – developing training and tools to build capacity

We have reviewed the training related to biodiversity and ecosystem services that is currently available to forest officers and other stakeholders as a first step to understanding their knowledge and experience of biodiversity and ES in CFM (annexes 10 and 11). We will build on this in year 2 with pre-training questionnaires and forest officer interviews, to understand the level of knowledge and expertise in biodiversity and ecosystem services that already exists within the community forestry sector. This baseline will enable us to show the contribution that our project has made to the awareness and capacity of forest officers in biodiversity and ES – a key component of our outcome.

Output 3 – Revising operational plans

We have collected a sample of (c. 100) CFUG operational plans to establish a baseline of how biodiversity and ecosystem services are currently addressed in CFM. A consultant has drafted a set of scoring criteria and an MSc student from a university in Kathmandu is scoring the 100 plans against these criteria. A similar review of the 14 operational plans that we will provide support will help us demonstrate how CFUGs have integrated biodiversity considerations into the planning cycle.

8. Lessons learnt

We have learnt several key lessons over this first year of the project

1. It is important to keep key stakeholders engaged to develop sense of ownership. This has been challenging with quite regular turnover and rotation of staff in government departments.
2. We need to continue a delicate balancing act in managing our relationships with the two key partners in the Community Forestry Sector – DoF and FECOFUN. DoF, responsible for implementing national policies at the local level, and FECOFUN, who advocate for CFUG rights and interests, have different perspectives and opinions regarding our project aims. BCN have learnt how to best meet each partner's needs.
3. LTSI have been accommodating through a difficult first year – and have been very flexible with regards change requests. We won't be afraid to request a change in the future if justified.

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

We have received no previous reviews.

10. Other comments on progress not covered elsewhere

We have faced some major challenges over the first year of the project – two devastating earthquakes in April/May 2015, and an ongoing fuel crisis due to instability that was caused by the introduction of a controversial new constitution in Nepal.

On 25th April 2015, a 7.8-magnitude earthquake hit Nepal, killing more than 8,000 people and injuring over 20,000. Aftershocks continued for almost a month, with another large earthquake (magnitude 7.3) occurring on the 12th May. No-one involved in the project was hurt; however the disaster caused huge disruption across the country. Due to continuing aftershocks, infrastructural damage and enduring uncertainty within Nepal we decided to delay our inception and project planning workshop, initially planned for May, to August and submit a formal change request to shift our project start from April to June. This was accepted by the Darwin Initiative.

Arguable more challenging has been the fuel crisis that has gripped Nepal for the last six months. In September 2015 the Government of Nepal ratified a new Constitution, which has been perceived as unfair to certain minority groups in regions near the border with India. Instability in these regions has caused a blockade on fuel imports from India – the major importer. The crisis meant that we had to delay two regional workshops due to transport difficulties, and has placed an additional burden on Community Forests across the country. As the population has turned to fuel wood in place of unavailable cooking gas, there are reports of increased deforestation.

11. Sustainability and legacy

For our project to have a meaningful legacy in Nepal, it is vital that two of our key outputs are adopted by the relevant government departments. These are the training course and materials for forest officers, and the Biodiversity Supplement.

In order to integrate both of these outputs into national frameworks and policies, we have been careful to involve key stakeholders in their design from the very beginning. We will ensure that CTFEC continues to play an important role in the development, piloting and delivery of the training package that will form output 2. Similarly, Key figures in the DoF will continue to be engaged in the development of the Biodiversity Supplement.

Our mainstreaming approach, incorporating biodiversity tools and training into existing policy frameworks and government structures, will ensure our impact continues well beyond the scope of the project.

12. Darwin Identity

Darwin Initiative support has been profiled at every workshop held by the project, which has been profiled as a distinct project. The Darwin logo has featured prominently on workshop banners, presentations and communications made through the project so far. As we finalise the draft outputs mentioned above, we will be sure to recognise the Darwin Initiative's support. These activities are significantly raising the profile of the Darwin Initiative within government departments in Nepal (especially the DoF), as well as other stakeholders working in the community forestry sector in Nepal.

The project manager Billy Fairburn (@billyfairburn) has tweeted about project events as they happen. These have often been retweeted by the main BirdLife account (@birdlife_news) and by Darwin.

We have also produced a two-page factsheet about the project (annex 15), distributed at workshops and events, that acknowledges Darwin funding.

13. 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)			-0.6%	
Consultancy costs			4.5%	
Overhead Costs			0.0%	
Travel and subsistence			6.6%	
Operating Costs			-7.4%	
Capital items (see below)			0.4%	BCN had some remaining budget after having purchased all planned capital equipment, so also purchased a camera
Others (see below)			0.8%	
TOTAL				

*Budget outlined here follows change requests in 2015/16, not original proposal

**Costs may change slightly before submission of actual claim as we are still finalising our accounts.

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

As many of our outputs are drafts at this stage, we are not in a position to share anything in this section yet.

Annex 1: Report of progress and achievements against Logical Framework for Financial Year 2014-2015²

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2014 - March 2015	Actions required/planned for next period
<p>Impact</p> <p>Community forestry across Nepal delivers for both nature and people: sustaining vital ecosystem services, improving livelihoods and wellbeing, achieving greater resilience to climate change, and safeguarding globally important biodiversity.</p>		<p>It is too early for the project to be able to demonstrate attributable impact relating to either poverty or biodiversity.</p>	
<p>Outcome</p> <p>Through capacity development, tools, policy and process, biodiversity conservation is mainstreamed into Community Forestry in Nepal, alongside livelihood improvement, creating conditions for poverty alleviation and resilience among community forest-users.</p>	<p>Indicator 1</p> <p>A 'state of knowledge' and good practice review documents how CF management can maximise biodiversity and ES benefits while protecting or enhancing livelihood diversity and resilience; findings of review inform development of training materials and guidelines; by end of Year 1 (Q1 Year 2).</p> <p>Indicator 2</p> <p>Course curricula, guidelines and tools are available for integration of biodiversity into CFM, by Quarter 2 of Year 2 (Q3 Year 2).</p> <p>FOs, and other forestry professionals targeted by the project (including FECOFUN) have the capacity to support and advise CFUGs in developing Operational Plans that integrate (and measure) biodiversity conservation and ecosystem services in order to improve livelihood diversity</p>	<p>Indicator 1</p> <p>The good practice review has been a major focus of year 1, and is reaching completion.</p> <p>Indicator 2</p> <p>Outline of content, preferred training tools, and key audiences have been developed and identified.</p> <p>Indicator 3</p> <p>Project Partners (BCN and FECOFUN) have existing relationships with many of the 14 CFs that are likely to be chosen as pilots under this project. Also, representatives from some of those CFUGs were invited to the regional workshops (Activity XXX) so starting the process of introducing the project.</p> <p>Indicator 4</p> <p>An initial structure and list of contents</p>	<p>In the next period our focus will be:</p> <p>Indicator 1</p> <p>To publish the results of the review and present to the DoF.</p> <p>Indicator 2</p> <p>To develop course curricula and training materials, and begin to pilot training and train trainers</p> <p>Indicator 3</p> <p>Pilot guidance through revision of some CFUG operational plans</p> <p>Indicator 4</p> <p>Drafting biodiversity supplement, and</p>

² We had a delayed start and 2 month shift in project activities approved by Darwin due to the Earthquakes in Nepal in April and May, along with a revised project Gantt chart . However we have not yet submitted a revised logframe. Therefore, our indicators have timeframes related to our original proposal in black, revised timeframes in red reflect our new project timetable. We will submit a revised logframe as a change request shortly after this report.

	<p>and resilience in community forest management, by end Year 2 (Q1 Year 3).</p> <p>By the end of year 3 (year 4 Q1), a total of 500 forestry officers trainees are trained.</p> <p>Indicator 3</p> <p>Introductory meetings completed with the 14 CFUGs and the relevant FECOFUN staff and a process is established for increasing the participation of underrepresented groups by end of year 2 (year 3 Q1).</p> <p>CFUGs from 14 community forests distributed across Nepal's administrative zones have developed, through an inclusive participatory process (involving women and men), Operational Plans that incorporate biodiversity and ecosystem services conservation objectives for enhanced, more equitable and sustainable livelihoods, and have monitoring systems to measure and record biodiversity and livelihood outcomes, by end of Year 3 (year 4 Q1).</p> <p>Indicator 4</p> <p>The draft structure and content for a supplement to the national CFM Guidelines (that govern CF management across Nepal) that provides guidance, manuals and tools for FOs and CFUGs on integrating biodiversity and ES into CF (e.g. covering biodiversity survey/inventory; biodiversity monitoring; integration of ITK; gender and forest use) is approved by end of year 2 (year 3 Q1).</p> <p>A DoF-produced supplement to the national CFM Guidelines is published</p>	<p>was developed at the meeting on 3rd March. However, a lot more consultation and development is needed.</p>	<p>presenting back to experts for input</p>
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	<p>and integrated into the national CFM process by end of Year 3 (year 4 Q1).</p>		
<p>Output 1. Information and knowledge on ecosystem service and biodiversity linkages to livelihoods and wellbeing, in the context of community forestry (including cultural, social, gender-based and institutional differences in understanding, interpretation, practice and impact) are compiled, documented and shared with state and civil society forest management stakeholders; entry points for mainstreaming biodiversity into pro-poor CFM identified.</p>	<p>Source list and key stakeholders for consultation drawn up by end of Quarter 1, Year 1 (Q2 year 1)</p> <p>Desk top research of published material, site visits and consultation meetings completed with CF practitioners and policy makers (to understand entry points) and database of case studies compiled on CF, biodiversity and ecosystem services by end of Quarter 2, Year 1 (Q3 year 1)</p>	<p>Key national-level stakeholders in community forest management were identified and invited to a national workshop on biodiversity and ecosystem services in community forestry in Nepal. Twenty speakers representing a range of key government and non-governmental stakeholders were asked to present their experience and expertise in integrating biodiversity ecosystem services into community forestry management.</p> <p>Regional experts also participated in three regional workshops.</p>	<p>An in-depth desktop review of peer-reviewed, as well as grey and unpublished literature, has been completed to understand how biodiversity and ecosystem services are currently addressed in community forestry, covering the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity and community forest management • Biodiversity conservation and local livelihood • Opportunities and approaches for biodiversity linked livelihood development • Biodiversity loss in community forests and impact on human wellbeing • Social dimensions to CF in Nepal <p>In addition, the case studies presented through the workshop above were submitted as short papers and have reviewed and edited by BCN for collation into a proceedings document that is currently undergoing final design and printing.</p> <p>Three regional workshops that aimed to collect additional case studies from the perspective of CFUGs were held, and a synthesis report produced.</p> <p>Finally a review of relevant government policies has been undertaken to support identification of entry points for the project's mainstreaming aims.</p>

	<p>Case studies and report on community forest management practices enhancing biodiversity conservation and livelihood development published and submitted to DoF/FECOFUN/MoFSC by end of Year 1 (Q1 year 2)</p>	<p>A project consultant is currently producing a succinct summary of the desktop review report, including key conclusions and recommendations, for publication and formal presentation to government.</p> <p>Additionally, the results of the review were presented to key government figures including the chief, community forestry division and other stakeholders at an expert's workshop in March 2016.</p>
	<p>Review of CFM, biodiversity and livelihoods in Nepal published in peer reviewed journal by end of Q1, yr 2 (Q2 year 2)</p>	<p>Work is ongoing to synthesise the extensive review reports into a format publishable in a peer-reviewed paper. Opportunities to publish in a national forestry journal in Nepal as well as an international journal are being explored.</p>
<p>Activity 1.1</p> <p>Hold workshop and meetings to start collating case studies and link to networks of organisations and individuals working together on CFM and biodiversity in Nepal</p>		<p>Meeting held 4th and 5th August 2015, with 20 papers on biodiversity and ecosystem services in community forestry presented.</p>
<p>Activity 1.2</p> <p>Conduct a comprehensive and up-to-date review of CFM, ES, biodiversity and livelihoods in Nepal, including social dimensions, and drawing from case studies provided through the network under 1.1</p>		<p>Review undertaken through two consultants.</p>
<p>Activity 1.3</p> <p>Publish results of the review in an open-access peer reviewed journal or other appropriate format</p>		<p>Consultant currently drafting synthesis paper from review</p>
<p>Output 2. Training courses for forestry professionals revised to include modules relating to the integration of ES and biodiversity into CFM planning (that also addresses issues of equity, indigenous knowledge, gender) and, through training of trainers, 500 FOs and 50 FECOFUN staff trained; with appropriate tools, guidelines, and awareness materials available for use in guiding CFUGs.</p>		<p>Course content reviewed with course administrators to determine how and where to integrate modules relating to biodiversity and ES conservation by end of Year 1 (Q1 year 2)</p>
		<p>Training materials developed based on case studies and good practice [as documented in Output 1] and in consultation with course administrators</p>
		<p>Existing training provided by the government (MoSFC forest training centre) and other stakeholders (mainly NGOs working in community forestry in Nepal and South Asia) has been reviewed.</p> <p>A workshop was held on 4th March 2016 with Central Forests Training and Extension Centre officials and regional trainer staff explored current gaps related to biodiversity in the formal forestry training curriculum.</p> <p>Experts Workshop on 4th March 2016 identified capacity gaps and training needs in forest officers to be trained, alongside training methods that are regularly used</p>

	by Quarter 2 of Year 2 (Q3 year 2)	in existing training. Course duration, format and outline were also discussed.
	Training of trainers completed, pilot training courses held with 28 Forest Officers, and 14 FECOFUN staff with training materials revised as necessary, by end of Year 2 (Q1 year 3)	No activity planned for year 1
	Through trained-trainers, training completed of 500 Forest Officers and 50 FECOFUN staff using revised course module, by end of Year 3 (Q1 year 4)	No activity planned for year 1
	Awareness materials for CFUGs produced and disseminated via DoF, FECOFUN and projects and programmes, to all 14 administrative zones, from middle of year 2	No activity planned for year 1
Activity 2.1. Hold expert consultative meeting to agree and design content of training materials, tools and guidelines (and drawing from Output 1); and develop approach for integration of biodiversity and ecosystem services training modules into curricula and content of existing training courses of DoF and FECOFUN		A meeting was held on 4 th March, with representatives of the Central Forests Training and Extension Centre and representatives of four of the five regional training centres based throughout Nepal.
Activity 2.2. Produce training materials in appropriate formats (brochures, PowerPoint presentations, videos, course modules etc.) and distribute to relevant/targeted individuals and institutions.		Activity not planned for year 1
Activity 2.3. Provide training to DoF and FECOFUN staff to enhance their knowledge and capacity on biodiversity and ecosystem services in the context of CFM (including through training of trainers)		Activity not planned for year 1

<p>Activity 2.4.</p> <p>Pre- and post-training surveys conducted among FO trainees to assess the understanding, impact and application of course content and key principles</p>	<p>Activity not planned for year 1</p>	
<p>Activity 2.5.</p> <p>Produce awareness materials for CFUGs and disseminate throughout the country to support integration of ES and biodiversity in community forestry</p>	<p>Activity not planned for year 1</p>	
<p>Output 3. CFUGs in a minimum of 14 community forests have the understanding and capacity for inclusive planning, integration and monitoring of biodiversity and ES in their forests for combined and balanced livelihoods-resilience-conservation outcomes that benefit women and men; and have revised and adopted Operational Plans accordingly.</p>	<p>Workshops on biodiversity and ES values in CF, led by the targeted FOs, held with communities & CFUGs at the 14 target CFs and at least 14 biodiversity and ES assessments carried out at target CFs by Q1 of year 3</p>	<p>No activity planned for year 1</p>
	<p>Participative planning workshops held at the 14 target CFs for revision of CF operational plans, ensuring gender inclusive attendance/participation, held by Q2, Year 3</p>	<p>No activity planned for year 1</p>
	<p>Operational plans and monitoring regime drafted by 14 CFUGs (supported by project partners) and accepted and endorsed by DoF, by end of Year 3</p>	<p>No activity planned for year 1</p>
<p>Activity 3.1.</p> <p>Hold community level meetings for piloting the integration of biodiversity and ecosystem services in CFM</p>	<p>Activity not planned for year 1</p>	
<p>Activity 3.2.</p> <p>Through participatory process, prepare revised Operational Plans for 14 selected CFs considering the contribution of biodiversity and ecosystem services conservation in sustainable livelihoods development and resilience</p>	<p>Activity not planned for year 1</p>	

<p>Activity 3.3.</p> <p>Follow and support the process of approval of the revised OPs by the relevant government body</p>	<p>Activity not planned for year 1</p>	
<p>Activity 3.4</p> <p>Support implementation of OPs and establishing of monitoring of biodiversity, ES and livelihoods outcomes</p>	<p>Activity not planned for year 1</p>	
<p>Output 4. National biodiversity supplement to the CF guidelines (integrated with CF initiatives concerning REDD+ and EbA), published by DoF and in use, with high level of awareness of its existence and relevance among key CFM stakeholders and practitioners.</p>	<p>Consultation workshop organised by DoF, and involving FECOFUN, Institute of Forestry, NGO stakeholders etc. to review experience and agree content of Biodiversity Supplement to CF guidelines, by end of Q2, Year 2 (Q3 year 2)</p>	<p>A first consultation workshop was held on 3rd March 2016 to develop the process needed to integrate biodiversity and ecosystem services into community forestry management in Nepal. The process, which will be implemented by CFUGs supported by forest officers, will form the basis of the biodiversity supplement, as well as training materials under output 2.</p> <p>A project management committee has been formed including high-level representatives of DoF and FECOFUN, building on the institutional commitment to the projects aims.</p>
	<p>Biodiversity supplement to CFM Guidelines drafted by DoF (with support from project partners), through an iterative process involving early experience from pilots, and shared for comment by Quarter 1 of Year 3 (Q2 year 3)</p>	<p>No activity planned for year 1</p>
	<p>Biodiversity supplement to CFM Guidelines, tools and guidance disseminated to all DoF and FECOFUN District Offices, IoF, forest projects and programmes and INGOs/NGOs working in the CFM sector and made available on-line through appropriate forestry networks, with high level of awareness among forestry personnel; by end of Year 3. (End of project Q1 year 4)</p>	<p>No activity planned for year 1</p>

	DoF integrates learning from the project into the CBD reporting process and preparation by end of Year 3 (End of project Q1 year 4)	No activity planned for year 1
Activity 4.1. Hold meetings with experts (including communications/educators) and DoF to agree content and format of biodiversity supplement		An expert consultation workshop was held on 3 rd and 4 th March as a first step to developing the biodiversity supplement. Recommendations from government, FECOFUN and NGO experts were recorded and will inform the contents and format of the biodiversity supplement.
Activity 4.2. Design, write and produce biodiversity supplement and any accompanying materials (e.g. video, poster, leaflets) in appropriate formats		Activity not planned for year 1
Activity 4.3. Distribute materials through appropriate channels and conduct outreach activities (meetings, websites, local radio, CFM networks) to ensure wide awareness		Activity not planned for year 1
Output 5. CFM stakeholders nationally and regionally aware of the lessons learned from the project.	Project partners share lessons learned at relevant national and regional forestry meetings of DoF (District Forest Officers' annual national seminar and 5 annual regional meetings) and FECOFUN (National community forestry workshop, FECOFUN annual general meeting and 75 district chapter meetings) (each year, especially years 2 and 3)	No activity planned for year 1
	Lessons shared at 1 regional workshop by end of year 3	No activity planned for year 1
	Project materials, lessons, case studies etc. shared through appropriate channels (websites, networks etc.), by end yr 3	No activity planned for year 1
Activity 5.1. Organise national level awareness and lesson-sharing events at meetings of relevant government bodies and other key CFM stakeholders		The inaugural project workshop, held on 4 th and 5 th August 2015, profiled the project at the national level.

<p>Activity 5.2.</p> <p>Organise regional lesson-sharing workshop (associated with BirdLife Asia Region partnership meeting)</p>	<p>Activity not planned for year 1</p>
<p>Activity 5.3.</p> <p>Disseminate and share all project materials and lessons learned through appropriate channels (websites, networks etc.)</p>	<p>Activity not planned for year 1</p>

Annex 2. Project's full current logframe

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
<p>Goal:</p> <p>Community forestry across Nepal delivers for both nature and people: sustaining vital ecosystem services, improving livelihoods and wellbeing, achieving greater resilience to climate change, and safeguarding globally important biodiversity.</p>			
<p>Outcome:</p> <p>Through capacity development, tools, policy and process, biodiversity conservation is mainstreamed into Community Forestry in Nepal, alongside livelihood improvement, creating conditions for poverty alleviation and resilience among community forest-users.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A 'state of knowledge' and good practice review documents how CF management can maximise biodiversity and ES benefits while protecting or enhancing livelihood diversity and resilience; findings of review inform development of training materials and guidelines; by end of Year 1. 2. Course curricula, guidelines and tools are available for integration of biodiversity into CFM, by Quarter 2 of Year 2.FOs, and other forestry professionals targeted by the project (including FECOFUN) have the capacity to support and advise CFUGs in developing Operational Plans that integrate (and measure) biodiversity conservation and ecosystem services in order to improve livelihood diversity and 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reports of reviews; case studies printed and published on-line; peer reviewed paper; number of downloads of publicly available documents; records of meetings with DoF/FECOFUN/MoFSC and training institutions 2. Pre- and post-training surveys conducted among FO trainees to assess the understanding, impact and application of course content and key principles; training schedules and reports on training carried out by FOs and surveys of participating CFUGs 3. Reports from planning meetings; operational plans from targeted CFs; monitoring plans and gender disaggregated baselines of biodiversity and livelihood indicators 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Nepal remains politically stable throughout the project period 2. National policies remain supportive of Community Forestry as an approach to forest management, benefit sharing, local empowerment, and biodiversity conservation 3. Key institutions, programmes and projects remain receptive to development of a biodiversity supplement to the CFM guidelines, and to integration of biodiversity and ecosystem services modules in training programmes. 4. The OP process with CFUGs/communities recommended in the biodiversity supplement can overcome any barriers to equitable

	<p>resilience in community forest management, by end Year 2. By the end of year 3, a total of 500 forestry officers' trainees are trained.</p> <p>Introductory meetings completed with the 14 CFUGs and the relevant FECOFUN staff and a process is established for increasing the participation of underrepresented groups by end of year 2.</p> <p>3. CFUGs from 14 community forests distributed across Nepal's administrative zones have developed, through an inclusive participatory process (involving women and men), Operational Plans that incorporate biodiversity and ecosystem services conservation objectives for enhanced, more equitable and sustainable livelihoods, and have monitoring systems to measure and record biodiversity and livelihood outcomes, by end of Year 3.</p> <p>4. The draft structure and content for a supplement to the national CFM Guidelines (that govern CF management across Nepal) that provides guidance, manuals and tools for FOs and CFUGs on integrating biodiversity and ES into CF (e.g. covering biodiversity survey/inventory; biodiversity monitoring; integration of ITK; gender and forest use) is approved by end of year 2. A DoF-produced supplement to the national CFM Guidelines is published and integrated into the national CFM process by end of Year 3.</p>	<p>4. Documentation and guidance related to the biodiversity supplement to the CFM Guidelines, is available on line and within offices of key forest institutions (DoF/FECOFUN); report of survey of availability, awareness and use of materials among DoF District Offices and Forest Officers and FECOFUN; note on official endorsement and communication of the biodiversity supplement etc. provided from DOF to all FOs.</p>	<p>participation from women, minority ethnic groups and low castes, to support poverty alleviation goals.</p>
<p>Outputs:</p> <p>1. Information and knowledge on ecosystem service and biodiversity</p>	<p>1a. Source list and key stakeholders for consultation drawn up by end of Quarter 1, Year 1</p> <p>1b. Desk top research of published</p>	<p>Attendee lists, programme, presentations, and reports/minutes from national and regional workshops and meetings; websites; records of</p>	<p>That good practice recorded through the review of CFs can be translated into training and guidance to achieve</p>

<p>linkages to livelihoods and wellbeing, in the context of community forestry (including cultural, social, gender-based and institutional differences in understanding, interpretation, practice and impact) are compiled, documented and shared with state and civil society forest management stakeholders; entry points for mainstreaming biodiversity into pro-poor CFM identified.</p>	<p>material, site visits and consultation meetings completed with CF practitioners and policy makers (to understand entry points) and database of case studies compiled on CF, biodiversity and ecosystem services by end of Quarter 2, Year 1</p> <p>1c. Case studies and report on community forest management practices enhancing biodiversity conservation and livelihood development published and submitted to DoF/FECOFUN/MoFSC by end of Year 1</p> <p>1d. Review of CFM, biodiversity and livelihoods in Nepal published in peer reviewed journal by end of Q1, yr 2</p>	<p>downloads and web page visits..</p>	<p>replication.</p>
<p>2. Training courses for forestry professionals revised to include modules relating to the integration of ES and biodiversity into CFM planning (that also addresses issues of equity, indigenous knowledge, gender) and, through training of trainers, 500 FOs and 50 FECOFUN staff trained; with appropriate tools, guidelines, and awareness materials available for use in guiding CFUGs.</p>	<p>2a. Course content reviewed with course administrators to determine how and where to integrate modules relating to biodiversity and ES conservation by end of Year 1</p> <p>2b. Training materials developed based on case studies and good practice [as documented in Output 1] and in consultation with course administrators by Quarter 2 of Year 2</p> <p>2c. Training of trainers completed, pilot training courses held with 28 Forest Officers, and 14 FECOFUN staff with training materials revised as necessary, by end of Year 2</p> <p>2d. Through trained-trainers, training completed of 500 Forest Officers and 50 FECOFUN staff using revised course module, by end of Year 3.</p> <p>2e. Awareness materials for CFUGs produced and disseminated via DoF, FECOFUN and projects and programmes, to all 14 administrative</p>	<p>Training materials, both printed and on-line and reports and evaluations from training workshops held with FOs; no. of downloads of online materials; FO training course content</p>	<p>Forest Officers and FECOFUN staff that attend training courses apply what they have learned about biodiversity and ecosystem services in supporting revision of OPs, and staff turnover remains low</p>

	zones, from middle of year 2		
<p>3. CFUGs in a minimum of 14 community forests have the understanding and capacity for inclusive planning, integration and monitoring of biodiversity and ES in their forests for combined and balanced livelihoods-resilience-conservation outcomes that benefit women and men; and have revised and adopted Operational Plans accordingly.</p>	<p>3a. Workshops on biodiversity and ES values in CF, led by the targeted FOs, held with communities & CFUGs at the 14 target CFs and at least 14 biodiversity and ES assessments carried out at target CFs by Q1 of year 3</p> <p>3b. Participative planning workshops held at the 14 target CFs for revision of CF operational plans, ensuring gender inclusive attendance/participation, held by Q2, Year 3</p> <p>3c. Operational plans and monitoring regime drafted by 14 CFUGs (supported by project partners) and accepted and endorsed by DoF, by end of Year 3</p>	<p>Reports of training workshops held with CFUGs; gender disaggregated reports of biodiversity benefits in each targeted CF and written monitoring plans.</p>	<p>CFUGs have the capacity to update their OPs in the timeline of the project</p>
<p>4. National biodiversity supplement to the CF guidelines (integrated with CF initiatives concerning REDD+ and EbA), published by DoF and in use, with high level of awareness of its existence and relevance among key CFM stakeholders and practitioners.</p>	<p>4a. Consultation workshop organised by DoF, and involving FECOFUN, Institute of Forestry, NGO stakeholders etc. to review experience and agree content of Biodiversity Supplement to CF guidelines, by end of Q2, Year 2</p> <p>4b. Biodiversity supplement to CFM Guidelines drafted by DoF (with support from project partners), through an iterative process involving early experience from pilots, and shared for comment by Quarter 1 of Year 3</p> <p>4c. Biodiversity supplement to CFM Guidelines, tools and guidance disseminated to all DoF and FECOFUN District Offices, IoF, forest projects and programmes and INGOs/NGOs working in the CFM sector and made available on-line through appropriate forestry networks, with high level of awareness among forestry personnel; by end of Year 3.</p> <p>4d. DoF integrates learning from the</p>	<p>Published report on CF management practices that enhance biodiversity conservation and livelihood development; records of meetings held with policy makers; list of relevant policy entry points; journal</p>	<p>Key institutions, programmes and projects remain receptive to development of a biodiversity supplement to the CFM guidelines, and to integration of biodiversity and ecosystem services modules in training programmes.</p> <p>The policy entry points that have been identified for the outputs of the project remain valid</p>

	project into the CBD reporting process and preparation by end of Year 3		
<p>5. CFM stakeholders nationally and regionally aware of the lessons learned from the project.</p>	<p>5a. Project partners share lessons learned at relevant national and regional forestry meetings of DoF (District Forest Officers' annual national seminar and 5 annual regional meetings) and FECOFUN (National community forestry workshop, FECOFUN annual general meeting and 75 district chapter meetings) (each year, especial years 2 and 3)</p> <p>5b. Lessons shared at 1 regional workshop by end of year 3</p> <p>5c. Project materials, lessons, case studies etc. shared through appropriate channels (websites, networks etc.), by end yr 3</p>	<p>Reports of Biodiversity Supplement planning workshops; programme and attendee list for development workshop and report on workshop outcomes and agreements; published version of Biodiversity Supplement either in print and/or on line; survey of DoF District office staff before and after to gauge awareness of Biodiversity Supplement; reports from national meetings</p>	
<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>1.1 Hold workshop and meetings to start collating case studies and link to networks of organisations and individuals working together on CFM and biodiversity in Nepal</p> <p>1.2 Conduct a comprehensive and up-to-date review of CFM, ES, biodiversity and livelihoods in Nepal, including social dimensions, and drawing from case studies provided through the network under 1.1</p> <p>1.3 Publish results of the review in an open-access peer reviewed journal or other appropriate format</p> <p>2.1 Hold expert consultative meeting to agree and design content of training materials, tools and guidelines (and drawing from Output 1); and develop approach for integration of biodiversity and ecosystem services training modules into curricula and content of existing training courses of DoF and FECOFUN</p> <p>2.2 Produce training materials in appropriate formats (brochures, PowerPoint presentations, videos, course modules etc.) and distribute to relevant/targeted individuals and institutions.</p> <p>2.3 Provide training to DoF and FECOFUN staff to enhance their knowledge and capacity on biodiversity and ecosystem services in the context of CFM (including through training of trainers)</p> <p>2.4 Pre- and post-training surveys conducted among FO trainees to assess the understanding, impact and application of course content and key principles</p> <p>2.5 Produce awareness materials for CFUGs and disseminate throughout the country to support integration of ES and biodiversity in community forestry</p> <p>3.1 Hold community level meetings for piloting the integration of biodiversity and ecosystem services in CFM</p> <p>3.2 Through participatory process, prepare revised Operational Plans for 14 selected CFs considering the contribution of biodiversity and ecosystem services conservation in sustainable livelihoods development and resilience</p> <p>3.3 Follow and support the process of approval of the revised OPs by the relevant government body</p>			

3.4 Support implementation of OPs and establishing of monitoring of biodiversity, ES and livelihoods outcomes

4.1 Hold meetings with experts (including communications/educators) and DoF to agree content and format of biodiversity supplement

4.2 Design, write and produce biodiversity supplement and any accompanying materials (e.g. video, poster, leaflets) in appropriate formats

4.3 Distribute materials through appropriate channels and conduct outreach activities (meetings, websites, local radio, CFM networks) to ensure wide awareness

5.1 Organise national level awareness and lesson-sharing events at meetings of relevant government bodies and other key CFM stakeholders

5.2 Organise regional lesson-sharing workshop (associated with BirdLife Asia Region partnership meeting)

5.3 Disseminate and share all project materials and lessons learned through appropriate channels (websites, networks etc.)

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
Established codes								
6A	Training of Forest officers		Nepali	0				500
6A	Training of FECOFUN staff		Nepali	0				50
7	Training materials for FOs, CFUGs and other stakeholders			0				6
11A	Papers published in national peer reviewed journal			0				2
11A	Paper published in international peer reviewed journal			0				1
14A	Dissemination workshops			5				20
14B	Attendance to other workshops to present outputs			0				5
20	Capital equipment purchased to remain in Nepal			£3958				£3958
23	Cofunding raised			£3000				£9310

Table 2 Publications

Publications thus far are still in draft form, and as such are not yet publically accessible.
However please see annexes 4 – 15.

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)