

## Darwin Initiative Main and Post Project Annual Report

To be completed with reference to the “Writing a Darwin Report” guidance: (<http://www.darwininitiative.org.uk/resources-for-projects/reporting-forms>). It is expected that this report will be a **maximum** of 20 pages in length, excluding annexes)

**Submission Deadline: 30<sup>th</sup> April 2019**

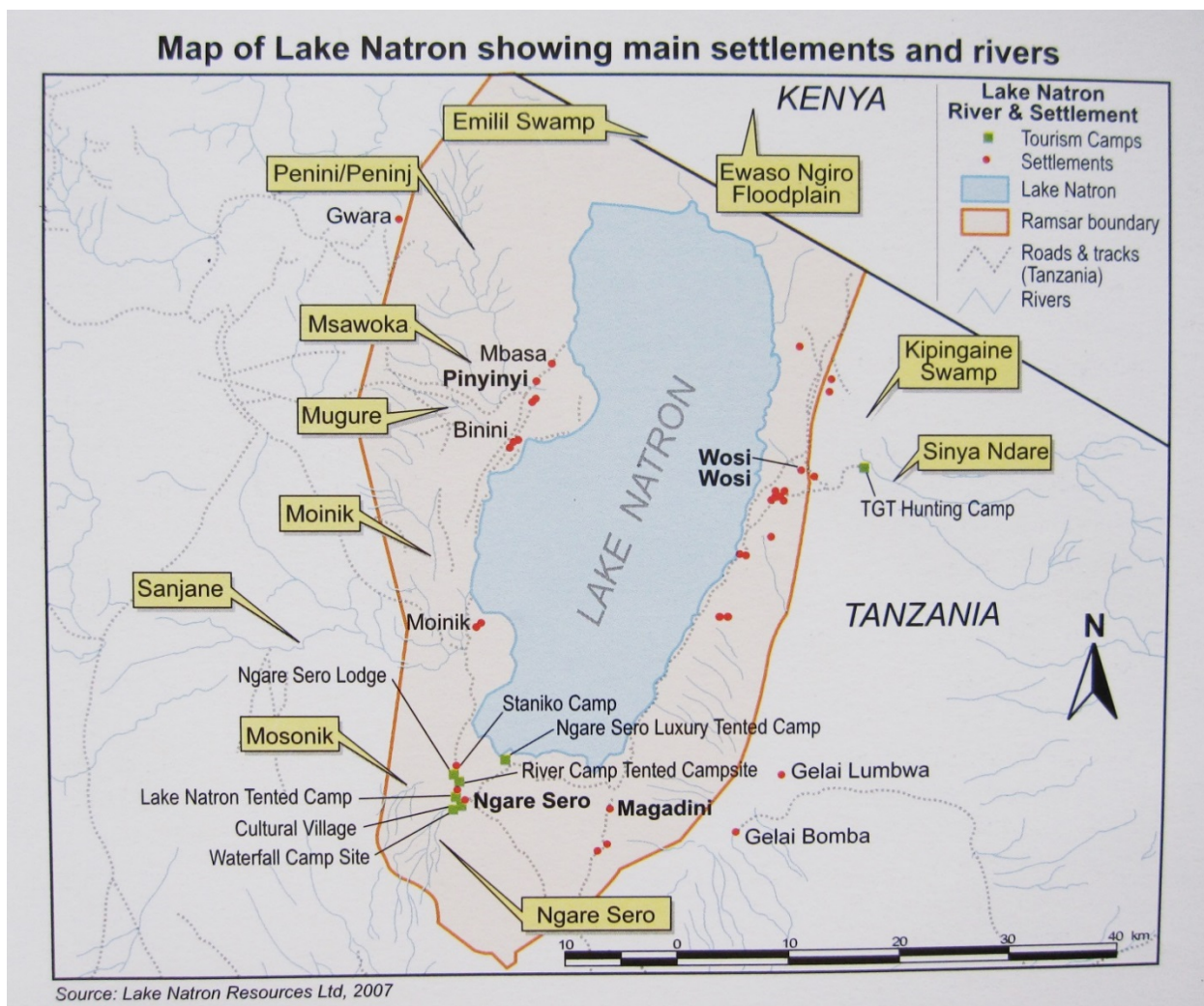
### Darwin Project Information

Project reference	24-019
Project title	Developing a Community Based Ecotourism Model at Lake Natron, Tanzania
Host country/ies	Tanzania, United Republic
Lead organisation	BirdLife International
Partner institution(s)	Tanzania Wildlife Authority (TAWA), Engaresero Eramatare Community Development Initiative (EECDI), Tanzania Association of Tour Operators (TATO), Tanzania Tourist Board (TTB), Honeyguide Foundation, Monduli District council, Ngorongoro District council and Longido district council.
Darwin grant value	£311,351
Start/end dates of project	July 2017 – June 2020
Reporting period (e.g., Apr 2018 – Mar 2019) and number (e.g., Annual Report 1, 2, 3)	April 2018 – March 2019
Project Leader name	Ken Mwathe
Project website/blog/Twitter	
Report author(s) and date	Emmanuel Mgimwa, Ken Mwathe, Flora T. Assey, Baraka Laizer, John Salehe

#### 1. Project rationale

The project is implemented at Lake Natron Ramsar Site in Tanzania, East Africa. Lake Natron and Engaruka is listed by BirdLife International as an Important Bird Area (IBA). Until recently, it was listed as an IBA in Danger - a set of IBAs requiring urgent action - as a result of the long standing soda ash mining threat, however, as a result of ten years of campaigning by BirdLife and collaborating institutions, the Government decided not to locate the soda ash mine at Lake Natron.

The lake is the most important breeding site in the World for the Lesser Flamingo. East Africa has 1.5-2.5 million lesser flamingos - representing 75% of the global population of the species - and all of them are hatched at Lake Natron. The site is located in 3 districts of Ngorongoro, Monduli and Longido in the Arusha Region, Tanzania.



**Location of main settlements, rivers (named in yellow boxes) and tourist sites at Natron.** Tourism-related developments are concentrated around the Ngare Sero village in the south-west

The project is enhancing the conservation and protection of this key wetland site and its unique biodiversity. It will improve ecological integrity by protecting key wetlands and developing a Catchment Action Plan. The wellbeing and livelihoods of communities at the site will be improved through establishment of a sustainable, community-based eco-tourism business. The specific challenges being addressed include the following;

#### **Poorly coordinated tourism development:**

Poor benefit realization for local communities at Lake Natron has affected biodiversity in the area for years. Lake Natron is an important Ramsar Site (wetlands of global importance for biodiversity conservation) and is remarkable for supporting the breeding of 75% of the Lesser Flamingo global population. Attracting only about 4,100 tourists per year (c.f. ~90,000 visitors to the Serengeti), tourism activities and development at Lake Natron is still poorly coordinated, primarily because there is no Tourism Development Plan in place to encourage stakeholders to work together.

Historically, 50% of Serengeti visitors passed through Lake Natron. However, a lack of security, bad roads and multiple tourism levies have discouraged visitors, reducing this percentage to a mere 4.4%. Security has now been restored and roads are being upgraded, so if tourism levies can be consolidated and an agreed Tourism Development Plan put in place, it is anticipated that tour companies and investors would return<sup>1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> Serengeti National Park alone receives 90,000 visitors each year. If even 25% of these tourists passed through Lake Natron, they would most probably overwhelm the ecosystem. Ecotourism must be stressed in Natron as opposed to mass tourism in order to preserve ecosystem integrity.  
Annual Report 2019

**Inadequate appreciation of Lake Natron’s value for biodiversity and ecotourism.** The value of wetlands for sustainable development through the provision of ecosystem services is rarely appreciated across East Africa. The project is working to raise awareness of the value of the lake ecosystem for provision of clean water, sustainable land use and a workable ecotourism model, and to continue to highlight the long-standing threat to Lake Natron from soda ash mining. The initial soda ash mining plan was proposed by Tata in 2006, aiming to produce 500,000 tonnes per year. A BirdLife-led intensive campaign (that included 56 other organisations) – that cited possible decimation of flamingos and other impacts to the ecosystem – led to Tata’s withdrawal in 2008. However, the Tanzania Government, through the National Development Corporation (NDC), maintained interest and has actively explored ways to actualise the mining proposal. BirdLife’s continuous presence and the support of communities has kept this plan out of Natron and in February this year, the government of Tanzania announced its withdrawal of the soda ash mining plan. However, there is still a need for continued engagement with the government as well as maintaining community awareness and engagement.

**Inadequate capacity for local people to run ecotourism businesses for improved livelihoods.** A Cost Benefit Analysis (CBA) showed that tourism was a better livelihood option than Soda Ash mining<sup>2</sup> but benefits have not fully reached local people due to:

- Limited skills amongst local communities to run ecotourism enterprises
- Limited community knowledge on rights and governance for informed decision making regarding natural resources, especially land.
- Limited support for alternative sustainable livelihoods at Lake Natron

**Degradation of wetlands, rivers and springs providing freshwater, vital for flamingo breeding and for sustaining biodiversity and communities.**

The catchment degradation, overgrazing, over abstraction of water and sedimentation are amongst the key challenges at Lake Natron. The Tanzania Flamingo Action Plan recommends catchment protection through tree planting and water quality monitoring to protect water supplies for communities and biodiversity.

**Shortage of replicable models applicable across East Africa.**

By successfully demonstrating how community-based ecotourism at Lake Natron can lead to enhanced livelihoods and improved biodiversity conservation, the lessons learned and examples of best practice from Lake Natron will be shared throughout Tanzania and more widely into East Africa. By raising awareness amongst NGOs, government agencies and other key stakeholders in the tourism industry, the Lake Natron model can be used to benefit the conservation of other important ecological sites across East Africa.

## **2. Project partnerships**

The Lake Natron Eco-tourism Project has 8 partners; Tanzania Wildlife Authority (TAWA), District Councils of Monduli, Ngorongoro and Longido, the Engaresero Eramatare Community Development Initiative (EECDI), Tanzania Association of Tour Operators (TATO), Tanzania Tourist Board (TTB), the Honeyguide Foundation, and the Arusha Regional Administrative Secretary (RAS) office. The partnership with all these institutions has continued to be strong throughout 2018/2019. By working closely with the other NGOs and government institutions, the partnership has strengthened capacity at the local level, especially the EECDI, village and ward governments, through the design and delivery of training and capacity building sessions. The curriculum, topics and handouts for ecotourism and business management trainings were designed with Maasai Development Organization (*MPDO – LARETO*<sup>3</sup>), TTB, TATO and the RAS office, in consultation with the EECDI, village and ward governments, ensuring all key areas needing immediate capacity building were included in the training. The Project Steering Committee (PSC) (details in PMA.5 below) brought together all project partners and by provided a platform for review of project activities it facilitated decision making on the best way forwards in terms of coordination, management and approaches. All project partners and PSC members were involved in designing the Terms of References (ToR), guidelines and contracts for the revolving fund with the EECDI. All of these documents were translated into Swahili to share with

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<sup>2</sup> [http://www.birdlife.org/sites/default/files/attachments/Journal%20of%20Environmental%20Research\\_Natron\\_CBA.pdf](http://www.birdlife.org/sites/default/files/attachments/Journal%20of%20Environmental%20Research_Natron_CBA.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> LARETO means “self-help” in Maasai language

the local communities and this inclusive approach has proved very successful for the management of the project and keeping people on board with the project aims.

### **3. Project progress**

#### **3.1 Progress in carrying out project Activities**

##### **Output 1: A COHERENT TOURISM DEVELOPMENT PLAN (TDP) AND CLEAR REVENUE SHARING MECHANISM IN PLACE.**

###### **Activity 1.1 Recruit consultant for market analysis and Tourism Development Plan (TDP)**

This activity was completed and outcomes documented in YR1 report.

###### **Activity 1.2 Collect data on ecotourism business conducted at Lake Natron including value chain.**

Data and information on ecotourism business at Lake Natron have been collected and are included in the Tourism Development Plan (TDP) document. Data collection was conducted by TDP lead consultant, Mr. Lota Melamari with key inputs from Engaresero Eramatare Community Development Initiative (EECDI) and supplemented with inputs from project partners, Project Steering Committee (PSC) members and the TDP Multi-stakeholder committee.

Key results from this data collection;

- i. Earnings in 2017 for the Ngorongoro District were about USD 4,044 while for the same period the Ngare Sero Village collected about USD 50,000 and the EECDI local guides collected around USD 45,000.
- ii. There are nine different private sector accommodation facilities at Lake Natron with a total capacity of 124 beds.
- iii. In terms of current tourism visitation dynamics, most of the lodges are operating at 20% of their full capacity due to low occupancy throughout the year
- iv. Between 2015 to 2017, the data suggest that only around 10,000 tourists visited the Lake Natron Ramsar Site, giving an average of just over 3,000 tourists per annum in.

Full results are presented in the TDP document, Annex 4 of this report. The collected data are being used by the EECDI to develop the business plan to advise their operations. The data will also advise government specifically the TTB and TATO to inform areas which need development as well as in marketing plans for the Lake Natron.

###### **Activity 1.3 Support production of ecotourism market analysis report (as part of TDP)**

Ecotourism market analysis report for Lake Natron has been produced and is included in the third draft of the TDP document. The study identifies four countries; Germany, the United Kingdom, United States and Italy as primary tourism source markets, and it proposes that France, the Netherlands, Canada, Australia and Spain be categorised as 'secondary existing mature source markets'. The strategy names China, Russia, Turkey, Brazil and the Gulf States as potential new source markets. More results are found in the TDP document (Annex 4).

###### **Activity 1.4 Collect data and consult with stakeholders on TDP and revenue sharing plan (as part of TDP)**

Collection of data and information for the TDP was led by the TDP lead consultant and is now concluded. The third draft and will now be endorsed by senior government officials in May 2019. The third draft of the TDP document (Annex 4) was produced in November 2018 and will be endorsed by senior government officials in May 2019. Data collection included desk review of reports, legal and policy frameworks and tourism publications. It also involved field visits and stakeholder consultations. A tourism development plan team was established in February 2018 with the aim of supporting data collection and drafting of the TDP. The team conducted consultations and meetings with community members, local government leaders and tourism leaders of Ngare Sero, Pinyinyi, Magadini, Engaruka, Oldonyo Lengai and Wosiwosi villages.

Further consultations were made between February 2018 and August 2018 with key tourism stakeholders in Arusha and Dodoma including the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism.

The Revenue Sharing Plan has been developed and is awaiting endorsement by senior officials at the RAS office. The key recommendation from the Revenue Sharing Plan is that financial gains from ecotourism business should come through competitive performance.

- i. The Engaresero Eramatare Community Development Initiative (EECDI) and their guides should have a monopoly in the guiding of visitors to explore various amenities and attractions
- ii. The Government Institutions should continue to levy taxes and collect fees on tourism enterprises operating at Lake Natron but this needs to be done rationally.
- iii. The Tanzania Wildlife Agency (TAWA) should collect entry fees which support conservation of the site (the fees are used to employ the Ramsar Site manager).
- iv. The three District Councils should find discrete areas within the tourism businesses to charge fees and not continue the present system that results in double charging of entry fees.
- v. The communities have a niche through guiding and through sale and rent of land.

#### **Activity 1.5 Support production of the TDP and share with stakeholders**

The third draft TDP document (which is a near final version) has been produced in both Swahili and English in November 2018. The next steps are the endorsement and launch of the TDP, sharing with key stakeholders and meetings to familiarize senior officers in key ministries and government agencies with the document. Endorsement by senior government officials will be in May 2019 and following this, the final copy of the TDP will be shared on BirdLife's and partner websites including TAWA, TTB, TATO, Arusha RAS office, Nature Tanzania and EECDI. Production of the TDP document and sharing with stakeholders was largely completed in Year 2, the process has been extended into Year 3 to provide a chance for senior government officials to endorse and launch the TDP.

#### **Activity 1.6 Organize a multi-stakeholder TDP validation and tourism revenue-sharing harmonisation meeting.**

The TDP Multi-stakeholder validation meeting was held on the 24<sup>th</sup> September 2018 at Twiga Lodge and Campsite in Mto wa Mbu, Arusha region. The meeting was coordinated by the TDP lead consultant, Mr. Lota Melamari, and project team, and chaired by the Arusha Regional Tourism Officer sitting at the RAS office, with support from John Salehe (Nature Tanzania) and Emmanuel Mgimwa (Project Manager), and involved all project partners. The meeting was held to review and improve the second draft of the TDP document, circulated to all relevant parties a month before the meeting. The draft was also translated into Swahili and shared to local communities to ensure they are able to take a central part in the review and improvement of the TDP draft document. It was very good to note during the meeting that local communities were able to read and understand the document and their inputs were very valuable. The meeting was attended by a total of 48 participants (8 females). Means of verification are available on request.

Key discussion presented by stakeholders during the validation meeting included the following;

- i. Local communities identified several other tourist attractions and requested that they are included in the TDP document.
- ii. Local communities requested that a profile for all villages be included in the TDP document.
- iii. Local communities also recommended that a statement on the importance of Lake Natron to Lesser Flamingo breeding be explicitly mentioned in the introduction section.
- iv. Key gaps in the Lake Natron Ecotourism project should be included as important fundraising priorities within the TDP document.
- v. Stakeholders for implementation of the TDP should be extensive with private and government sector included in the list.

- vi. Equitable sharing of tourism benefits should be emphasized. This is mainly to consider local communities who play a key role in the conservation of Lake Natron and its resources.
- vii. Monitoring and evaluation should be included in the TDP document. This is to allow review of the implementation of key actions in the TDP.
- viii. It was discussed and agreed that the custodian for the TDP document should be the Arusha RAS office. This is mainly because they have sufficient human resources to coordinate implementation of the TDP. The three districts are also coordinated by the RAS office. The Lake Natron Ramsar Site office will be the technical advisor to the RAS office for matters of natural resource conservation and sustainable management.

## **Output 2: IMPROVED CAPACITY FOR ECOTOURISM BUSINESS AND NATURAL RESOURCES DECISION MAKING**

### **Activity 2.1 Organize training on ecotourism and business management for men and women, and youth and follow up training in villages by trainees. Conduct post-training self-assessment to training participants**

Ecotourism and business management training to local communities at Lake Natron were conducted by consultants, Mr. Rajabu Mapunda and Mr. Amani Sikone Laizer. In all the villages, a total of 109 participants (6 of them female) were trained in ecotourism, while 255 (152 of them females) were trained in business management, ethics, and customer relations. Most of those attending the training own or operate businesses including restaurants, shops, beads, keeping livestock, small scale farmers (horticulture), local campsites, grocery and smaller vendors. The ecotourism and business management training was provided by Mr. Rajabu Mapunda and Mr. Amani Sikone Laizer respectively as consultants with support from Project Manager, Mr. Emmanuel Mgimwa. The objective of the training was to improve capacity and skills of local tour guides and businesswomen and men conducting ecotourism related business. A post-training self-assessment will be taken by trained participants during the second half of year 2, however, qualitative observations by project staff of businesses already show observable improvements in their operations. Training was provided in both English and Swahili as appropriate.

Ecotourism training at Ngare Sero village was conducted from 5<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> June 2018, at Engaruka Juu and Chini, Oldonyo Lengai on 26<sup>th</sup> June 2018 and for Pinyinyi village on 29<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> June 2018. Business management training for Engaruka Juu and Chini, Oldonyo Lengai and Irendeni was conducted on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2018, for Pinyinyi village on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2018 and for Ngare Sero and Magadini villages on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> July 2018. The training was delivered to local tour guides and communities from Engaruka Juu and Chini villages, Magadini village, Oldonyo Lengai, Irendeni village, Ngare Sero and Pinyinyi village.

At the end of the training, the participants were given the hand outs and presentations, all available on request. Training for village leaders from Ngare Sero, Pinyinyi, Magadini, Engaruka Juu and Oldonyo Lengai villages as well as EECDI was conducted at Pinyinyi village on 30<sup>th</sup> July 2018. This training aims to equip leaders with the vision and skills to support the implementation of various ecotourism activities at Lake Natron. Post training surveys conducted by BirdLife International reported that 100% of tour guides strongly agreed that their visitor management, customer care, tour guiding ethics and campsite management capacity has improved after the training. 100% of interviewed tour guides also agreed that their confidence on tour guiding and ecotourism management and operation have improved after the training. The detailed ecotourism and business management training report is attached with this report as Annex 5.

### **Activity 2.2: Devise, distribute and analyse survey form for tour operators to report against quality of tour guiding.**

This activity is planned for year 3.

### **Activity 2.3: Construct booth and use it for sale of beads and other merchandise**

Due to high demand by local women at Ngare Sero and at Oldonyo Lengai, the project supported construction of two booths, one in each village following their strong recommendations. The booths were handed to the respective village governments at Ngare Sero and Shimo la Mungu area (Swahili word for “God’s crater”). The booths provide a protective roof, and tables to display the beads and other merchandise. The Village governments have signed agreements to give the women using the booths administrative support and they will seek additional financial support from the district governments to further support the women. In the contract, the village governments also promised to ensure that the booths are used sustainably and are protected from damage, enforced through local leaders. The constructed booths benefit about 165 women at Ngare Sero village and 129 women from the Shimo la Mungu area.



### **Maasai women display their beadwork during the handover of the booths**

### **Activity 2.4: Set up Revolving Fund, training community back to back with 2.1 operationalise and monitor its implementation**

During the training in activity 2.1, BirdLife also discussed the planned revolving fund with local communities in the villages of Ngare Sero, Pinyinyi, Magadini, Engaruka Juu and Oldonyo Lengai. Communities were informed that the revolving fund has been established to improve ecotourism business through provision of access to funds for people and groups conducting businesses at Lake Natron. Target beneficiaries include women and men entrepreneurs, youth entrepreneurs, cooperatives and community based organizations meeting the eligibility criteria set out in the agreed guidelines. In agreement with local communities, the guidelines and policies governing the operation of the revolving fund will provide priority to individuals and groups who intend to improve their businesses rather than those creating new businesses. Eligible businesses include; restaurant and related businesses, sale of beads and related products, grocery businesses, small scale horticulture businesses, campsite businesses (where owned and operated by local community), poultry and meat production and sale. As a pilot stage, the revolving fund will be implemented at Ngare Sero village only for 6 months. Thereafter evaluation will be made and an addendum will be signed for the EECDI to implement the activity at the other project site.

To facilitate transparent accountability, an institutional framework to advise and guide implementation of the revolving has been set up. This includes the following institutions;

- i. BirdLife International
- ii. Engaresero Eramatare Community Development Initiative (EECDI)
- iii. Ward Community Development Officer
- iv. Village government
- v. Office of the Arusha Regional Administrative Secretary (RAS)

After discussion and consultation at a series of meetings held in Ngare Sero village between June 2018 and March 2019, involving all project stakeholders including local communities, the guidelines for the revolving fund as well as the TORs were agreed and the contracts signed (Annex 6). Specifically, the following progress and approaches were made and agreed upon:

- It was agreed that the best approach is to use the existing local institution in implementing revolving fund.
- The Engaresero Eramatare Community Development Initiative (EECDI) was thereafter found to be the only local institution with basic capacity to support implementation of revolving fund.
- The EECDI is a Community Based Organization (CBO) registered by Ngorongoro district council operating at Ngare Sero village. They are mandated to manage, coordinate and operate tourism activities on behalf of local communities. They collect tourism entry fees and provide tour guides services. 20% of their revenues are invested back to community projects. EECDI are also project partner.
- Loan Review Committee has been formed. Their role is to facilitate review of application forms (which are in Swahili) and loan approval. The Committee comprises Village Executive Officer, Ward Community Development Officer, EECDI, Maasai Pastoralist Development Organization (MPDO) - LARETO and BirdLife International.
- The Loan Coordinator, sitting at the EECDI office, has also been appointed and his main responsibilities include; Distribution of loan application forms and receipt of filled loan applications forms; member of the loan review committee; ensure all reports, loan application forms, minutes of all meetings for loan approval are proper filed for future reference and for audit by BirdLife, donor and/interested government institution; report production; identify training needs to loan beneficiaries.
- To facilitate loan payment and repayment, special bank account has been opened by the EECDI at Mto wa Mbu area (nearest town from Ngare Sero village). BirdLife International is one of the signatory members and other signatories have been selected from the EECDI and/or community members (one is female).
- Contracts, Terms of Reference (ToR) and policy and guidelines document have been developed in a very participatory manner with local communities, village government and the Engaresero Eramatare Community Development Initiative (EECDI).
- The above documents have been translated into Swahili mainly for local leaders and communities to follow up. The contracts, ToR and guideline documents are available on request.
- The subgrant contract between BirdLife International and EECDI pertaining to the revolving fund has been signed, and the first instalment have been sent to the revolving fund special bank account<sup>4</sup>.
- Training to businesswomen and men on how to fill forms has been conducted. A follow up training to loan review committee on guidelines, ToRs and contracts has also be done mainly to familiarize the team with the guiding documents.
- During these trainings, Arusha Regional Community Development Officer (RCDO) and Ngorongoro District Community Development Officer (DCDO) were engaged.
- The RCDO and DCDO promised to offer training opportunities to the EECDI, loan beneficiaries when they are available.
- DCDO also promised to make follow up with senior officials at the district on the possibility of injecting more funds to the revolving fund account.

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<sup>4</sup> GBP 3,000 has been disbursed. The process of agreeing on the contract took longer than expected, as we sought legal advice and an ok from the legal office. We got authority from legal towards the end of March. We were able to make this first payment to EECDI but the process of disbursing the loans has just started.



**Activity 2.5: Conduct lands rights training (includes preparations).**

Part two of the “Land Rights and Climate Change” training was conducted at Ngare Sero village and brought together leaders from villages of Pinyinyi and Magadini. The leaders included village and ward representatives, women leaders’ as well as traditional leaders (*Laigwanaans*). The 2 days’ training was conducted on 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2018. A total of 58 (14 women) were trained. The training focused on building confidence in making informed decisions through a better understanding of the Village Land Act number 4 and 5 both of 1999. The land rights training (above) was also used to sensitize participants on catchment conservation and advocating against catchment damage, highlighting the importance of Ngare Sero and Pinyinyi River in the Lake Natron ecosystem. Further emphasis on how these catchments are important to Lesser Flamingo breeding and ecotourism business as well (see activity 4.3). The detailed land rights training report is attached with this report as Annex 7.

During the training, the project made reference to the Catchment Action Plan (CAP) developed by the project in collaboration with local communities and their authorities. Please see Activity 3.1 below. Moreover, village and ward leaders, as well as *Laigwanaan* (traditional chiefs), were urged by Hon Ibrahim Sakay (local Councillor) to establish regulations to ensure that planted tree seedlings are not damaged by livestock. The issue of the proposed building of multipurpose dams in the catchment of Ewaso-Ng’iro River was raised by communities. After communication, this was also raised by the Regional government to the Ministry of State in the Vice President Office, Environment and Union, Honourable January Makamba. Hon. January Makamba promised to follow up the issues with his counterpart on Kenya side and will provide updates to the regional government. The follow up will be monitored by the office of the Regional Administrative Secretary.

Further discussion and emphasis on catchment conservation were made by Hon. Ibrahim Sakay, councilor for Ngare Sero ward who is also a traditional leader (*Laigwanaan*). For Pinyinyi River, it was highlighted and emphasized that ongoing irrigation activities need to be controlled for livelihood sustainability. The rate of soil erosion and sedimentation to the Lake is high and threatens conservation of Lake Natron and its natural resources. Moreover, unsustainable livestock keeping was highlighted during this activity. Implementation of village land use plans especially on rangelands was highly recommended to minimize wildlife-livestock resource use conflicts. For Ngare Sero river communities were reminded of respecting the existing catchments. Planting of indigenous tree were highly recommended in ensuring that the catchments are well conserved.

Local communities agreed together that their life largely depend on these freshwater source and any detrimental damage and water overuse can result into total collapse of socio-economic activities. This will make life impossible in their areas. It was therefore, in one voice, agreed that there is a need to ensure catchments are sustainably utilized and conserved for the current and future generations. Key recommendations made by government leaders include implementation of the produced Catchment Action Plan (CAP). *Laigwanaans* were also tasked to raise communities’ awareness during meetings. Further sensitization on catchment damage and water overuse were conducted during crimsonwing film shows and other village general meetings reaching more than 850 people.

**Activity 2.6: Conduct end of project post-training survey to assess leaders’ confidence in entering into negotiations and making sound decisions.**

This will be conducted in Year 3.

**Activity 2.7: Conduct End of Project survey to assess if communities feel better supported by trainees from activity 2.1.**

This will be conducted in Year 3.

### **Output 3: KEY WETLANDS, RIVERS AND SPRINGS PROTECTED AND BIODIVERSITY ENHANCED THROUGH TREE PLANTING, CATCHMENT RESTORATION AND PROTECTION. STATE OF BIODIVERSITY, AND WATER QUALITY ENHANCED AND MONITORED.**

#### **Activity 3.1: Prepare and support endorsement of Catchment Action Plan for Pinyinyi and Ngaresero Rivers. Raise awareness on tree planting.**

With the support from the Project, local communities of Ngare Sero and Pinyinyi villages have developed a Catchment Action Plan (CAP) for Ngare Sero and Pinyinyi Rivers in March 2018. The CAP identifies the challenges and threats to the two rivers that feed into Lake Natron and proposes key interventions. Some of the challenges identified include overgrazing, water over abstraction, sedimentation among others. The report also recommends intervention measures to address the challenges. The management interventions which have been grouped into four areas: i) sustainable catchment use and management ii) sustainable alternative livelihood iii) awareness raising, capacity building and governance and iv) climate change adaptation and resilience. The detailed CAP report is attached with this report as Annex 8.

16 village leaders from Pinyinyi and 13 village leaders from Ngare Sero approved the CAP on 30<sup>th</sup> July 2018. Attendance list of those endorsing the plan is attached with this report as Annex 14. A copy of the CAP has been shared with the district and regional offices for reference. The plans are to commence implementation of the CAP at the local level. This will be done by ensuring agreed actions are part of village and ward plans.

#### **Activity 3.2: Prepare land and plant key wetland areas with at least 7,500 indigenous tree seedlings.**

Tree planting was conducted during previous rainy season, April and May 2018, and was preceded by preparation of land and tree planting training. Land preparation involved digging of holes and putting manure into the holes. Training involved consultation with village leaders and community groups and briefing about tree planting and the best approaches. A total of 6,500 holes were dug in the 5 villages of Ngare Sero, Pinyinyi, Engaruka Juu, Engaruka Chini and Oldonyo Lengai villages and a total of 5,800 indigenous tree seedlings were planted in the reporting period. See Annex 8 for number of trees and the species. Of the 5,800 seedlings, 4,000 were planted at Engaruka and Oldonyo Lengai villages and more than 1,000 tree seedlings were planted at Pinyinyi and Ngare Sero villages. There was a lot of enthusiasm during tree planting a great demand for seedlings. A total of 1,664 people were involved in tree planting with 1,002 being men or boys and 662 being women or girls. The remained 1,700 seedlings will be planted during coming rainy season i.e. April – June 2019. The detailed tree planting report is attached with this report as Annex 9.

#### **Activity 3.3: Tree seedling after care and monitoring.**

In order to sustain the trees, a 3,000 litre water tank and 150 metre watering pipes were purchased and delivered to Ol Donyo Lengai Secondary School. This will ensure the trees are watered even during the dry season. Engaruka Chini Primary School and Engaruka Juu Primary School were also provided with watering pipes. During the support visit conducted by the project team in March 2019, it was found that about 90% of all planted trees are thriving very well. Few trees have shown weakness due to the prolonged drought and delay of rain onset. Further assessment will be done in April 2019 for institutions which need more support amidst the ongoing prolonged drought season.

#### **Activity 3.4: Set up and carry out water quality monitoring.**

Baseline for water quality monitoring was conducted in September 2018 in collaboration with the Ngorongoro District Council and with the Engaresero Eramatare Community Development Initiative (EECDI). Baseline information was collected using the HI 9829 Multi Parameter which was purchased from Hanna Instruments. Data collected included dissolved oxygen and water turbidity. Other data collected are electrical conductivity and pH.

Despite extensive investigation in Tanzania, in Kenya and online, unfortunately the only water flow meters available came in at double the original budget. As a result, the baseline for water flow into the lake has not been established and the project team has decided to monitor the flow of the water qualitatively through discussion with the local communities.

Baseline data are shown in the table below;

River	Water Turbidity	Dissolved Oxygen	Electrical Conductivity	pH
Ngare Sero River	284 FNU	22.7%	87.5 ms/cm	6.7
Pinyinyi River	868 FNU	8.6%	108 ms/cm	6.5

From this baseline data above, Pinyinyi River has higher turbidity and less dissolved Oxygen than Ngare Sero River. This is mainly due to small scale irrigation agriculture conducted by communities at Pinyinyi village. The irrigation techniques accelerate soil erosion which in turn introduces a greater quantity of soil particles into the river. The higher turbidity reduces the growth of the algae that the flamingos feed on. We hope that by implementing the Catchment Action Plan, the amount of turbidity in Pinyinyi River will be reduced as a result of better irrigation management practices.

**Activity 3.5:** Train 40 young people in IBA Monitoring (back to back with 2.1); complete IBA form and feed data into World Bird Database (including repeat monitoring in Yr2).

A total of 43 young people were trained in IBA monitoring (using State, Pressure and Response) in January and February 2019, to enable annual assessment of the state of biodiversity. The IBA Monitoring training was delivered by BirdLife International based on the IBA monitoring framework and guidelines<sup>5</sup> set forth by BirdLife International. This activity was done back to back with 3.6 below. IBA Monitoring form was filled during this activity (Annex 10). The bird data collected in 3.6 below will be fed into the World Bird Database. The Head of Conservation Division at the BirdLife Africa Secretariat has been contacted regarding posting the data into the World Bird Database. The detailed IBA monitoring training report is attached with this report as Annex 10.



**Youths participating in IBA monitoring training**

**Activity 3.6:** Conduct annual Waterbird census in collaboration with Tawiri and local communities and obtain flamingos' breeding success data.

The annual water bird census and obtaining of flamingo's breeding success data was conducted in January and February 2019. The activity was coordinated by BirdLife International in consultation with the Tanzania Wildlife Research Institute (TAWIRI) and with the EECDI at the local level. A training on water bird count methodology, protocols and ethics was conducted one day before the count. This was to familiarize the participants with the protocols. During the count further training on bird identification was conducted. A special form provided by the National Coordinator for Waterbird count sitting at TAWIRI's offices. The same form was used in 2018

<sup>5</sup> [http://datazone.birdlife.org/userfiles/file/IBAs/MonitoringPDFs/IBA\\_Monitoring\\_Framework.pdf](http://datazone.birdlife.org/userfiles/file/IBAs/MonitoringPDFs/IBA_Monitoring_Framework.pdf)

water bird count. The water bird count was conducted in the same sites of 2018 i.e. shores of Engaresero mudflats and Pinyinyi shores. In 2019 a total of 34 people participate (27 young people) in both villages. The other members were old local tour guides working at the EECDI and village and ward government leaders who were curious to know about water bird count techniques.

During the count a total of 57 bird species were recorded. The team recorded at least 1,750,000 individual Lesser Flamingos and 955,000 chicks. The team observed that this has been a successful breeding season compared to last year. Greater Flamingo' number was estimated to be at 86,000. The water bird census report is attached with this report as Annex 11.

Table 2: Comparison of Lesser Flamingo numbers in 2018 and 2019

2018 water bird census results		2019 water bird census results	
Lesser Flamingo	Chicks	Lesser Flamingo	Chicks
760,000	120,000	1,750,000	955,000

This number show tremendous improvement from last year and indicate improvement of breeding site, water quality which is the determinant of food production and communities attitudes to conservation which reduced pressure and disturbances of Lesser Flamingo. These data will be sent to TAWIRI who will feed into the national bird database.

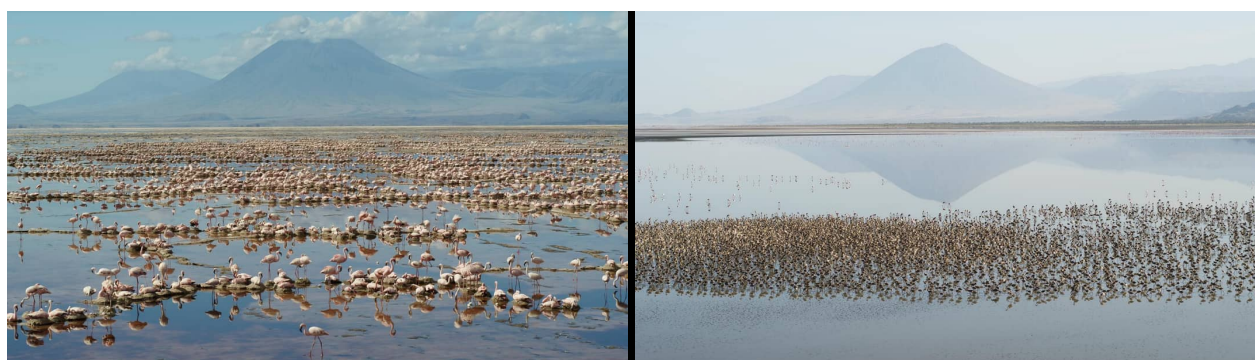


Figure 1: Massive Lesser Flamingo breeding activity (L) and thousands of their chicks (R) observed in February 2019 at Lake Natron

#### **Output 4: AWARENESS OF THE VALUES AND THREATS TO LAKE NATRON RAISED AMONG COMMUNITIES AND GOVERNMENT AGENCIES**

##### **Activity 4.1: Produce advocacy/awareness poster and booklet.**

Designing for the advocacy/awareness poster and booklet have commenced. The documents will be produced in May 2019.

##### **Activity 4.2: Carry out awareness amongst government agencies on values and threats through public forums, film and radio.**

The project continues to raise awareness on the value of Lake Natron amongst all stakeholders, particularly through meetings and the media. The following are examples:

- The Project Manager had an opportunity to meet with the Minister of State in the Vice President's Office, Mr January Makamba, on 5th September 2018. During the meeting, the minister was briefed on the development of TDP. The government was requested to support local communities in their implementation of the TDP. The minister requested for a copy of the TDP once completed. BirdLife was the only NGO invited to the meeting with the minister
- The National broadcaster, the Tanzania Broadcasting Corporation (TBC) aired a news item on the TDP validation workshop (see section 1.6). TBC has a viewership of 3.7 million people.

- A news article raising awareness about the threats and value of Lake Natron was published by Tanzanite Newspaper in Swahili. . One copy of the newspaper was handed to the office of Arusha RAS, District Offices of Ngorongoro and Monduli and the article shared through WhatsApp to different platforms, reaching about 255 people.
- Project Coordinator, Ken Mwathe and Mr. John Salehe (Chair, Nature Tanzania) were interviewed by Sunrise Radio in Arusha in July 2018. The interview focused on the importance of birds in the economy of Tanzania. It also discussed some of the initiatives being undertaken by BirdLife International, such as the protection of critically endangered species in Eastern Usambara forests. Examples were given on how investment in bird tourism is changing the narrative at Lake Natron through the Darwin funded project. Sunrise Radio has a listening population of 650,000 people in Arusha, Kilimanjaro, Manyara and part of Singida region of Tanzania.
- The Crimsonwing film continued to be screened to raise awareness on the beauty of Lake Natron and the threats. During the reporting period, a total of 305 people watched the film. At Ngare Sero village 242 including 146 children were reached, while at Wosiwosi village, 63 (including 28 children) watched the film.

## **OUTPUT 5: LESSONS FROM THE COMMUNITY-BASED ECOTOURISM MODEL SHARED AND REPLICATED LOCALLY, NATIONALLY, REGIONALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY**

### **Activity 5.1: Produce advocacy/awareness poster and booklet.**

Design of booklet and poster has commenced and publication is scheduled for May 2019. The booklet has been designed by project staff. These and the poster will be available for distribution by June 2019.

### **Activity 5.2 Share project lessons with tourism industry actors, and civil society organisations through online platform and in person**

This will be completed by end of year 3.

### **Activity 5.3: Disseminate project lessons, best practice and through local radio and newspapers and through EAC committees national tourism ministries.**

This activity will be completed by the end of Year 3. Dissemination of project lessons and best practise has been conducted through various platforms. This includes an interview with Sunrise radio conducted by Ken Mwathe and John Salehe (See Activity 4.2 above). BirdLife has also published articles in a local newspaper Tanzanite about the values and threats facing Lake Natron. The article also highlights discussion between Project Manager and Hon. Minister January Makamba.

### **Activity 5.4: Showcase project lessons regionally and internationally amongst other conservation NGOs in meetings, other relevant forums and through the BirdLife website and social media platforms.**

Project lessons will be shared in Year 3.

## **PROJECT MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES**

### **PMA1 Recruit a project manager**

This activity was concluded and reported in Year 1.

### **PMA 2 Identify consultants for i) ecotourism market study/TDP development and ii) ecotourism business management training**

This report was concluded and reported in Year 1.

### **PMA3 Convene a project inception meeting**

This activity was concluded and reported in Year 1.

#### **PMA4 Conduct a baseline study, revise logframe & develop a Monitoring & Evaluation Plan**

This was concluded in Year 1 and further revision of logframe were also conducted I Year 2.

#### **PMA5 Convene PSC and Local Project Management meetings**

The draft minutes of the third PSC meeting are in annex 12. The third PSC meetings was conducted on the 24<sup>th</sup> September 2018 at Twiga Lodge and Campsite, Mto wa Mbu area, Arusha region. The objectives of this meeting were to provide a platform for project partners to participate in decision making for the project. Specific objectives included; provide updates to project partners on project implementation, lesson learnt, share success stories and challenges. Way forwards in terms of project were also agreed during the meeting. The meeting was chaired by the Arusha Regional Tourism Officer on behalf of the Arusha Regional Administrative Secretary (RAS). BirdLife International was the secretary. The meeting was attended by all project partners, community members were represented by village and ward government leaders. The meeting was attended by village council leaders from Magadini, Ngare Sero, Engaruka, Oldonyo Lengai, Wosiwosi and Pinyinyi, ward councils of Ngare Sero and Pinyinyi district councils of Monduli, Longido and Ngorongoro, Ministry of Natural Resource and Tourism, Arusha Regional Tourism offices, Tanzania Wildlife Management Authority (TAWA), Tanzania Tourist Board (TTB), Tanzania Association of Tour Operators (TATO), Tanzania Tourist Board (TTB), Malihai Clubs of Tanzania, Lake Natron Ramsar Site office, Nature Tanzania, Maasai Pastoralist Development Organization (MPDO) – LARETO, Engaresero Eramatare Community Development Initiative (EECDI). The meeting was facilitated by BirdLife International with support of John Salehe. Total participants were 27 and of those 2 were females.

During the meeting, Project Manager provided update of project implementation and the success stories. Key updates included the following;

- The key success story was the participatory approach used and the commitment of local communities and their leaders on community-based ecotourism business.
- Another success was production of second draft TDP document which was developed in a participatory manner with all key stakeholders involved.
- Moreover, communities, government institutions and private sector made commitment to further support the project, ecotourism activities at Lake Natron.
- The Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism representative promised to send reports of the meeting and communities' commitment to ecotourism business to Permanent Secretary. The Ministry was consulted and engaged during TDP development. He also promised to rally for ministry's support the produced TDP document.
- The Arusha Regional Tourism Officer also applauded all PSC members and project partners for their commitment and support to the project. He rallied for the same in the coming years.
- Wosiwosi village leaders also requested for their village to be included in the project but due to limited resources, they were asked to wait and that they will be considered for other future opportunities.
- It was also reported that village leaders from Wosiwosi and Alai Alai are also requesting to be included in the project.
- Project partners and stakeholders recommended that follow up project should be planned and key recommendation which came out in the TDP should be prioritized for funding.

### **PMA6 Collect data to monitor project progress and conduct final evaluation**

Collection of data to monitor project progress is still work in progress. Data was collected during baseline at end of Year 1 and end of Year 2 (see section 3 activity 3.4). Final evaluation is planned for Year 3.

### **PMA7 Produce progress reports and final report and Audit**

Production of progress reports is ongoing. Progress reports for Year 1 were produced and submitted. This report makes progress report for Year 2. Audit is planned for Year 3.

## **3.2 Progress towards project Outputs**

### **Output 1; A coherent TDP and clear revenue sharing mechanism in place.**

**Indicator 1.a: BEOP a sustainable TDP has been developed and validated by stakeholders in 3 districts with clear revenue sharing mechanism (indicator 1.c.) and guidance on optimum tourist numbers to protect the fragile ecosystem, in place.**

There was no TDP document at baseline. The near final draft TDP document has been produced. The document has been developed in consultation with all stakeholders and includes key recommendations for sustainable tourism activities at the Lake Natron Ramsar Site. The tourist carrying capacity has been proposed to be at 10,000 tourists per year. The document has been validated by the three districts, Arusha Regional Government and by project partners including local communities. High level endorsement meeting is planned for May 2019. The objective of the May 2019 meeting is to promote the TDP to the higher government level and lobby for government resources and effort to support implementation of the document. Means of verification are available on request i.e. TDP document, consultation meeting reports and project progress reports.

**Indicator 1.b: By end of year 2, market analysis for ecotourism at Lake Natron developed (as part of TDP)**

At baseline there was no market analysis for ecotourism at Lake Natron. The market analysis for ecotourism was developed during the reporting period and is part of the TDP. Means of verification are available on request i.e. TDP document.

**Indicator 1.c: Revenue sharing plan drawn up in YR 2, agreement and endorsement coordinated by the Regional Administrative Secretary, and being implemented by YR 3.**

The revenue sharing plan was not in place at baseline. It is now complete. Endorsement and implementation are planned for YR 3.

**Indicator 1.d: BEOP, Two (2) out of the three gates (physical barriers) erected by districts at Lake Natron removed. The one remaining gate agreed upon by all three districts.**

Three gates (physical barriers) were in operation at baseline. Now only one gate is operational. The gate located at Ngare Sero village was selected by the three districts and is used by all three to collect entry fees, and then redistributed following the revenue sharing plan.

**Output 2: Improved capacity of local communities to conduct ecotourism business and natural resources decision making through relevant training and capacity building.**

**Indicator 2.a: BEOY2, 75% of 100 recipients (community representatives, tour guides, community campsite operators) show increased confidence through self-assessment by the end of a 2 day training course in ecotourism management, business management, revolving fund management, customer care, and responsible guiding This will include 40 women and 40 youth and 20 men.**

The post training survey conducted after ecotourism management, business management and revolving fund management training reported that 93% of the recipients have increased confidence in the area of ecotourism operation, customer care, responsible tour guiding and on communication skills. The self-assessment was conducted on 119 people including 45 women, 51 youths and 23 men. The self-assessment report is available. Means of verification are available on request i.e. training materials, reports and signed attendance sheets.

**Indicator 2.b:** *A 1 day training in ecotourism planning, marketing and hospitality will be conducted for at least 30 ecotourism leaders selected from the above group. End of project survey to assess if the communities feel better supported by the leaders.*

The one day training in ecotourism planning, marketing and hospitality was conducted on 30<sup>th</sup> July 2018 and had reached 7 ecotourism leaders, 11 ward government leaders and 11 village government leaders. The meeting was also attended by Ngorongoro District Tourism Officer.

**Indicator 2.c:** *BEOP, the existing 80 tour guides have their capacity built through training and an improvement in tour guiding is indicated in a follow up survey with the tour operators.*

The capacity of a total of 106 local tour guides (6 females) in ecotourism management was enhanced through training. A post training self-assessment survey conducted revealed that 100% of tour guides strongly agreed that their visitor management, customer care, tour guiding ethics and campsite management capacity has improved after the trainings. A follow up survey with tour operators will be conducted in Year 3. The tools for this survey are being developed. There was a delay in conducting the survey for tour operators because revolving fund negotiations and community assessments took longer than anticipated. This will now be given priority.

**Indicator 2.d:** *Up to 40 tour guides benefit from the revolving fund through financial support e.g. start-up money, money for essential equipment, etc.*

Systems to operationalise the community revolving fund are in place. However, analysis of numbers benefiting from and utilisation of the revolving fund will be reported in Year 3.

**Indicator 2.e:** *BEOY2, 100 people, (20 women, 40 youth and 40 men), including village leaders, trained in natural resource governance and land rights (Land Act No 4 and 5 of 1999). End of Project post-training survey shows 90% of trained leaders have increased confidence in entering negotiations and making sound decisions for the benefit of the village and natural resources.*

A total of 101 people (24 women, 30 youths and 47 men) received natural resource governance and land rights in year 1 and year 2. 43 participants (13 females) were trained in year 1 and 58 (14 women) were trained in year 2. This included 87 village leaders. End of Project post-training survey will be conducted at the end of year 3. Means of verification are available on request i.e. land rights report and project progress report.

**Indicator 2.f:** *BEOY2, 1 booth for sale of Maasai beads is in place and at least 300 women using it BEOP.*

Two booths have been constructed. One booth was constructed at Ngare Sero village and another at Shimo la Mungu area in Oldonyo Lengai village. The booths are currently being used by a total of 294 women (165 women at Ngare Sero village and 129 women from the Shimo la Mungu area) to sell beads and other merchandise. During peak season more women are predicted to use the booths.

**Indicator 2.g:** *BEOY2, revolving fund operational procedures in place. At least 100 people including 40 women, 40 youth and 20 men trained in effective utilization and disbursement of the revolving fund.*

Operational procedures for revolving fund are all in place. Terms of Reference, Guidelines and Policy document have all been developed in a participatory approach with the EECDI. Contracts with the EECDI for revolving fund have also been signed. All of the above documents are available in English and Swahili. 252 people (152 women, 71 youths and 29 men) were trained in effective utilization and disbursement of the revolving fund during business management training. End of Year 2 survey found that 96% of the trained members have understood how the revolving fund will operate and are aware of the guidelines and policies of the revolving fund.

**Indicator 2.h:** *BEOP, a total of 500 people (200 women, 200 youth – including 40 guides (indicator 2.d) - and 100 men) trained and effectively utilising loans disbursed through the revolving fund with their monthly income rising from \$45 to \$70 BEOP (indicator 0.1).*

This will be reported in Year 3.

**Indicator 2.i:** *The revolving fund grows by 10% (from £6,500 at start of project) BEOP.*

This will be reported in Year 3.



**Output 3: Key wetlands, rivers and springs protected and biodiversity enhanced through tree planting, catchment restoration and protection. State of biodiversity, and water quality enhanced and monitored.**

**Indicator 3a:** Catchment Action Plan for Pinyinyi and Ngare Sero rivers developed and endorsed by at least 95% of village leaders in 2 villages.

Catchment Action Plan for Pinyinyi and Ngare Sero Rivers were not in place at baseline. The CAP is now in place having been developed in a participatory manner by local communities with technical support from BirdLife International. The CAP has been validated by local communities and is available in Swahili and English. Means of verification are available on request i.e. the CAP, signed attendance list and project progress report.

**Indicator 3b:** By end of YR 3 at least 1,300 people made aware of the need to plant trees through community meetings. At least 7,500 indigenous tree seedlings planted BEO Y3 and at least 60% surviving BEOP.

More than 1,950 people are aware of the need to plant trees. This was done during various community meetings and workshops in Year 1 and Year 2. At least 5,800 indigenous trees have been planted BEOY2. End of year 2 survey shows that 95% seedlings have survived, and 90% are in good condition despite the current prolonged drought conditions.

**Indicator 3c:** BEOP Reduce from an historic baseline of 4 new tree stumps in every ten at start of project to two newly cut tree stumps out of every ten by the end of YR 3.

This will be reported in Year 3.

**Indicator 3.d:** BEOP Percentage of people grazing in sensitive areas is reduced to 15% or better (from a baseline of 35%)

This will be reported in Year 3.

**Indicator 3.e:** BEOP the volume of water abstracted from Pinyinyi River for irrigation reduced by 25% from YR 2 volume baseline measurements. See below.

Water volume measurements have not been completed due to an inability to procure a water flow meter. It was not possible to source a water flow meter online, in Nairobi or in Dar es Salaam. Quotes coming in for a meter from further afield were £1,000, which is twice the budget that was available. Quantitative water volume measurements will therefore no longer be conducted as part of this project as it would not be appropriate to set up a baseline during the final year of the project and instead the volume of water extracted will be established qualitatively by taking with local communities.

**Indicator 3.f:** BEOP turbidity of water flowing into the lake improved by 30% c.f. YR 2 baseline.

This has been established in Year 2 and comparison will be reported in Year 3.

**Indicator 3.g:** BEOP Dissolved Oxygen maintained at not less than 5 mg/litre at key rivers

This has been established in Year 2 and comparison will be reported in Year 3.

**Indicator 3.h:** BEO Y2, at least 40 young people, including tour guides, trained in IBA monitoring (using State, Pressure, Response) to enable annual assessment of the state of biodiversity.

43 young people including 39 tour guides were trained in IBA monitoring (using State, Pressure, and Response) in Year 2. Means of verification, monitoring report with a completed IBA form is available on request

**Indicator 3.i:** BEOP, biodiversity state, pressure, and response monitoring data targeting status of flamingos and key habitat quality available

This will be reported in Year 3. However, following the IBA monitoring training and filling of IBA form, the biodiversity state, pressure and response data targeting flamingos are now available. Monitoring will continue in Year 3 and final report will be produced with Year 3 reports.

**Indicator 3.j:** (Indicator 0.4) BEOP, the proportion of flamingo fledglings relative to estimated number of breeding pairs is stable or increasing compared to YR1 baseline, as a measure of breeding success.

This will be reported in Year 3. The proportion of flamingo fledglings relative to number of breeding pairs for 2018 was 120,000 fledglings to 760,000 flamingos (16%) and that of 2019 is 955,000 fledglings to 1,750,000 breeding flamingos (55%). There is a proportional increase and a significant increase in overall numbers.

**Output 4:** Awareness raised of local communities and government officials on Lake Natron's ecosystem value and threats to it (including deforestation, overgrazing, water use and catchment damage and soda ash threat) and remedial action taken.

**Indicator 4.a:** BEOP awareness on the value of Lake Natron and its ecotourism potential (and threats) raised through various means including through radio, TV, newspapers and production and distribution of 100 Posters reaching minimum of 25% of the local community at Lake Natron, 70% of government officials and at least 2.5 million Tanzanians.

Final report on this will be given in Year 3. However, awareness raising conducted during Year 1 and Year 2 through radio, TV, newspaper have reached an estimated 4.3 million people in Tanzania.

**Indicator 4.b:** BEY3, local community members taking remedial action on deforestation, water overuse and catchment damage through not overgrazing as evidenced by indicators 3.c-3.e.  
This will be reported in Year 3.

**Output 5: Lessons from the community-based ecotourism model shared and replicated locally, nationally, regionally and internationally**

**Indicator 5.a:** 50 hard copies of A 4-page Booklet produced and distributed for local and national advocacy and awareness raising.

Design for these has commenced. Production and distribution is scheduled before June 2019.

**Indicator 5.b:** BEOP, lessons and best practice shared via an online platform reaching 1,500 people within the tourist industry in Tanzania and at least 100 civil society/tourism players signing up to endorse methodology.

Final report on this will be given in year 3.

**Indicator 5.c:** BEOP, lessons shared with the Sectoral Committee responsible for tourism within East African Community, as well as with the Agriculture and Natural Resource and Tourism Committee of the East African Legislative Assembly, reaching 300 people.

Final report on this will be given in Year 3.

**Indicator 5.d:** Lessons shared internationally amongst other conservation NGOs in meeting 2019/2020, other relevant meetings and through the BirdLife website, reaching 800 people.

This is planned for Year 3.

**Indicator 5.e:** Lessons shared with relevant ministries in at least 5 East African countries and commitment to replicate received in form of letters.

This is planned for Year 3.

### 3.3 Progress towards the project Outcome

**Outcome:** The biodiversity, wetlands, and the livelihoods of local communities at Lake Natron are enhanced and protected, through sustainable community based ecotourism and water catchment management models.

**Indicator 0.1:** *BEOP, enhanced capacities of local people translate into greater incomes and contribute to poverty reduction: incomes of 1,100 people including 500 women, 200 men, 400 youth, (including 90 guides) will increase from an average of \$31-\$60 for men; \$52-\$75 for women and \$46-65 for youth, per month.*

**Comment:** Income levels were not reassessed during year 2 as the main livelihoods activities were still being implemented and the increase in income would have been insignificant. Income will be reassessed in year 3 and report against baseline

**Indicator 0.2:** *BEOP number of tourists visiting Lake Natron increases sustainably from baseline of 5,018 to 7,000 per year, generating more income for the communities.*

**Comment:** The number of tourists who visited Lake Natron in year 2 of the project was at least 5,800 tourists c.f. 5,018 tourists in YR1, 5,677 tourists in Year 2 (Source, Engaresero Eramatare Community Development Initiative EECDI). Final numbers will be reported in Year 3.

**Indicator 0.3:** *Sustainable Ecotourism model developed BEOP and endorsed by all three districts (indicator 1a), 50% of tour operators and shared nationally and internationally via an online platform with at least 100 civil society organisations signing up to endorse methodology (indicator 5b).*

**Comment:** The final draft of the TDP has been developed and is awaiting endorsement by the three districts, and sharing with key stakeholders early next year.

**Indicator 0.4:** *Over the project, the proportion of flamingo fledglings relative to estimated number of breeding pairs is stable or increasing compared to YR1 baseline, as a measure of breeding success and enhanced biodiversity.*

**Comment:** The proportion of flamingo fledglings relative to number of breeding pairs for 2018 was 120,000 fledglings to 760,000 flamingos and that of 2019 is 955,000 fledglings to 1,750,000 breeding flamingos. This shows a significant proportional increase from 16% to 55%.

**Indicator 0.5:** *BEOP 10,000 ha hectares of wetlands protected through a Catchment Action Plan (CAP) for Pinyinyi and Ngare Sero rivers, and endorsed by the village councils of the two villages (Output 3 indicators).*

**Comment:** Catchment Action Plan (CAP) for Pinyinyi and Ngare Sero rivers has been developed and endorsed by community leaders. Implementation of the developed CAP by respective village governments is planned for Year 3. The CAP now protects 10,000 hectares of wetlands.

The current rate of increase in tourist numbers is slower than anticipated. It may be necessary to reduce the indicator to 6,000 tourists by the end of year 3 with the expectation of future increases as the measures and suggestions in the TDP take hold. The other indicators are adequate for measuring the intended outcome.

The project is likely to achieve the set outcome by end of funding. This is based on the following facts; the ongoing massive support from local communities, local government authorities, regional government and key ministries have made the project progress well. The initial assumptions made also still hold true (see next section). The new approved log frame has ensured the project is working towards realistic SMART indicators in keeping with partner input at inception. Moreover, with most of key activities have taken place in the second year, the third year will be used to finalize activities, analyse data, and share the lessons learned.

### **3.4 Monitoring of assumptions**

**Assumption 1;** *National and district governments continue to work with tourism stakeholders to boost ecotourism and conserve biodiversity at Lake Natron*

**Comments;** National, Regional and Districts governments have continued to support tourism development and conservation work at Lake Natron Ramsar Site. The Ministry of Natural Resources, the Ministry of State, Union Affairs and Environment - Vice President, Arusha Regional Commissioner's office have been very positive towards this project and have requested to be kept in the loop in TDP development. They are also very keen to support implementation of the finalized TDP document. District Councils of Ngorongoro, Longido and Monduli have

continued to be very supportive in the implementation and coordination of this project. They have fully participated in PSC meetings, TDP Multi-stakeholder workshops, training and capacity building sessions and in delivery of other project activities.

**Assumption 2;** *Local communities around Lake Natron continue to be willing to engage in ecotourism activities and understand the benefits of protecting Lake Natron and its surroundings*

**Comments;** Local communities and village government leaders around Lake Natron have continued to be very positive to ecotourism activities. The commitment and desire to engage themselves in ecotourism activities have increased significantly over the span of this project. Local communities at Wosi wosi, who during the Soda Ash plant proposal were supporting the construction of the plant, are now committed to employ ecotourism business as a sustainable livelihood and tool for conservation. The Lesser Flamingo breeding site provide long term promise for a sustainable livelihood through ecotourism businesses. The ongoing commitments secure a good future for Lake Natron and provide a basis that this assumption will remain true beyond the lifetime of the project.

**Assumption 3:** *National and international tourism is not impacted by any terrorism actions in Tanzania*

**Comments;** Security stability continues to be very stable in the country and at the Lake Natron site. The government of Tanzania is investing heavily in security, especially in tourism destination regions. The Arusha Regional Commissioner's office, in collaboration with TATO, has recently launched a special tourism and diplomatic police station in Arusha. This goes with training hundreds of police officers to serve the tourism and diplomatic department at the central police station. These police officers are equipped with technology and resources to coordinate security in all tourist destinations including Lake Natron. Moreover, the Ngare Sero modern police station is now in the final stages and once finished, it will strengthen security for tourists and communities in the area.

#### **Output Level Assumptions.**

**Assumption;** *National and district governments continue to work with tourism stakeholders to boost ecotourism at Lake Natron*

**Comments;** National and district governments have clearly indicated their interest to develop the tourism business at Lake Natron. The massive buy-in this project received from these stakeholders is given as evidence. The National Development Corporation has issued a statement concerning abandoning soda ash extraction at Lake Natron and is now focusing on Lake Engaruka. This amazing result is due to pressure from communities and environmental organizations. Moreover increasing benefits and revenue collected from tourism business at Lake Natron has motivated the move.

**Assumption;** *District administration from Ngorongoro, Longido and Monduli continue to engage on the issue of gates*

**Comments;** The district administration of Ngorongoro, Longido and Monduli continue to engage on gate issues. The three districts had participated in the tourism stakeholders meeting called by the RAS and facilitated by BirdLife in 2018. From the meeting, the districts are still committed to explore options for resolving the gate issues through the Revenue Sharing Plan.

**Assumption;** *Once training is done, EECDI continues to ensure follow up and ensure deployment of skills*

**Comments;** The EECDI has continued to follow up on the action plan and recommendations given during the training. Introduction of tour guide uniform is one evidence. Moreover, the EECDI organized a test to all tour guides to assess skills gained from the trainings conducted by the project. The results of the test were used to identify guides with excellent skills and those who still need improvements.

**Assumption;** *Local communities willing to use their increased capacity and new skills to effect transformational change*

**Comments;** This assumption still hold true. Evidence was observed after business management training. Most women running restaurant businesses were seen wearing their aprons. Cleanliness and presentation of restaurant workers was discussed and recommended during the ecotourism and business management trainings, staff wearing their aprons is evidence of their commitment.

**Assumption;** *Unfavourable weather conditions (e.g drought)*

**Comments;** There have been no extreme weather conditions. However, the year 2019 is predicted to have a poor rainy season and therefore prolonged drought season. Tree planting activities may be affected by this.

**Assumption;** *Communities attitudes and activities do not change*

**Comments;** This assumption still hold true. Communities' attitude and perception to tourism business continues to remain positive.

**Assumption;** *External pressures such as massive industrial or agricultural development do not affect impact on ecosystem and project efforts*

**Comments;** The assumption still hold true. There have been no proposals for massive industrial or agricultural development at Lake Natron recently that would impact the ecosystem and project efforts.

**Assumption;** *Current economic, social and environmental factors do not change significantly during the lifetime of the project*

**Comments;** This assumption still hold true.

**Assumption;** *Government agencies willingness to cooperate*

**Comments;** This assumption still hold true.

**Assumption;** *Communities willingness to receive message*

**Comments;** This assumption still hold true.

**Assumption;** *Stakeholders including BirdLife partners' willingness to apply the lessons learnt*

**Comments;** This assumption still hold true.

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

**Biodiversity Conservation.** The project will improve the state of biodiversity through Important Bird and Biodiversity Area (IBA) monitoring and capacity building in natural resource management. It is expected that by the end of the project incidences of tree cutting and grazing on Lake Natron catchment areas and key wetlands will be reduced by 60%, as a result of awareness raising targeting local communities. 5,800 indigenous tree seedlings have been planted in year 2 and 90% are thriving very well. Through water quality and level monitoring and enforcement of the Catchment Action Plan which will commence in year 3, turbidity of water flowing into the Lake Natron will be improved by 30% and the quantity of water flowing into Lake Natron will be maintained and the volume of water abstracted from key rivers reduced by 25%. The project has also trained 43 young people, including tour guides in IBA monitoring (using State, Pressure, Response) to enable annual assessment of the state of biodiversity and by the end of project, biodiversity state, pressure, and response monitoring data targeting status of

flamingos and key habitat quality will be available. The IBA form has been completed and after finalization will be shared with wider stakeholders for monitoring and further actions. The project is contributing significantly into sustainable biodiversity conservation at Lake Natron.

**Human Development and Wellbeing (poverty alleviation).** After validation, endorsement and implementation of the Tourism Development Plan (TDP) the number of tourists visiting Lake Natron will increase up to 6,000 per year or greater by the end of the project, resulting in livelihood improvements of tour guides, women selling beads and other businessmen and women involved in tourism. During Year 2 a total of 364 people (community representatives and government natural resource staff) have been trained to train others on ecotourism and business management on ecotourism. This has improved the capacity of communities to operate and manage businesses, and therefore improve their incomes.

Revolving fund operation has commenced and 255 people have been trained in loan disbursement. Another 1,050 people will be trained by these 255 trainees. By the end of project, 500 women, 300 youth, 50 tour guides and 300 men will benefit from the revolving fund to support their activities and the fund will grow by 10%. During year two, two booths have been constructed to facilitate the sale of Maasai beads and are currently used by 294 women. In doing the above, the project is contributing significantly in promoting human development and wellbeing (poverty alleviation) and the impact is expected to continue after the end of the project.

#### **4. Contribution to the Global Goals for Sustainable Development (SDGs)**

##### **Goal 1; End poverty in all its forms everywhere**

*Target 1.4 of SDG Goal 1.* Through land rights and climate change training conducted to village council leaders, Maasai traditional leaders (*Laigwanaan*), ward council leaders and local community representatives the project is building the capacities of local communities (women, men and youths) to make informed decisions on access, ownership control and investment on land, whilst taking into account their natural resources. The training also raised their awareness on climate change, its impacts to pastoralist communities and on the possible mitigation measures including tree planting, thereby contributing towards achieving *Target 1.5 of SDG Goal 1*. By focusing on the impact of climate change to pastoralist communities, the project has contributed towards building resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations and therefore, reducing their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events.

Moreover, business and entrepreneurship training, booth construction, Tourism Development Plan and the revolving fund is also contributing towards the goal to end poverty in Lake Natron communities.

##### **Goal 5; Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls**

The Lake Natron Eco-tourism project has contributed towards achievement of *Target 5.5 of SDG 5* by ensuring that women have the capacity to participate effectively in eco-tourism businesses and in making decisions related to biodiversity conservation and economic life. During the reporting period, the construction of two booths at OI Donyo Lengai and Ngare Sero Villages has been concluded and more than 294 Maasai women are using the booths to market their beads.

##### **Goal 6; Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all**

This project is protecting and restoring key water-related ecosystems (springs and rivers) of Lake Natron by preventing catchment damage and undertaking restoration. This is mainly through implementation of the validated Catchment Action Plan for key springs and rivers, planting of

7,500 indigenous tree seedlings, water quality and level monitoring. By doing that the project will be achieving *Targets 6.3 and 6.5 of SDG 6*.

**Goal 8; Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all**

A sustainable TDP is in the final stages of development and will contribute towards an effective and coordinated tourism business at Lake Natron which take into account biodiversity sustainability, culture of the area and equitable benefit sharing to all community groups in Lake Natron. The TDP will also feed into and advise national biodiversity policies and plans which benefit local communities. By doing that the project will be achieving *Targets 8.2, 8.3, 8.4, 8.5, 8.6* and mostly importantly target *8.9 of SDG 8*.

Through construction of the booths for women to sell beads and related Maasai products, the project will contribute towards achieving *Targets 8.5, 8.8 and 8.9 of SDG 8*.

**Goal 15; Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss**

Through a Sustainable TDP with specific measures for preventing degradation of Lake Natron's ecosystem (i.e. maximum number of tourist visits per year that the ecosystem can support and a monitoring framework for tourism-related impact on biodiversity), the project will be contributing towards achieving *Targets 15.1, 15.2, 15.5, 15.6 and 15.9 of SDG 15*. The project will take action in reducing degradation of natural habitats, halting biodiversity loss and protection and prevention of extinction of threatened species (Target 15.5, in this case the Lesser Flamingo) through training of 200 people, (80 women, 40 youth and 80 men) in natural resource governance and land rights (Land Act No 4 and 5 of 1999) and use these acquired skills to make sound decisions on the use of the natural resources and through development of a Catchment Action Plan.

Planting of 7,500 indigenous tree seedlings at Lake Natron will contribute in achieving targets 15.1, 15.2, 15.3, 15.5, 15.6 and 15.9 of SDG 15. Monitoring of IBAs in danger will also contribute towards achieving the above SDG targets. Awareness raising to 5,000 (4,500 local communities and 500 government staff) people on the value of the Lake ecosystem and potential damage from soda ash mining will also contribute in achieving SDG 15. The targets will also be achieved by reducing incidences of tree cutting and grazing on Pinyinyi and Ngare sero River catchments by 60%, as a result of awareness raising targeting local communities.

**5. Project support to the Conventions, Treaties or Agreements**

The project is contributing towards *Aichi Targets 1, 4, 14* as well as *CBD Decision XI/22* inviting Parties to integrate CBD objectives into sustainable development and poverty eradication plans, policies and priority actions. It will also contribute towards fulfilment of the objectives of the Ramsar Convention in particular promotion of wise use of wetlands. Initial steps have been taken towards fulfilling project obligations that can contribute towards these goals. Several lessons learnt and information to feed into national reports has been collected and will be shared to relevant institutions in year 3. Nevertheless the authority responsible for CBD (Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism) and the Ramsar Site Manager for Lake Natron are represented in the Project Steering Committee and are members of the TDP Coordination committee.

## **6. Project support to poverty alleviation**

Operation for revolving fund has commenced. Through this activity, communities at Lake Natron will be able to borrow money with very small interest rates. The loans will be used to improve their businesses with the aim of meeting market demands, quality and standards. The result of this will be increased sales and benefit and therefore poverty alleviation. Booth construction given more than 294 women a safe and comfortable space to market their beads and other merchandise. This will result in a more coordinated business and therefore lead to greater revenues and therefore poverty alleviation. Business and ecotourism management training have equipped local communities and benefited women, men and youths with skills and capacity to improve their business. This will result in improvement of their businesses and later customer satisfaction which will attract more customers and be defined into greater profits and therefore poverty alleviation. Key notable changes in the year 2 include introduction of uniforms to all local tour guides at EECDI. This was an action agreed during the ecotourism training.

Expected beneficiaries of this work are local women, youth and men who are engaged in ecotourism business at Lake Natron.

One of the direct impacts of this project is the development of skills and capacity of communities in operation and management of ecotourism business. Moreover, after securing government's commitment to ecotourism business, local communities at Lake Natron will now enjoy sustainable economic benefits from ecotourism business. The revolving fund will also directly increase access to capital funds which will steer improvement of locally owned business and therefore translate to greater economic incomes.

Notable achievements for this project year include the fact that local tour guides at EECDI have now started wearing a uniform of traditional clothes. This recommendation was given during ecotourism business training. Their striking appearance has been noted by most tourists and there has been a notable increase in the numbers of visitors now visiting the EECDI office to organize a tour.

The number of flamingos have increased in the region and the proportion of flamingo fledglings has gone from 16% to 55%. An amazing increase in just one year.

## **7. Project support to gender equality issues**

The issue of gender is being taken seriously in this project. Most of the indicators are gender disaggregated i.e. training beneficiaries, income and revolving fund beneficiaries. During business management training, 59.6% of the participants were female. This is a massive achievement for Maasai community. On income generating activities 296 women are now using the 2 booths constructed by the project to sell beads and other merchandise. This will improve their income and livelihood. The project has also been insisting on gender equality in meetings, workshops and other project activities.

Gender equality will be positively impacted because of this project. The business management training conducted in year 2 has improved women's capacity in business operation and management. This will improve their income. The community revolving fund activity is expected to benefit more women through access to loans to improve their business. The developed TDP document is designed to facilitate improvement of tourism business at Lake Natron benefiting women and youths engaged in tourism business as well.

## **8. Monitoring and evaluation**

Overall project management is coordinated by the BirdLife International Project Coordinator, with a Project Manager on the ground and oversight and monitoring provided by the Project Steering Committee comprising of government, communities and project partner representatives. This group meets once every 12 months to look at progress, assess risks and identify and act on any lessons learned.

Monitoring and Evaluation is overseen by BirdLife International through the BLI M&E officer and on the ground by the Local Project Management Team, and follows the submitted project M&E plan.



Monthly meetings are held with project staff and a member of the project team visits the sites every month. Minutes of local meetings are recorded and stored in the BirdLife Secretariat offices in Nairobi to monitor the progress of community activities.

*BEOP, enhanced capacities of local people translate into greater incomes and contribute to poverty reduction: incomes of 1,100 people including 500 women, 200 men, 400 youth, (including 90 guides) will increase from an average of \$31-\$60 for men; \$52-\$75 for women and \$46-65 for youth, per month.*

There has been intensive training of women, men and youth in ecotourism and business management as well as effective tour guiding. On the other hand, a revolving fund is being launched to provide seed money for small business to facilitate expansion and growth. A study of incomes was conducted at the beginning of the project and a repeat will be done at the end to determine the extent to which income levels will have changed.

*BEOP number of tourists visiting Lake Natron increases sustainably from baseline of 5,018 to 7,000 per year, generating more income for the communities.*

The number of tourist visiting Lake Natron are being recorded and tracked on an annual basis. The available information shows that there was a growth of 15% in terms of actual tourism numbers visiting Lake Natron from baseline year to Year 2. However, it is not certain that the target of 7,000 tourists can be reached by the end of year three, if the current growth rate is assumed for year 3. A more realistic estimate may be 6,000 visitors.

*Sustainable Ecotourism model developed BEOP and endorsed by all three districts (indicator 1a), 50% of tour operators and shared nationally and internationally via an online platform with at least 100 civil society organisations signing up to endorse methodology*

Key to the sustainable model for ecotourism is the Tourism Development Plan. The development of this plan has proceeded in a very participatory manner, and although its final endorsement at senior government level will officially be in Year 3, it has received all round approval by all stakeholders. Once it has been endorsed, there will be a letter from the tourism lobby (TATO) indicating their approval.

*Over the project, the proportion of flamingo fledglings relative to estimated number of breeding pairs is stable or increasing compared to YR1 baseline, as a measure of breeding success and enhanced biodiversity*

The annual waterbird counts have proven to be an effective way of determining the status of the flamingo population. So far the population has shown an increase of both the adult birds as well as the chicks, which is a very encouraging development.

*BEOP 10,000 ha hectares of wetlands protected through a Catchment Action Plan (CAP) for Pinyinyi and Ngare Sero rivers, and endorsed by the village councils of the two villages*

Protection of 10,000 ha of wetlands and catchment is encapsulated in the Catchment Action Plan. This vital document which was developed in Year 1 required to be approved by two key village leaderships. This was done in July 2018, setting the stage for its implementation. Indeed, a number of the issues in the document had already been fast tracked. For example, the tree planting as a way of rehabilitating and addressing degradation has been underway to secure the wetlands.

Monitoring of the indicators in the approved logframe are being measured using short surveys as well as meticulously keeping gender disaggregated records of number of people being trained or attending meetings. It also includes keeping records of the number of tourists as well as counting flamingos and other birds annually.

The key outcome indicators include i) number of people trained as well as improved incomes for at least 1,100 people ii) number of tourists increase from 5,018 to 7,000 iii) Sustainable Ecotourism model developed BEOP and endorsed by all three districts (indicator 1a), 50% of tour operators and shared nationally and internationally via an online platform with at least 100 civil society organisations signing up to endorse methodology iv) Over the project, the proportion of flamingo fledglings relative to estimated number of breeding pairs is stable or increasing compared to YR1 baseline, as a measure of breeding success and enhanced biodiversity v) 10,000 ha hectares of wetlands protected through a Catchment Action Plan

(CAP) for Pinyinyi and Ngare Sero rivers, and endorsed by the village councils of the two villages

The approved updated logframe and its means of verification have been used to report this year. However, we would like to revise the expected number of tourists visiting the site down from 7,000 to 6,000 given the slower rate of increase than anticipated at the end of year 1.

As reported already it has not been possible to quantitatively assess water volume because of challenges in acquiring a water volume meter. Reduction in water abstracted from Pinyinyi river for irrigation will be qualitatively assessed, through the water usage survey, at the beginning and end of year 3 and changes in flow volume will be identified through this survey also.

## **9. Lessons learnt**

The most important lesson from this second year, as it was during first year, is the importance of participatory approaches in project implementation. The result of this has been ownership of project at community and government level. Getting all stakeholders on board ensures longer term project sustainability. We therefore recommend other projects to ensure that communities and government own the project through active participation of all key stakeholders.

Communities and the Government of Tanzania are now committed to employ ecotourism business as a sustainable livelihood at Lake Natron. This is evident from the request received from other communities who are not engaged in this project to be included in some activities. The request and commitment of the Government of Tanzania in supporting implementation of the TDP is evidence of government support. Communities in the project area are also very committed to the project and have been asking about project sustainability. This is very commendable and provides assurance of sustainable utilization of natural resources in the area.

The presence of this project may have influenced the withdrawal of the soda ash proposal by the government in March 2018. Persistent reports in the media of the benefits of ecotourism and projection of the voices of local communities supporting the work may have played a key role in getting the project shelved. However, this 'evidence' is based on discussion with a few key leaders and is not based on a general survey.

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

Not Applicable.

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

No other comments

## **12. Sustainability and legacy**

The project is gaining massive support across the country. This includes at government level, from private institutions and at community level. The Project Manager was able to meet and brief the Minister of State in the Vice President Office for Environment in September 2017. The Ministry of Natural Resource and Tourism was engaged in TDP development and participated in the TDP Multi-stakeholder workshop in September 2018. Private institutions including TATO and other NGOs are very positive about the project. This makes a very positive legacy for the project.

In terms of sustainability, there are ongoing fundraising plans with Nature Tanzania to continue working in the area, possibly through the Ramsar convention. Nature Tanzania are being considered as the potential future partner for BirdLife International in Tanzania. Working with them through this project is building their capacity and as such safeguards the future for nature in Tanzania long beyond the time frame of this project.

As in the planned exit strategy, the project will ensure that, BEOP, the local government, EECDI and the local communities have the capacity and awareness to manage the Lake

Natron site to the benefit of the communities and for nature, as well as manage supported initiatives. The strategy includes building the capacity of the local communities, especially EECDI and empowering local women and tour guides to continue running ecotourism activities at Lake Natron. Training means EECDI and other local actors will be supported by leadership at village, district and regional levels. Endorsement of the Tourism Development Plan by all stakeholders is a key element of the sustainability of this project. The key documents will be housed and hosted by the Government of Tanzania at the regional and district levels, ensuring that implementation is followed through.

Through this project, BirdLife has been building the capacity of Nature Tanzania in fundraising for the Lake Natron area, and to establish links between the organization and local communities. It is hoped they will be able to become part of the partnership by 2022. However, there is already a working Memorandum of Understanding with Nature Tanzania. BirdLife intends to close the Tanzania Project Office by the end of 2019 to allow Nature Tanzania “space” to operate, and discussions are ongoing for a possible handover of the field elements of this project to Nature Tanzania. Handover will be formalised through an official contract with Nature Tanzania who will formally take over implementation on the ground. However, the staff involved remain the same (Emmanuel Migwaa and Suzan Temba) and BirdLife in Nairobi will continue to provide coordination, as is the case now. If this is successfully executed, it will ensure there is a local organisation to continue the work

### 13. Darwin identity

- The donor, Darwin Initiative and its funder, the UK Government were publicized and acknowledged in all consultations and meeting conducted in Year 2. This includes during consultations and meetings for TDP development, TDP Multi-stakeholder workshop and PSC meetings.
- During project inception meeting, stakeholders agreed on project identity (logo). The logo comprises those logos of BirdLife, Darwin Initiative and the Government of Tanzania (court of arms). The project logo was used in all formal letters to government and private institutions as well as local communities.



Figure 2; project logo

- The Darwin Initiative and its funder, the UK Government were acknowledged and publicised during training and capacity building sessions. This included ecotourism and business management trainings. Handout developed included the project logo.
- The project team made every attempt to recognise Darwin and the UK government contribution in communications and media reports.
- All structures (e.g. booths) built in this project will be branded with the Darwin Initiative and project partner logos and will recognise the contribution of the Government of UK.

**Below is a list of significant press coverage in the reporting period:**

Date: July 2019

Media: Sunrise radio

Type of coverage: Radio coverage

Highlight of the coverage: Importance of birds in national economy, Lake Natron value and the Darwin funded project.

Estimated reach: 650,000 people

Darwin highlighted: Yes

Media available: No

Date: 1<sup>st</sup> October 2018  
 Media: Tanzanite newspaper  
 Type of coverage: newspaper coverage  
 Highlight of the coverage: the value of Lake Natron, challenges and the efforts of the Darwin funded project.  
 Estimated reach: 150,000  
 Darwin highlighted: No  
 Media available: Yes

Date: 25<sup>th</sup> September 2018  
 Media: Tanzania Broadcasting Corporation (TBC)  
 Type of coverage: TV broadcast  
 Highlight of the coverage: TDP Validation workshop  
 Estimated reach: 3.7 million people  
 Darwin highlighted: Yes  
 Media available: Yes

#### 14. Project expenditure

**Table 1: Project expenditure during the reporting period (1 April 2018 – 31 March 2019)**

Project spend (indicative) since last annual report	2018/19 Grant (£)	2018/19 Total Darwin Costs (£)	Variance %	Comments (please explain significant variances)
Staff costs (see below)				
Consultancy costs				
Overhead Costs				
Travel and subsistence				
Operating Costs				
Capital items (see below)				
Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E)				
Others (see below)				
<b>TOTAL</b>				

Highlight any agreed changes to the budget and **fully** explain any variation in expenditure where this is +/- 10% of the budget. Have these changes been discussed with and approved by Darwin?

**Annex 1: Report of progress and achievements against Logical Framework for Financial Year 2018-2019**

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2018 - March 2019	Actions required/planned for next period
<p><b>Impact</b></p> <p><b>Development, piloting and promotion of an ecotourism model and restoration of key ecosystems for poverty alleviation and biodiversity protection in East Africa.</b></p>		<p><i>(Report on any contribution towards positive impact on biodiversity or positive changes in the conditions of human communities associated with biodiversity e.g. steps towards sustainable use or equitable sharing of costs or benefits)</i></p>	
<p><b>Outcome</b></p> <p>The biodiversity, wetlands, and the livelihoods of local communities at Lake Natron are enhanced and protected, through sustainable community based ecotourism and water catchment management models.</p>	<p>Indicator 0.1: BEOP, enhanced capacities of local people translate into greater incomes and contribute to poverty reduction: incomes of 1,100 people including 500 women, 200 men, 400 youth, (including 90 guides) will increase from an average of \$31-\$60 for men; \$52-\$75 for women and \$46-65 for youth, per month.</p>	<p><i>(Report against the indicators on progress towards achieving the project Outcome)</i></p> <p>Contract signed with EECDI, operational guidelines and TORs in place. Revolving fund operation has just begun, but it is too early to see significant changes to income. More reports will be provided in Year 3.</p>	<p><i>(Highlight key actions planned for next period)</i></p> <p>Operation of the community revolving fund and providing technical support to the EECDI in the operation.</p>
	<p>Indicator 0.2: BEOP number of tourists visiting Lake Natron increases sustainably from baseline of 5,018 to 7,000 per year, generating more income for the communities.</p>	<p>In Year 2 the average number of tourists visiting Lake Natron was reported by EECDI to be 5,677. In Year 1 it was 5,018 tourists. <b>We would like to revise this indicator to 6000 per year</b> BEOP given the observed increase in numbers from year 1 to 2. More report on this will be provided in Year 3.</p>	<p>More support to the EECDI in the area of marketing, capacity building on quality services and networking.</p>
	<p>Indicator 0.3: Sustainable Ecotourism model developed BEOP and endorsed by all three districts (indicator 1a), 50% of tour operators and shared nationally and internationally via an online platform with at least 100 civil society</p>	<p>Sustainable ecotourism model has already been produced and is reported in the TDP document. The TDP document has been validated by all three districts. Sharing of the model is planned for year 3.</p>	<p>Sharing of the sustainable ecotourism model to national and international stakeholders via an online platform to be set up in year 3. Endorsement letter from TATO.</p>

	organisations signing up to endorse methodology (indicator 5b).		
	Indicator 0.4: Over the project, the proportion of flamingo fledglings relative to estimated number of breeding pairs is stable or increasing compared to YR1 baseline, as a measure of breeding success and enhanced biodiversity	The proportion of flamingo fledglings relative to number of breeding pairs for 2018 was 120,000 fledglings to 760,000 flamingos and that of 2019 is 955,000 fledglings to 1,750,000 breeding flamingos. There is therefore a proportion increase from 16% to 55%. Details are found in section 3.1 above and on Annex 11.	Feed of data collected to the World Bird Database and organize and conduct Year 3 water bird count for final evaluation.
	Indicator 0.5: BEOP 10,000 ha hectares of wetlands protected through a Catchment Action Plan (CAP) for Pinyinyi and Ngare Sero rivers, and endorsed by the village councils of the two villages (Output 3 indicators).	Catchment Action Plan for Pinyinyi and Ngare Sero Rivers is already produced and has been validated by 100% of village leaders in the 2 villages. It is attached with this report as Annex 8.	Support for implementation of the CAP is planned for Year 3. Publication on EECDI and Nature Tanzania websites.
<b>Output 1.</b> A coherent TDP and clear revenue sharing mechanism in place.	1.a. 1.a. BEOP a sustainable TDP has been developed and validated by stakeholders in 3 districts with clear revenue sharing mechanism (indicator 1.c.) and guidance on optimum tourist numbers to protect the fragile ecosystem, in place.	A sustainable TDP has been produced and is in a third draft form. Validation by stakeholders in the 3 districts was conducted on the 24 <sup>th</sup> September 2018. The TDP includes a chapter on revenue sharing mechanism and tourists' carrying capacity which is set at a 10,000 tourists per year. Further details are on section 3.1 above.	
	1.b By end of year 2, market analysis for ecotourism at Lake Natron developed (as part of the TDP).	Market analysis for ecotourism at Lake Natron has been developed and is part of the TDP document. TDP document is attached with this report as Annex 4.	
	1.c. Revenue sharing plan drawn up in YR 2, agreement and endorsement coordinated by the Regional Administrative Secretary, and being implemented by YR 3 .	Revenue sharing plan is now developed and is captured in the TDP document.	

	1.d BEOP, Two (2) out of the three gates (physical barriers) erected by districts at Lake Natron removed. The one remaining gate agreed upon by all three districts.	Two of the three multiple gates erected by the district governments of Ngorongoro, Monduli and Longido have now been removed. The 3 districts are now using one gate located at Ngare Sero village. The same gate is used by the Tanzania Wildlife Management Authority (TAWA). A meeting is planned with the office of RAS to discuss the importance of implementing and monitoring the agreed revenue sharing framework.	
Activity 1.1 Recruit consultant for market analysis and Tourism Development Plan (TDP)		Recruitment of consultant completed.	No activity will be carried in the next period.
Activity 1.2, Collect data on ecotourism business conducted at Lake Natron including value chain.		Data collection on ecotourism business at Lake Natron is completed. Data and information collected have been compiled in the third draft TDP.	High level TDP endorsement meeting is planned for May 2019. The meeting will raise awareness to senior government and tourism officials on TDP document and rally for resource allocation to support implementation.
Activity 1.3: Support production of ecotourism market analysis report (as part of TDP)		Ecotourism market analysis has been produced and is part of the TDP document.	Please see Activity 1.2 above.
Activity 1.4: Collect data and consult with stakeholders on TDP and revenue sharing plan (as part of TDP)		Collection of data and stakeholders consultation on TDP and on revenue sharing plan has been concluded.	Please see Activity 1.2 above.
Activity 1.5: Support production of the TDP and share with stakeholders		Production of the final TDP document is in progress. Endorsement of the TDP document by higher level government officials is planned for May 2019. The endorsed document will then be shared to wider stakeholders.	Please see Activity 1.2 above.
Activity 1.6: Organize a multi-stakeholder TDP validation and tourism revenue-sharing harmonisation meeting		A multi-stakeholder TDP validation and tourism revenue-sharing harmonisation meeting was conducted on 24 <sup>th</sup> September 2018.	Please see Activity 1.2 above.

		Further details are in section 3.1 above.	
<p><b>Output 2.</b> Improved capacity of local communities to conduct ecotourism business and natural resources decision making through relevant training and capacity building.</p>	<p>2.a. BEOY2, 75% of 100 recipients (community representatives, tour guides, community campsite operators) show increased confidence through self-assessment by the end of a 2 day training course in ecotourism management, business management, revolving fund management, customer care, and responsible guiding This will include 40 women and 40 youth and 20 men.</p>	<p>A total of 252 people have attended a 2 days training course in ecotourism management, business management, revolving fund management, customer care and responsible guiding. The number include (152 women, 71 youths and 29 men). Detailed report are found on Annex 5 of this report.</p>	
	<p>2.b. A 1 day training in ecotourism planning, marketing and hospitality will be conducted for at least 30 ecotourism leaders selected from the above group. End of project survey to assess if the communities feel better supported by the leaders.</p>	<p>A specialized 1 day training course in ecotourism planning, marketing and hospitality was conducted on 30<sup>th</sup> July 2019 and has reached a total of 29 leaders. Details are found on section 3.1 above and on Annex 5.</p>	
	<p>2.c.. BEOP, the existing 80 tour guides have their capacity built through training and an improvement in tour guiding is indicated in a follow up survey with the tour operators.</p>	<p>Activities for this indicator are still work in progress and final report will be submitted in Year 3. A total of 106 tour guides have been trained and their capacity build to effectively undertake tour guiding. Follow up survey with tour operators to measure quality of the tour guides will be conducted in year 3.</p>	
	<p>2.d. Up to 40 tour guides benefit from the revolving fund through financial support e.g. start up money, money for essential equipment, etc.</p>	<p>All 106 tour guides were also trained on utilizing the revolving fund. Full analysis of utilisation and beneficiaries will be reported BEY3.</p>	
	<p>2.e BEOY2, 100 people, (20 women,40 youth and 40 men), including village leaders, trained in natural resource governance and land rights (Land Act No 4 and 5 of 1999). End of Project post-training</p>	<p>A total of 101 people (24 women, 30 youths and 47 men) have been trained in natural resource governance and land rights. End of Project Post training survey will allow assessment of the effectiveness of the training on raising confidence levels.</p>	



	survey shows 90% of trained leaders have increased confidence in entering negotiations and making sound decisions for the benefit of the village and natural resources.	
	2.f. BEOY2, 1 booth for sale of Maasai beads is in place at the cultural boma and at least 300 women using it BEOP.	2 booths for sale of Maasai beads were constructed in the first 18 months and are now operational. The booths are being used by a total of 294 women. Further details are found on section 3.1 above.
	2.g. BEOY2, revolving fund operational procedures in place. At least 100 people including 40 women, 40 youth and 20 men trained in effective utilization and disbursement of the revolving fund.	The revolving fund operation has now commenced. Discussion and negotiations with the EECDI about operations and guidelines were conducted in Year 2. 252 people (152 women, 71 youths and 29 men) trained in effective utilization and disbursement of the revolving fund during business management trainings. The guidelines, ToRs and contracts were agreed and signed. First instalment payments have been paid already to EECDI. Businesswomen, men and youths are now filling application forms. Review of these application forms and first batch loan payment is scheduled for April and May 2019. Activities for this indicator are still work in progress and will be reported in Year 3.
	2.h. BEOP, a total of 500 people (200 women, 200 youth – including 40 guides (indicator 2.d) - and 100 men) trained and effectively utilising loans disbursed through the revolving fund with their monthly income rising from \$45 to \$70 BEOP (indicator 0.1).	The results of the utilisation and beneficiaries of the fund will be reported in Yr 3
	2.i. The revolving fund grows by 10% (from £6,500 at start of project) BEOP.	Audit of the revolving fund growth will be conducted in Year 3.
Activity 2.1. Organize training on ecotourism and business management for men and women, and youth and follow up training in villages by trainees. Conduct post-training self-assessment to training participants	Ecotourism and business management trainings have been conducted. Post training self-assessment have also been conducted. Results have been reported in section 3.1 above.	Further support to the local tour guides and women and men entrepreneur will be conducted in Year 3. This will be the same during implementation of revolving fund.
Activity 2.2 Devise, distribute and analyse survey form for tour operators to report against quality of tour guiding.	This activity is planned for year 3.	In year 3, we will devise, distribute and analyse survey forms for tour operators for measuring

		effectiveness of the trainings on quality of tour guides.
Activity 2.3. Construct booth and use it for sale of beads and other merchandise	2 booths have been constructed at Ngare Sero and Oldonyo Lengai villages. They are currently been used by more than 296 women to sell beads and other merchandise.	Instalment of sign post is planned for the third year. More follow up on training needs and capacity building to these women is planned for Year 3. Further links and support from government institutions will be explored in Year 3.
Activity 2.4 Set up Revolving Fund, training community back to back with 2.1 operationalise and monitor its implementation.	Revolving fund system and process is now in place. It has been agreed to use local institution to support delivery of this activity. The Engaresero Eramatare Community Development Initiative (EECDI) has been selected to deliver this activity. Capacity building for the EECDI has been conducted for this activity. Terms of Reference and Guidelines have been agreed with the EECDI. Contracts between BirdLife and EECDI for this activity have already been signed. First instalment has been transferred to the special bank account opened by the EECDI. BirdLife International is one of signatory of the bank account. Local communities have been trained on revolving fund. Loan application forms have been distributed and businesswomen and men are now filling the forms. Dates for first review of the application forms have been set to be 5 <sup>th</sup> April 2019. Please see Annex 6 and section 3.1 above.	Review of application forms and payment of first batch loans is planned for April and May 2019. Training needs assessment to loan beneficiaries is planned for Year 3. Further technical support to EECDI on revolving fund is also scheduled for Year 3.
Activity 2.5 Conduct lands rights training (includes preparations).	Land rights and natural resource governance training has been	Further follow up with training beneficiaries will be conducted to

		conducted in Year 1 and Year 2. Please see Annex 7 and section 3.1 above.	identify training impacts and areas for further capacity building.	
Activity 2.6 Conduct end of project post-training survey to assess leaders' confidence in entering into negotiations and making sound decisions.		End of project post-training self-assessment on leaders' confidence in entering into negotiations and making sound decisions will be conducted in Year 3.	Conduct end of project post-training self-assessment on leaders' confidence in negotiations and making sound decisions will be conducted in Year 3.	
Activity 2.7 Conduct End of Project survey to assess if communities feel better supported by trainees from activity 2.1.		This activity will be conducted in year 3.	In year 3, we will design, distribute and analyse survey forms to local communities to see if they feel better supported by their trained leaders.	
<b>Output 3.</b> Key wetlands, rivers and springs protected and biodiversity enhanced through tree planting, catchment restoration and protection. State of biodiversity, and water quality enhanced and monitored.	3a. Catchment Action Plan for Pinyinyi and Ngare Sero rivers developed and endorsed by at least 95% of village leaders in 2 villages.	Catchment Action Plan for Pinyinyi and Ngare Sero Rivers is developed and validated by 100% of village leaders in the 2 villages. Please see Annex 9 and section 3.1 above.		
	3b. During YR 2 at least 1,300 people made aware of the need to plant trees through community meetings. At least 7,500 indigenous tree seedlings planted BEO Y2 and at least 60% surviving BEOP.	By end of Year 2, a total of 1,950 people were made aware of the need to plant trees through several community meetings. Details are reported on section 3.2 above. This is a work in progress. During Year 2 5,800 indigenous tree seedlings were planted. The remained 1,700 seedlings will be planted in the coming rain season i.e. April and May 2019. End of Year 2 surveys show that 90% of all planted seedlings are thriving. Activities for this indicator are still work in progress and will be reported in Year 3.		
	3c. BEOP Reduce from an historic baseline of 4 new tree stumps in every ten at start of project to two newly cut tree stumps out of every ten by the end of YR 3.	Activities for this indicator are still work in progress and will be reported in Year 3		
	3.d. BEOP Percentage of people grazing in sensitive areas is reduced to 15% or better (from a baseline of 35%)	Activities for this indicator are still work in progress and will be reported in Year 3		
	3.e. BEOP the volume of water abstracted from Pinyinyi river for irrigation reduced by 25% from YR 2	Due to difficult in obtaining water flow meter, the baseline for water flow into the lake has not been established and is not likely to be established and monitored given the price of the water flow meter. However, the		

	volume baseline measurements. See below.	amount of water extracted will be qualitatively assessed by talking with the local communities.
	3.f. BEOP turbidity of water flowing into the lake improved by 30% c.f. YR 2 baseline.	Baseline data for water turbidity for Pinyinyi and Ngare Sero Rivers have been established. They are reported on section 3.1 above. Activities for this indicator are still work in progress and will be reported in Year 3
	3.g. BEOP Dissolved Oxygen <sup>6</sup> maintained at not less than 5 mg/litre at key rivers	Baseline data for dissolved oxygen for Pinyinyi and Ngare Sero Rivers have been established and is reported on section 3.1 above. Further monitoring will be conducted in Year 3. Activities for this indicator are still work in progress and will be reported in Year 3.
	3.h. BEO Y2, at least 40 young people, including tour guides, trained in IBA monitoring <sup>7</sup> (using State, Pressure, Response) to enable annual assessment of the state of biodiversity.	A total of 43 young people have already been trained on IBA monitoring (using State, Pressure and Response). Detailed report is in section 3.1 above and in Annex 10.
	3.i. BEOP, biodiversity state, pressure, and response monitoring data targeting status of flamingos and key habitat quality available <sup>8</sup>	Baseline data on biodiversity state, pressure and response on flamingo status and habitat quality is available and is reported on section 3.1 above. Activities for this indicator are still work in progress and will be reported in Year 3
	3.j. (Indicator 0.4) BEOP, the proportion of flamingo fledglings relative to estimated number of breeding pairs is stable or increasing compared to YR1 baseline, as a measure of breeding success.	The proportion of flamingo fledglings relative to number of breeding pairs for 2018 was 120,000 fledglings to 760,000 flamingos and that of 2019 is 955,000 fledglings to 1,750,000 breeding flamingos. There is therefore a proportion increase. Activities for this indicator are still work in progress and will be reported in Year 3. Please see Annex 11 and section 3.1 above.
<b>Activity 3.1</b> Prepare and support endorsement of Catchment Action Plan for Pinyinyi and Ngaresero Rivers. Raise awareness on tree planting	The Catchment Action Plan for Pinyinyi and Ngare Sero Rivers has already been developed by local communities with technical support from BirdLife International and Ngorongoro District government.	Support to the 2 village governments is planned for implementation of the CAP.

<sup>6</sup> Dissolved Oxygen is a measure of the amount of oxygen available in water to support living organisms. The more a water source is polluted, the less the amount of Dissolved Oxygen. This will be especially important for Pinyinyi river where there is a small irrigation project. The baseline measurements for this will be established during the baseline study

<sup>7</sup> <http://www.birdlife.org/datazone/info/ibamonitring> - IBA monitoring is a simple, locally adaptable method of assessing the stage of biodiversity and pressures it faces at site level

<sup>8</sup> Biodiversity state, pressure, and response monitoring baseline data targeting status of flamingos and key wetlands will be collected during the baseline study.

	<p>The document has been validated by the two village governments and the Swahili version distributed. Awareness raising on tree planting is being conducted during various meetings and workshops with communities. More than 1,950 people have been reached by Year 2. Please see Annex 8 and section 3.1 above.</p>	
<p><i>Activity 3.2</i> Prepare land and plant key wetland areas with at least 7,500 indigenous tree seedlings</p>	<p>Preparation for land and tree planting is work still in progress. In April and May 2018, 5,800 indigenous tree seedlings were planted in 4 villages of project site. Please see section 3.1 above.</p>	<p>Preparation for land and planting of the remained 1,800 indigenous seedling is planned for the coming rain season i.e. April and May 2019. This will be preceded with land preparation and further awareness on tree planting.</p>
<p><i>Activity 3.3</i> Tree seedling after care and monitoring</p>	<p>Tree seedlings after care and monitoring is work still in progress. During last year rain season, support to schools and institutions who were supported with tree was conducted. Water tank and pipes were provided. Monitoring has been conducted as reported in section 3.1 above. More than 90% of the planted trees are thriving well.</p>	<p>Tree seeding after care and monitoring will continue in Year 3. This will be done for the 1,700 seedlings which will be planted in April and May 2019.</p>
<p><i>Activity 3.4</i> Set up and carry out water quality monitoring</p>	<p>Water quality monitoring commenced on September 2018 with only dissolved oxygen, water turbidity, electrical conductivity and pH data collected.</p>	<p>Purchase of water flow meter has been a challenge. More efforts are made to have this equipment purchased before May 2019.</p>
<p><i>Activity 3.5</i> Train 40 young people in IBA Monitoring (back to back with 2.1); complete IBA form and feed data into World Bird Database (including repeat monitoring in Yr2)</p>	<p>A total of 43 young people have been trained in IBA monitoring, IBA form has been filled and feed of data to the World Bird Database is in progress by TAWIRI.</p>	<p>Feed the collected data to the World Bird Database by TAWIRI.</p>

<p><i>Activity 3.6</i> Conduct annual Waterbird census in collaboration with Tawiri and local communities and obtain flamingos' breeding success data</p>	<p>As reported in section 3.1 above, water bird census for 2019 is complete. During the count a total of 57 bird species were seen. Lesser Flamingo were seen in millions with successful breeding activity having occurred. The team have estimated a total of 1,750,000 individual Lesser Flamingo and a total of 955,000 individual Lesser Flamingo chicks. Greater Flamingo' number was estimated to be at 86,000. Please see Annex 11 and section 3.1 above.</p>	<p>Liaise with TAWIRI for sharing the data with the Word Bird Database. Further monitoring to the breeding success will be conducted in year 3.</p>
<p>4. Awareness raised of local communities and government officials on Lake Natron's ecosystem value and threats to it (including deforestation, overgrazing, water use and catchment damage and soda ash threat) and remedial action taken.</p>	<p>4.a BEOP awareness on the value of Lake Natron and its ecotourism potential (and threats) raised through various means including through radio, TV, newspapers and production and distribution of 100 Posters reaching minimum of 25% of the local community at Lake Natron, 70% of government officials and at least 2.5 million Tanzanians.</p>	<p>This is activity is work in progress. Awareness raising on the Lake Natron value and ecotourism potential has been raised through radio, TV and newspaper in Year 2 reaching a total of 4.3 million people across the country and 500,000 in East Africa. More awareness raising activities, production and distribution of posters will be conducted in Year 3.</p>
	<p>4.b. BEY3, local community members taking remedial action on deforestation, water overuse and catchment damage through not overgrazing as evidenced by indicators 3.c-3.e.</p>	<p>This is will be reported in Year 3.</p>
<p><i>Activity 4.1</i> Produce advocacy/awareness poster and booklet</p>	<p>Design of booklet and poster has commenced and publication is scheduled for May 2019. The booklet has been designed by project staff. These and the poster</p>	<p>In year 3, we will publish, produce and distribute advocacy/awareness poster and booklet.</p>

		will be available for distribution by the on June 2019	
<i>Activity 4.2</i> Carry out awareness amongst government agencies on values and threats through public forums, film and radio		This is a work in progress. As indicated in section 3.1 above, awareness raising has been conducted in Year 1 and Year 2 and has reached a total of 4.3 million people and 15 government agencies including Arusha RAS office, district councils of Ngorongoro, Monduli and Longido, TTB, TAWIRI, TANAPA, Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism, TAWA, Ngorongoro Conservation Area Authority (NCAA), Ministry of State in the Vice President Office for Union and Environment.	More awareness raising activities targeting government agencies will be conducted though public forums, film and radio.
<b>Output 5</b> Lessons from the community-based ecotourism model shared and replicated locally, nationally, regionally and internationally	5.a 50 hard copies of A 4-page Booklet produced and distributed for local and national advocacy and awareness raising <sup>9</sup> .	Design has commenced. Production and distribution of these is planned to be by June 2019.	
	5.b BEOP, lessons and best practice shared via an online platform reaching 1,500 people within the tourist industry in Tanzania and at least 100 civil society/tourism players signing up to endorse methodology.	Sharing of lesson learnt and best practice is work in progress. In Year 2 lessons and best practices were shared to stakeholders via several platforms as indicated in section 3.1. More than 4.3 million people have been reached so far. More work is planned for Year 3.	
	5.c BEOP, lessons shared with the Sectoral Committee responsible for tourism within East African Community, as well as with the Agriculture and Natural Resource and Tourism Committee of the East	This will be reported in Year 3.	

<sup>9</sup> It will be distributed to tour operators, govt officials, village leadership offices, Community based organisations, BL project office, project partner offices and on line

	African Legislative Assembly, reaching 300 people. <sup>10</sup>	
	5.d Lessons shared internationally amongst other conservation NGOs in meeting 2019/2020, other relevant meetings and through the BirdLife website, reaching 800 people.	This is planned for Year 3.
	5.e Lessons shared with relevant ministries in at least 5 East African countries and commitment to replicate received in form of letters.	This is a work in progress. In Year 2 awareness raising of key results have been shared to target group and is detailed in section 3.1.
Activity 5.1 Produce advocacy/awareness booklet	Design of booklet and poster has commenced and publication is scheduled for May 2019. The booklet has been designed by project staff. These and the poster will be available for distribution by the on June 2019.	Production and distribution of advocacy/awareness booklet
Activity 5.2 Share project lessons with tourism industry actors, and civil society organisations through online platform and in person	This will be completed in Year 3.	Further showcasing and sharing of project lessons.
Activity 5.3 Share lessons with East African Community (EAC) on responsible tourism through relevant committee of EAC and the East African Legislative Assembly.	This is planned for year 3.	Design and sharing of project lessons.
Activity 5.4 Showcase project lessons regionally and internationally amongst other conservation NGOs in meetings, other relevant forums and through the BirdLife website and social media platforms.	Dissemination of project lessons and best practise has been conducted through various platforms. This include radio, newspaper and through social media.	Further showcase of project lessons.

<sup>10</sup> BirdLife International has signed an MoU with the East African Community. This target might therefore be increased if BirdLife is allowed to participate as an observer during inter-ministerial meetings and summits of the EAC.



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

Project summary	Measurable Indicators <sup>11</sup>	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
<p><b>Impact: (Max 30 words)</b>  <b>Development, piloting and promotion of an ecotourism model and restoration of key ecosystems for poverty alleviation and biodiversity protection in East Africa.</b></p>			
<p><b>Outcome:</b>  <b>(Max 30 words) 26 words</b></p> <p>The biodiversity, wetlands, and the livelihoods of local communities at Lake Natron are enhanced and protected, through sustainable community based ecotourism and water catchment management models.</p>	<p>0.1 BEOP, enhanced capacities of local people translate into greater incomes and contribute to poverty reduction: incomes of 1,100 people including 500 women, 200 men, 400 youth, (including 90 guides) will increase from an average of \$31-\$60 for men; \$52-\$75 for women and \$46-65 for youth, per month.</p> <p>0.2 BEOP number of tourists visiting Lake Natron increases sustainably from baseline of 5,018 to 7,000 per year, generating more income for the communities.</p> <p>0.3 Sustainable Ecotourism model developed BEOP and endorsed by all three districts (indicator 1a), 50% of tour operators and shared nationally and internationally via an online platform with at least 100 civil society organisations signing up to endorse methodology (indicator 5b).</p> <p>0.4. Over the project, the proportion of flamingo fledglings relative to estimated number of breeding pairs is stable or increasing compared to YR1 baseline, as a measure of</p>	<p>0.1 Engaresero Eramatare Community Development Initiative (EECDI) Records<sup>12</sup></p> <p>0.2 Records of entries at the gates</p> <p>0.3 Tourism Development Plan in place. Endorsement letter from TATO (representing ~62% of all tour operators), newspaper reports; Final Project Report. Web site statistics for the online platform. EECDI report file records at start and BEOP.</p> <p>0.4 Annual waterbird census report; IBA monitoring reports</p>	<p>National and district governments continue to work with tourism stakeholders to boost ecotourism and conserve biodiversity at Lake Natron</p> <p>Local communities around Lake Natron continue to be willing to engage in ecotourism activities and understand the benefits of protecting Lake Natron and its surroundings</p> <p>National and international tourism is not impacted by any terrorism actions in Tanzania</p>

<sup>11</sup> During the inception phase, we will conduct a baseline study that will enable us to refine the indicators and ensure that the baseline data we have provided here is still up-to-date. Getting all the baseline data at the start of the project will enable us to adequately measure progress during and at the end of the project.

<sup>12</sup> EECDI records capture information on members (including incomes), minutes of meetings, tourism data, accounts, records of incidences around the ecosystem and illegal activities.

	<p>breeding success and enhanced biodiversity</p> <p>0.5. BEOP 10,000 ha hectares of wetlands protected through a Catchment Action Plan (CAP) for Pinyinyi and Ngare Sero rivers, and endorsed by the village councils of the two villages (Output 3 indicators)</p>	<p>0.5 Catchment plan published on EECDI and Nature Tanzania website</p> <p>Village council minutes endorsing CAP</p>	
<p>Outputs:</p> <p>1. A coherent TDP and clear revenue sharing mechanism in place.</p>	<p>1.a. BEOP a sustainable TDP has been developed and validated by stakeholders in 3 districts with clear revenue sharing mechanism (indicator 1.c.) and guidance on optimum tourist numbers to protect the fragile ecosystem, in place.</p> <p>1.b By end of year 2, market analysis for ecotourism at Lake Natron developed (as part of TDP)</p> <p>1.c. Revenue sharing plan drawn up in YR 2, agreement and endorsement coordinated by the Regional Administrative Secretary, and being implemented by YR 3 .</p> <p>1.d BEOP, Two (2) out of the three gates (physical barriers) erected by districts at Lake Natron removed. The one remaining gate agreed upon by all three districts.</p>	<p>1.a TDP and consultation meetings reports, project progress report</p> <p>1.b. Market analysis report within the TDP</p> <p>1.c. Revenue sharing plan Minutes of meetings of Regional Administrative Secretary spelling out revenue sharing</p> <p>1.d. Actual number of gates being used, and annual report from office of the Regional Administrative Secretary showing revenue distribution as per indicator 1.c.</p>	<p>National and district governments continue to work with tourism stakeholders to boost ecotourism at Lake Natron</p> <p>District administration from Ngorongoro, Longido and Monduli continue to engage on the issue of gates</p>
<p>2. Improved capacity of local communities to conduct ecotourism</p>	<p>2.a BEOY2, 75% of 100 recipients (community representatives, tour guides, community campsite</p>	<p>2.a Training materials and reports for indicators 2a and 2b, attendance records, pre and post training</p>	<p>Once training is done, EECDI continues to ensure follow up and ensure deployment of skills</p>

<p>business and natural resources decision making through relevant training and capacity building.</p>	<p>operators) show increased confidence through self-assessment by the end of a 2 day training course in ecotourism management, business management, revolving fund management, customer care, and responsible guiding This will include 40 women and 40 youth and 20 men.</p> <p>2.b A 1 day training in ecotourism planning, marketing and hospitality will be conducted for at least 30 ecotourism leaders selected from the above group. End of project survey to assess if the communities feel better supported by the leaders.</p> <p>2.c. BEOP, the existing 80 tour guides have their capacity built through training and an improvement in tour guiding is indicated in a follow up survey with the tour operators.</p> <p>2.d. Up to 40 tour guides benefit from the revolving fund through financial support e.g. start up money, money for essential equipment, etc.</p> <p>2.e BEOY2, 100 people, (20 women,40 youth and 40 men), including village leaders, trained in natural resource governance and land rights (Land Act No 4 and 5 of 1999). End of Project post-training survey shows 90% of trained</p>	<p>surveys to assess course effectiveness</p> <p>2.b. Increased capacity evident from increased income (indicator 0.1), tourist numbers (indicator 0.2) and tour company satisfaction surveys (see MoV 2c). Post project survey to qualitatively assess whether communities have benefited from increased knowledge of trainees.</p> <p>2c. Brief follow up quality survey with tour operators to assess efficiency of the tours. Collected weekly/fortnightly from the operators</p> <p>2.d Survey on utilisation of revolving fund and beneficiaries</p> <p>2.e Land rights training report, training evaluation report, project progress report. MoV if a village has had the opportunity to act: self-assessment questionnaire – did the village leaders make the right decision for the village and for nature (as the land laws state)? MoV if a village has not had the need to act: self-assessment</p>	<p>Local communities willing to use their increased capacity and new skills to effect transformational change</p> <p>Beneficiaries will be assessed, and must qualify for the revolving fund, in order to benefit from it.</p> <p>Assume villagers gain the confidence through knowledge of the Land Act to voice their opinions against larger bodies such as soda ash mining companies and that these bodies then listen</p>
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	<p>leaders have increased confidence in entering negotiations and making sound decisions for the benefit of the village and natural resources.</p> <p>2.f. BEOY2, 1 booth for sale of Maasai beads is in place and at least 300 women using it BEOP.</p> <p>2.g. BEOY2, revolving fund operational procedures in place. At least 100 people including 40 women, 40 youth and 20 men trained in effective utilization and disbursement of the revolving fund.</p> <p>2.h. BEOP, a total of 500 people (200 women, 200 youth – including 40 guides (indicator 2.d) - and 100 men) trained and effectively utilising loans disbursed through the revolving fund with their monthly income rising from \$45 to \$70 BEOP (indicator 0.1).</p> <p>2.i. The revolving fund grows by 10% (from £6,500 at start of project) BEOP.</p>	<p>questionnaire - do they feel confident they would know how to act to the benefit of the village and nature?</p> <p>2.f Project report. Sales records at booth. EECDI records, project evaluation, training reports</p> <p>2.g Annual Revolving Fund Procedures</p> <p>2.h. See MoV 2.d, EECDI records</p> <p>2.i. Revolving Fund Audit Report</p>	
<p>3. Key wetlands, rivers and springs protected and biodiversity enhanced through tree planting, catchment restoration and protection. State of biodiversity, and water quality enhanced and monitored.</p>	<p>3a Catchment Action Plan for Pinyinyi and Ngare Sero rivers developed and endorsed by at least 95% of village leaders in 2 villages.</p>	<p>3a. Catchment Action Plan and village council meeting minutes and attendance lists from the two villages endorsing the plan. Project progress reports; reports from community awareness meetings Pre and post awareness surveys</p>	<p>Unfavourable weather conditions (e.g drought)</p> <p>Communities attitudes and activities do not change</p> <p>External pressures such as massive industrial or agricultural</p>

	<p>3b. During YR 2 at least 1,300 people made aware of the need to plant trees through community meetings. At least 7,500 seedlings planted with indigenous tree seedlings BEO Y2 and at least 60% surviving BEOP.</p> <p>3c. BEOP Reduce from an historic baseline of 4 new tree stumps in every ten at start of project to two newly cut tree stumps out of every ten by the end of YR 3.</p> <p>3.d. BEOP Percentage of people grazing in sensitive areas is reduced to 15% or better (from a baseline of 35%)</p> <p>3.e. BEOP the volume of water abstracted from Pinyinyi river for irrigation reduced by 25% from YR 2 volume baseline measurements. See below.</p> <p>3.f. BEOP turbidity of water flowing into the lake improved by 30% c.f. YR 2 baseline.</p> <p>3.g. BEOP Dissolved Oxygen<sup>13</sup> maintained at not less than 5 mg/litre at key rivers</p> <p>3.h. BEO Y2, at least 40 young people, including tour guides, trained in IBA monitoring<sup>14</sup> (using State,</p>	<p>3b. Project reports quantifying i) number of people reached in awareness raising ii) number of seedlings planted and iii) seedling survival at end of project Pre and post awareness surveys</p> <p>3c Survey report on new tree stumps in the catchments.</p> <p>3.d. Survey of resource use at start and end of project.</p> <p>3.e. Water use survey.</p> <p>3.f. 3.g. M&amp;E Water quality and volume reports from YR2</p> <p>3.h. IBA monitoring training reports</p>	<p>development do not affect impact on ecosystem and project efforts</p> <p>Current economic, social and environmental factors do not change significantly during the lifetime of the project</p>
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<sup>13</sup> Dissolved Oxygen is a measure of the amount of oxygen available in water to support living organisms. The more a water source is polluted, the less the amount of Dissolved Oxygen. This will be especially important for Pinyinyi river where there is a small irrigation project. The baseline measurements for this will be established during the baseline study

<sup>14</sup> <http://www.birdlife.org/datazone/info/ibamonitoring> - IBA monitoring is a simple, locally adaptable method of assessing the stage of biodiversity and pressures it faces at site level

	<p>Pressure, Response) to enable annual assessment of the state of biodiversity.</p> <p>3.i. BEOP, biodiversity state, pressure, and response monitoring data targeting status of flamingos and key habitat quality available<sup>15</sup></p> <p>3.j. (Indicator 0.4) BEOP, the proportion of flamingo fledglings relative to estimated number of breeding pairs is stable or increasing compared to YR1 baseline, as a measure of breeding success.</p>	<p>3.i. IBA monitoring reports, project reports</p> <p>3.j. Annual waterbird census conducted by Project Manager with local community and TAWIRI. IBA monitoring report.</p>	
<p>4. Awareness raised of local communities and government officials on Lake Natron's ecosystem value and threats to it (including deforestation, overgrazing, water use and catchment damage and soda ash threat) and remedial action taken.</p>	<p>4.a BEOP awareness on the value of Lake Natron and its ecotourism potential (and threats) raised through various means including through radio, TV, newspapers and production and distribution of 100 Posters reaching minimum of 25% of the local community at Lake Natron, 70% of government officials and at least 2.5 million Tanzanians.</p> <p>4.b. BEY3, local community members taking remedial action on deforestation, water overuse and catchment damage through not overgrazing as evidenced by indicators 3.c-3.e.</p>	<p>4a. TV and newspaper records – as well as recorded estimates of viewership and readership from various TV, radio stations and newspapers.</p> <p>Near end of project qualitative survey on level of awareness at Lake Natron, taken at village community meetings and assessed via project steering committee meetings</p> <p>4.b. Pre and post resource use survey. Numbers of new tree stumps. Water monitoring reports at start and end of project</p>	<p>Government agencies willingness to cooperate</p> <p>Communities willingness to receive message</p>
<p>5. Lessons from the community-based ecotourism model shared</p>	<p>5.a 50 hard copies of A 4-page Booklet produced and distributed for</p>	<p>5.a Booklet</p>	<p>Stakeholders including BirdLife partners willingness to apply the lessons learnt</p>

<sup>15</sup> Biodiversity state, pressure, and response monitoring baseline data targeting status of flamingos and key wetlands will be collected during the baseline study.

<p>and replicated locally, nationally, regionally and internationally</p>	<p>local and national advocacy and awareness raising<sup>16</sup>.</p> <p>5.b BEOP, lessons and best practice shared via an online platform reaching 1,500 people within the tourist industry in Tanzania and at least 100 civil society/tourism players signing up to endorse methodology.</p> <p>5.c BEOP, lessons shared with the Sectoral Committee responsible for tourism within East African Community, as well as with the Agriculture and Natural Resource and Tourism Committee of the East African Legislative Assembly, reaching 300 people.<sup>17</sup></p> <p>5.d Lessons shared internationally amongst other conservation NGOs in meetings in 2019/2020, other relevant meetings and through the BirdLife website, reaching 800 people.</p> <p>5.e Lessons shared with relevant ministries in at least 5 East African countries and commitment to replicate received in form of letters</p>	<p>5.b Meeting reports, PowerPoint presentations; record of online endorsements</p> <p>5.c Meeting reports, including head count of attendees, PowerPoint presentations</p> <p>5.d Poster and/or PowerPoint presentation, records of no. of users of the website, participant lists at meetings.</p> <p>5.e Government letters and reports; Press reports</p>	
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<sup>16</sup> It will be distributed to tour operators, govt officials, village leadership offices, Community based organisations, BL project office, project partner offices and on line

<sup>17</sup> BirdLife International has signed an MoU with the East African Community. This target might therefore be increased if BirdLife is allowed to participate as an observer during inter-ministerial meetings and summits of the EAC.

### Annex 3: Standard Measures

Please expand and complete Table 1: new projects should complete the Y1 column and also indicate the number planned during the project lifetime. Continuing project should cut and past the information from previous years and add in data for the most recent reporting period. Quantify project standard measures over the last year using the coding and format from the Darwin Initiative Standard Measures (see website for details: <http://www.darwininitiative.org.uk/resources-for-projects/reporting-forms>) and give a brief description. Please list and report on relevant Code No's only. The level of detail required is specified in the Standard Measures Guidance notes under 'definitions and reporting requirements' column. Please devise and add any measures that are not captured in the current list. Please note that these measures may not be a substitute for output level objectively verifiable indicators in the project logframe.

**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
6A	Training on ecotourism and business management	40% women		0	59.6% women		59.6% women	40% women
6A	Training on natural resource governance and land rights	40% women		0	23.8% women		23.8% women	40% women
6A	Training in revolving fund procedure and disbursement of revolving funds	40% women		0	59.6% women		59.6% women	40% women
9	Tourist Development Plan for Lake Natron			0	1		1	1
14A	Validation			0	1	0	1	1



	meeting for TDP							
14B	Showcase the project at BirdLife CAP meeting 2019			0		1	0	1
20	Estimated value of two booths for selling beads							£3,204
23	Match funding, co-finance							

**Table 2 Publications**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Type</b> (e.g. journals, manual, CDs)	<b>Detail</b> (authors, year)	<b>Gender of Lead Author</b>	<b>Nationality of Lead Author</b>	<b>Publishers</b> (name, city)	<b>Available from</b> (e.g. weblink or publisher if not available online)

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

**Checklist for submission**

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