

## Darwin Initiative Main Annual Report

To be completed with reference to the “Writing a Darwin/IWT Report” Information Note:  
(<https://www.darwininitiative.org.uk/resources-for-projects/reporting-forms-change-request-forms-and-terms-and-conditions/>).

It is expected that this report will be a **maximum** of 20 pages in length, excluding annexes)

**Submission Deadline: 30<sup>th</sup> April 2021**

### Darwin Project Information

Project reference	25-015
Project title	Why Eat Wild Meat?
Country/ies	Cameroon
Lead organisation	IIED
Partner institution(s)	FCTV, The Conservation Foundation, University of Oxford
Darwin grant value	£365,826
Start/end dates of project	July 2018 – September 2021
Reporting period (e.g. Apr 2020 – Mar 2021) and number (e.g. Annual Report 1, 2, 3)	April 2020 – March 2021 AR 3
Project Leader name	Francesca Booker (to Sept 2020) Dilys Roe (from Sept 2020) while Francesca Booker is on maternity leave
Project website/blog/social media	<a href="https://www.iied.org/why-eat-wild-meat">https://www.iied.org/why-eat-wild-meat</a>
Report author(s) and date	Stephanie Brittain, EJ Milner Gulland, Dilys Roe, Mama Mouamfon, Neil Maddison,

### 1. Project summary

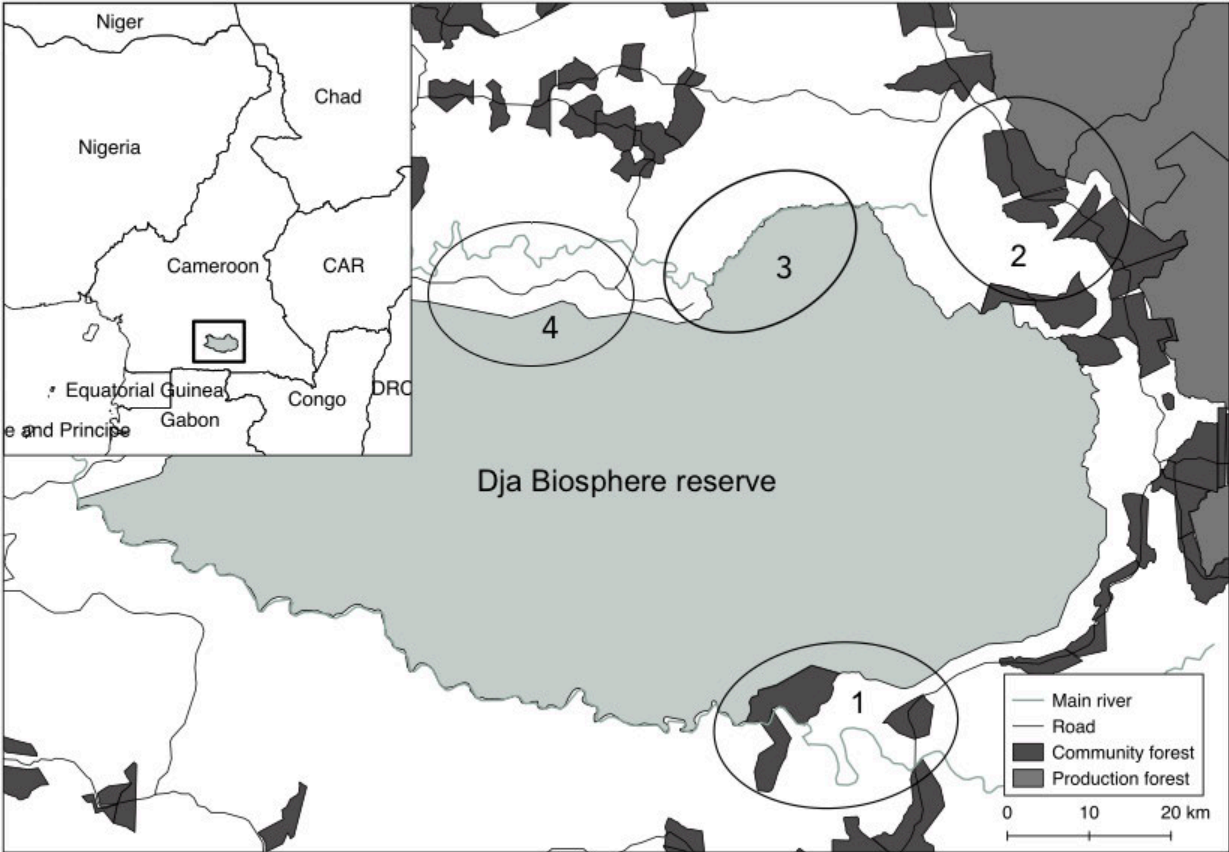
Hunting of wildlife for meat is widely practiced in Africa - the scale of wild meat use in the Congo Basin alone is estimated at five million tonnes/year. Since the late 1990s, conservation and development organisations have been concerned about the scale of exploitation because of its implications both for conservation and for food security.

Many projects have been instituted to reduce hunting, and popular interventions include providing livelihood alternatives for hunters selling meat to urban consumers, reducing demand in urban centres, and providing alternative protein sources to rural consumers (through fish, livestock or captive-bred wild species). Available evidence suggests, however, that both livelihoods and alternative protein projects have experienced important challenges, affecting their ability to achieve their conservation and food security objectives. This is often because these projects overlook the underlying drivers behind the choice of wild meat as a food - including price, availability, taste and culture.

While much wild meat is destined for urban consumers, in many rural areas it is also routinely consumed as a key source of protein. This is the case for Dja Faunal Reserve (DFR) in Cameroon, where threatened species such as central African chimpanzees, western lowland gorillas, and giant pangolins are regularly hunted for meat. The establishment of community hunting zones (CHZ), such as under [Darwin project 20-007](#), have helped take pressure off the reserve but are insufficient to meet the protein needs of the growing local population. It is therefore critical that additional protein supplies are available, socially acceptable and affordable.

This project intends to improve the design of alternative protein interventions to improve their effectiveness and thereby reduce current levels of exploitation that are threatening both species survival and long-term local food security and nutrition. We do this specifically with partners operating in and around the DFR, and also through wider evidence-gathering and engagement with African governments and implementing NGOs in Sub Saharan Africa.

**Figure 1: Dja Faunal Reserve with our four field sites indicated (exact locations not given for ethics reasons).**



**2. Project partnerships**

This project represents a collaboration between three UK based organisations – the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED), Oxford University, The Conservation Foundation (TCF, which incorporates Living Earth) – and one Cameroon based organisation, Fondation Camerounaise de la Terre Vivante (FCTV). IIED manages the project, Oxford University leads on field research, supported by FCTV and TCF, and TCF and FCTV lead on liaison with existing wild meat initiatives at DFR and on ensuring findings are mainstreamed into government strategies. IIED also supports a network of conservation and development organisations in Cameroon – the Cameroon Poverty and Conservation Learning Group (PCLG) – who are a key national dissemination channel for this project.

Over the course of the year all team members have participated in regular project meetings via Skype and/or Zoom to discuss project updates and plans. In addition, we held an advisory meeting via Zoom in March 2021 which was attended by three of our advisory board – Julia Fa, Marcus Rowcliffe and Yaa Ntiamoah-Baidu.

During year 3 (April 2020-March 2021) we strengthened the existing partnership by applying for a supplementary project in response to Covid-19, under the Darwin Rapid Response grant scheme. This enabled us to link with another research project led by Oxford University which is intended to give a regional picture of the impacts of COVID on wild meat consumption in Central Africa. This additional project enabled FCTV to conduct more work with communities around DFR to explore changes in wild meat consumption since Covid-19. We will use the findings of this study to inform the decision-support tool we are developing under the main project.

We have also connected to the FAO-WCS Sustainable Wildlife Management project (SWM) - a large, multi-country study looking at urban and rural wild meat consumption. Members of the SWM project partners have provided constructive feedback on our draft decision-support tool.

### 3. Project progress

#### 3.1 Progress in carrying out project Activities

Inevitably progress has been delayed this year due to Covid19 and also due to maternity leave of two key team members – Stephanie Brittain the lead researcher and Francesca Booker the project leader. To account for this anticipated delay we submitted a Change Request to extend the duration of the project by 6 months in order to allow time to complete the activities delayed due to either maternity leave or Covid19. The change request, including a revised GANTT chart with rephased activities, was agreed by LTS. The table below summarises the activities planned for Year 3 – taking into account the change of timeline – and our progress against them.

<u>Activities</u>	Year 3 Progress
<b>Output 1</b> <b>Factors influencing use of wild meat as a food choice around Dja Biosphere Reserve and elsewhere in sub-Saharan Africa understood and documented</b>	
1.5 Findings of the evidence review and fieldwork discussed with Cameroon and DFR policy makers and conservation practitioners	This activity was originally planned for March 2020 and then a planned meeting was cancelled due to Covid19 and tentatively rescheduled for July 2020. Again due to Covid19 this was still not possible. As per the revised GANTT chart submitted with our change request we now expect this activity to take place during Q1 of Y4
1.6 Side event at CBD CoP	This activity was planned for October 2020 – the original planned date of the CBD CoP. However the CoP has now been rescheduled for October 2021 which is beyond the lifetime of the project. As an alternative we have started planning for a webinar to be held in the extension period of the project where we will share the key findings both of

		the main project and also of the Covid19 rapid response project.
1.7	Dissemination of evidence review report internationally	<p>Two evidence reviews have been compiled by the project. We have previously reported on this first which was a literature review of the drivers of wild meat consumption and was submitted to CBD SBSTTA 23 as an Inf Doc in Nov 2019 and has been available on the CBD website since then. We have now reposted this to the IIED website in order to increase access to a wider audience and also to allow us to monitor download figures going forward. This is available at <a href="https://pubs.iied.org/20121g">https://pubs.iied.org/20121g</a></p> <p>The second review is an assessment of the evidence of the success of wild meat project. This was completed in Year 3 and published in July 2020. It is available on the project website: <a href="https://pubs.iied.org/14676iied">https://pubs.iied.org/14676iied</a></p> <p>In addition blogs highlighting some of the key findings of the research were published in April 2020:  <a href="https://www.iccs.org.uk/blog/covid-19-response-and-wild-meat-call-local-context">https://www.iccs.org.uk/blog/covid-19-response-and-wild-meat-call-local-context</a> and July 2020:  <a href="https://www.iied.org/exploring-why-people-eat-wild-meat-designing-better-alternatives">https://www.iied.org/exploring-why-people-eat-wild-meat-designing-better-alternatives</a></p> <p>The internal research report that was provided as a supplementary document with our last annual report has just been made available online as a project report in advance of the project's final outputs (including journal articles) which will take time to publish.  <a href="http://pubs.iied.org/20176IIED">http://pubs.iied.org/20176IIED</a></p>
<b>Output 2 - Characteristics of existing wild meat alternative projects in DFR and elsewhere, and the role of drivers of food choice in project success, analysed</b>		
2.2	Inventory of wild meat-alternative initiatives (projects, implementers, funders) around DFR completed and placed in online database	An initial inventory was compiled in Year 2, documenting the details of 7 wild meat alternative projects that we identified around the DFR. FCTV have updated this in year 3 to include activities implemented by OKANI, PGS, RAFALO, Alliance d'Adjela and TF-RD. The inventory is available in the folder of evidence to which a link is provided in Annex 4
2.3	Cross checking of Dja projects with success factors from evidence review (IIED and Oxford)	This was scheduled for the first Year 3 but postponed due to Covid19 travel restrictions. TCF and FCTV will be conducting workshops in May in order to complete this activity.
2.4	Findings discussed with Cameroon and DFR policy makers and conservation practitioners (same as activity 1.5)	See report under Activity 1.5 . This will happen in May 2021
2.6	Side event at CoP (same as activity 1.6)	See report under Activity 1.6



<b>Output 3</b> <b>Enhancements to existing wild meat-alternative projects, at DFR, and a new proposal, agreed with villagers and implementers</b>	
3.1 Work with villagers and project implementers in 3 sites around the Dja to share insights from the research results and introduce the decision support tool	FCTV organised workshops were organised at the end of 2020 in two locations - Lomié and Somalomo to disseminate findings from the project and to distribute the first draft of the decision0-support tool (Output 4). FCTV have produced a draft video documenting the meetings held and feedback received ( <a href="#">link to the video.</a> )
3.2 Meetings with project designers/implementers (community organisations, NGOs, govt) in DFR to disseminate project findings and explore ways to improve project design & implementation	Version 1 of the Decision Support Tool was circulated to local communities, local and international NGOs and Government officials operating in wildlife conservation around the DFR, for feedback and amendments to version 1, with the intention of finalising the DST and presenting this to stakeholders in early Year 4
<b>Output 4</b> <b>Capacity to design and implement improved wild meat-alternative interventions improved elsewhere in Cameroon and internationally</b>	
4.1 Drafting and translation of policy recommendations	Stephanie Brittain returned from maternity leave mid-February 2021. The team are now working on the best ways to present the key findings for different audiences, including Cameroonian and international policy makers. The team are currently working to create a policy brief in Q1 Y4 for these target audiences, which will be shared and promoted during the planned webinar in June 2021, and via our online communications channels. Further, TCF and FCTV are arranging face-to-face meetings with key policy makers in Cameroon in May 2021, where the policy brief will be shared.  We will translate all policy briefs into French so that they can be read in Francophone Central Africa.
4.2 Development of Decision Support Tool based on experience in case study sites & evidence reviews	From April – July 2020, field activities in Cameroon were paused for the project due to COVID 19. During this time, the team focused their efforts on designing a decision support tool for wild meat alternative projects. The team held two online zoom meetings to design and review the decision support tool. The tool has five steps, starting at project feasibility and ending with designing a theory of change. During August and September, the decision support tool went through a process of a professional edit, design and translation to French (for specific use in this

	<p>project around the Dja Faunal Reserve, Cameroon). In October, the first version of the tool was made available online:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• English: <a href="http://pubs.iied.org/17661IIED">http://pubs.iied.org/17661IIED</a></li> <li>• French: <a href="http://pubs.iied.org/17661FIIED">http://pubs.iied.org/17661FIIED</a></li> </ul> <p>The team held an advisory board meeting in March 2021 where further feedback on the decision support tool was gathered. The insights shared will be used to improve the decision support tool, ahead of its final publishing in May/June 2021.</p> <p>We are in discussion with our Advisory Committee member Julia Fa (CIFOR) about the possibility of translating the Decision Support Tool into Spanish and the extension of the tool's case studies to include Latin American examples for wider applicability.</p>
<p>4.3 Meetings with project designers/implementers (community organisations, NGOs, govt) in DFR to test &amp; validate tool and refine/update its design</p>	<p>From April to September 2020, FCTV undertook field activities to prepare for testing the decision support tool. FCTV colleagues mapped different wild meat alternative projects and consolidated new information with information we have already collected as part of an inventory. This involved travelling to the Dja Faunal Reserve and meeting partners as well as meetings at project headquarters in Yaoundé. This information was used to identify key partners to reach out to for testing the decision support tool. We anticipated that testing would begin in November/December 2020 when Neil Maddison (The Conservation Foundation) would travel to support FCTV colleagues to undertake workshops with partners on the decision support tool, however due to Covid-19, we experienced delays. However, we have worked to gather feedback remotely from Cameroon and Internationally based conservation actors, and will have the final version prepared in English, French, Spanish and Portuguese, by Q1 Y4.</p> <p>All 8 of the organisations identified by FCTV as running the 11 wild meat alternative projects around the Dja, have been contacted for feedback on the tool. Additionally, Stephanie Brittain has reached out to 23 people from 15 organisations with experience in Central Africa, South America and South-East Asia. 12 have already provided feedback, reporting that the tool is helpful in getting them to think through the assumptions they hold about the drivers of wild meat consumption.</p>

<p>4.6 International dissemination of project findings and tool</p>	<p>At the end of July 2020, Stephanie Brittain published a blog on the IIED website discussing the project’s research results: <a href="https://www.iied.org/exploring-why-people-eat-wild-meat-designing-better-alternatives">https://www.iied.org/exploring-why-people-eat-wild-meat-designing-better-alternatives</a> . We shared the blog online via the project team’s social media channels and IIED newsletters. The blog was read by 222 individuals, with readers including individuals from the UK, Greece, United States, the Netherlands and South Africa.</p> <p>Because the production of the final version has been delayed to Q1 Y4, dissemination of the final version has been delayed. However, the team have developed a communications strategy for sharing the project findings and all outputs, including the decision support tool, the evidence reviews and upcoming policy brief and academic papers, including a webinar in June 2021.</p>
<p>4.7 Validation exercise for tool in other projects</p>	<p>We hoped that this activity would begin while Stephanie Brittain was on maternity leave. However, this activity was delayed as projects internationally paused their field-based work due to COVID-19. As such, we have looked for partners beyond sub-Saharan Africa, and worldwide for testing of the decision support tool, reaching out to project partner networks.</p>

### 3.2 Progress towards project Outputs

#### **Output 1: Factors influencing use of wild meat as a food choice around Dja Biosphere Reserve and elsewhere in sub-Saharan Africa understood and documented**

This output has largely been achieved with the exception of discussing findings with policy makers and international dissemination.

Indicator 1.1 refers to the evidence review of drivers of wild meat as a food choice across SSA which was published via a [CBD Inf Doc](#) and reported last year

Indicator 1.2 refers to field work to understand local communities’ perspectives on food choice at the DFR which was completed and reported last year

Indicator 1.3 refers to sharing findings of the evidence review and field work with Cameroon and DFR policy makers and practitioners which happened in November and December 2020 as discussed above and evidenced by the FCTV video.

Indicator 1.4 refers to dissemination via an event at the CBD CoP which, as discussed above, will now change to be a self-organised webinar since the CoP will not be held before the end of the project

Indicator 1.5 refers to international dissemination which is ongoing including through the blogs discussed above. This will continue into the project extension period.

In addition to the planned and completed activities. FCTV conducted some additional survey work to understand the impact of Covid19 on wild meat consumption. This was written up in the form of a blog in November 2020 and is available at: <https://www.iied.org/how-covid-19-affecting-wild-meat-consumption-rural-cameroon>

## **Output 2: Characteristics of existing wild meat alternative projects in DFR and elsewhere, and the role of drivers of food choice in project success, analysed**

This output has been largely achieved with the exception of international dissemination

Indicator 2.1 refers to the evidence review of the factors affecting success of wild meat alternatives projects in SSA. This was completed and reported last year (“Why Eat Wild Meat? Factors affecting the success of alternative protein projects” - [pubs.iied.org/14676IIED](https://pubs.iied.org/14676IIED)).

Indicator 2.2 refers to the inventory of wild meat alternatives projects around the DFR. This was completed and reported last year. A copy of the inventory is available in the dropbox evidence folder which is linked to in Annex 4

Indicator 2.3 refs to analyses of evidence review & inventory to discern success factors which will happen in the field in May 2021

Indicator 2.4 refers to the field work around DFR to explore wild meat-alternative intervention preferences of local communities. This was completed and reported last year

Indicator 2.5 and 2.6 refer to sharing the project findings internationally. COVID19 has limited any in person dissemination, however as already noted we have published a number of blogs highlighting the project findings as previously discussed. Dissemination activities will continue into the extension period of the project

## **Output 3: Enhancements to existing wild meat-alternative projects and a new proposal, agreed with villagers and implementers at DFR case study sites**

Achievement of this output has been delayed due to Covid19 but is on track for achievement in the extension period of the project.

Indicator 3.1 refers to the improved design of 3 existing projects based on use of the decision support tool

A separate Darwin project (24-005) implemented by TCF has gained from the insights obtained from this project, in that the project developers have a greater understanding of the factors influencing local choice of ‘alternatives to bushmeat hunting for protein’. These insights will help considerably in documenting and disseminating the lessons learned from project 24-005, by offering explanations for what did, and didn’t work when introducing alternatives to bushmeat hunting for protein. Initial discussions have also been started with ZSL (see email exchanges in the Annex 4 evidence folder)

Indicator 3.2 refers to project implementers acting within the DFR reporting improved understanding of the drivers and barriers to successful bushmeat-alternative projects.

This is something we will follow up on in our May 2021 workshops.

## **Output 4: Capacity to design and implement improved “wild meat alternative” interventions improved elsewhere in Cameroon and internationally.**

Achievement of this output has been delayed due to Covid19 but is on track for the extension period of the project.

Indicator 4.1 refers to policy recommendations developed and discussed with the Cameroonian government. We are currently drafting the recommendations and will be producing a policy brief in Y4.

Indicator 4.2 refers to the decision support tool being designed and tested. As previously discussed the first draft of the tool has been produced and feedback has been collected from key partners and contacts. An updated version of the tool will be produced in Year 4 Q1.

Indicator 4.3. refers to the decision support tool being disseminated to at least 100 conservation and/or development organisations, and tested/validated for at least 20 projects. We will focus on dissemination and validation of the tool as our key priority activity in Year 4 but have already received very positive feedback – see the evidence folder linked to in Annex 4.



Finally indicator 4.4 refers to endorsement of the tool/recommendations by at least one international conservation policy process or large-scale programme. As for indicator 4.3 we will follow up on this in Year 4 but the feedback to date leaves us optimistic that endorsement will follow.

### 3.3 Progress towards the project Outcome

The anticipated project outcome is “Strengthened capacity of policy-makers and practitioners in Cameroon and Africa-wide to design and implement effective “wild meat-alternative” interventions that reflect drivers of food choice, conserve biodiversity and contribute to food security.”

Based on feedback on the decision support tool to date the project is likely to achieve this outcome (see evidence folder in Annex 4). However we have not yet undertaken the surveys to determine: Indicator 0.1 Improved understanding by conservation policy-makers in sub-Saharan Africa of different drivers of wild meat as a food choice of local people, compared to baseline at start of project; and Indicator 0.2 Improved understanding by “bushmeat-alternative” project designers in sub-Saharan Africa of characteristics of effective bushmeat-alternative projects compared to baseline at start of project. These surveys will be carried out in Year 4.

Indicator 0.3 refers to enhancements to the designs of three existing (or past) wild meat alternatives projects at DFR and, again, we will not know if this has happened until the end of the project.

Finally indicator 0.4 refers to uptake of project evidence and tools by at least 50% of existing bushmeat-alternative project designers, funders and implementers in DFR We will assess this via our surveys at the end of the project.

### 3.4 Monitoring of assumptions

Our outcome-level assumptions are ambitious and the impact of Covid19 – particularly in terms of its impact on our ability to engage productively with key stakeholders – may undermine some of them. Comments on our outcome-level assumptions are included below.

1. International NGOs and policy-makers (e.g. ECOFAC, CBD) are responsive to findings and change their processes accordingly [our strong international networks and involvement of key players in Advisory group will help here].

*Comment:* Initial conversations with the international NGO the Zoological Society of London (which has a major presence in the DFR) suggest they are open to collaboration (see email exchange in evidence folder linked to in Annex 4 ‘Supportive Email - Decision Support Tool’. *This evidence is for submission only and not for online inclusion on the Darwin website*). ZSL are in the process of trialling and rolling-out a protein alternative project in six villages around DFR. ZSL are supportive of building on our findings to improve the design of their project and we were in the process of making more concrete plans for collaboration when the Covid-19 situation became a problem for the UK and Cameroon. We will continue to make plans with ZSL once it is appropriate to resume field activities. We believe that the interest from ZSL is illustrative of other international NGOs and we are beginning to reach out to more NGOs with alternative protein projects across sub-Saharan Africa. For example, we have also been in contact with Fauna and Flora International (colleague Michelle Villeneuve) who have expressed interest in using our decision support tool for supporting the design of alternative protein projects. We also anticipate that there will be continued interest from our CBD colleagues, the evidence-based desk review was shared in December 2019 as a [CDB INF Doc](#) (pdf).

2. Feasible and effective wild meat alternatives exist, that can divert enough consumption from wild meat to reduce hunting pressure [In the long run, food systems need to reflect changing environmental, social & economic realities. In the short-medium term there is potential for e.g. aquaculture, wild-caught fisheries, mini-livestock]

*Comment:* This assumption appears to hold true. Our research found that wild-caught fish was an acceptable alternative to wild-caught meat where it is accessible (i.e. for those villagers located close to rivers), although only available seasonally. Fishponds managed by individual households in the communities would provide fish all year round, and were found to be a preferred alternative. This leads us to believe that aquaculture projects could also be successful. Evidence for this is in the internal research report that was submitted last year and is resubmitted last year. In addition the recommendations from this research were used to shape another Darwin funded intervention. The final report is due end of June 21, but indicators are that support for the establishment of improved, sustainable fishing in the Dja River has resulted in increased access to fish (animal protein) for villagers living in the target area; a reduction in bushmeat hunting by those previously disposed to obtaining animal protein through hunting; and an increase in household GDP, which supported development needs being met in ways other than hunting and trading in wildlife, including threatened species (e.g. pangolins, dwarf crocodile, yellow-backed duiker).

3. Better-designed “wild meat-alternative” projects will lead to reduced hunting and reduced threats to wildlife (because rural consumption is a major threat) [Our experience in DFR and elsewhere suggests rural consumption is a threat; detailed research by J Wright suggests design improvements are feasible and could be effective]

*Comment:* The assumption appears to hold true. Our research has found that if designed properly, protein alternative projects could reduce dependence on hunting and consumption compared to the current rate. Evidence in the internal research report (see evidence folder) shows that hunting and consumption of wild meat is over twenty times more likely to reduce if people participate in a fishpond project, compared to if they do not participate in any alternative projects.

4. Local people are willing to take part in surveys and engage with research team [the team has very good relationships with local people in areas around the DFR and have worked with them for a number of years]

*Comment:* This assumption holds true. Participants have been very receptive to the research and we have been able to gather all the field data with no issues – including mini-surveys carried out to detect the impact of Covid19.

5. Creation of decision support tool is feasible based on information collected, and evidence from DFR will be generalisable [we expect the evidence internationally to be weak; our new evidence-base for DFR will be locally relevant and our expectation based on previous work is that broad general lessons will emerge].

*Comment:* This assumption holds true. A draft decision support tool has been produced (hyperlinks to the tool are provided earlier as evidence) based on the research findings and the evidence collected. Feedback to date has been very positive (see evidence folder). We are exploring including some additional case studies from other locations in order to make the findings more generalisable and are translating the booklet into Spanish and Portuguese to reach an even larger international audience.

6. Cameroon government remains supportive of the project and responsive to research findings

*Comment:* Officials from MINFOF and in particular, colleagues from the Department of Wildlife and Protected Areas (DFAP), remain supportive of the project. We were due to host a series of meetings and presentations with these colleagues in April 2020, but unfortunately, we have had to postpone the meetings due to the Covid-19 situation.

We have many output level assumptions so do not reproduce and comment on them all here but all are available in the updated logframe and many overlap with outcome assumptions. The

majority of the assumptions hold true – as per the outcome assumptions these relate to the communities and DFR being supportive of the project, government officials remaining supportive, and uptake by others. One factor that we had now anticipated was the Covid19 pandemic which has severely impacted our outreach strategy, particularly person to person outreach. This may compromise our assumption on uptake by other organisations.

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

The anticipated impact of this project is that “Improved “wild meat-alternative” projects in Cameroon and Africa-wide result in reduced exploitation of wild species and increased food security, contributing to achievement of SDGs while meeting CBD and CITES obligations.” We are on track to contribute to this impact from our project in Cameroon with lessons for projects across sub-Saharan Africa, but we will not be able to quantitatively measure our contribution until we repeat our surveys of policy-makers and practitioners. and work with partners around DFR to apply the decision support tool. Given the rich results from the fieldwork around DFR, which highlight interesting differences in the drivers of food choice between and within communities (particularly on the factors affecting food avoidance), we are confident that the decision support tool will provide useful insights for our DFR colleagues and partners. Therefore, we feel that our project will help others to design and implement wildmeat alternatives that are more effective for conserving biodiversity and contributing to food security.

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

In our proposal we flagged the following SDGs as being most relevant to this project:

- SDG 2 which includes Target 2.1 to end hunger by 2030 and ensure access by all people to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round.
- SDG 12 which includes Target 12.2 to achieve sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources.
- SDG 15 which includes Target 15.5 to take urgent and significant action to reduce degradation of natural habitat, halt the loss of biodiversity, and by 2020 protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species.

This year our work has focussed on the development of the decision support tool which we anticipate will lead to the design of better wild meat alternative projects, which in turn will contribute to Target 2.1 and ensuring that newly introduced alternative proteins address issues of hunger – for example by providing access to a protein source that is viewed by local communities as culturally acceptable, nutritious and healthy, tasty and an affordable alternative to harvesting wild meat. We will contribute to SDG targets 12.2 and 15.5 by ensuring that wild meat alternatives projects are more acceptable to local communities and thus more likely to be adopted, thereby reducing hunting pressure on forest-based wildlife and specifically on threatened species such as pangolins which featured in our field research as a highly prized source of wild meat for local communities (despite it being illegal to hunt this species in Cameroon).

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

In our proposal we anticipated our project mainly contributing to the CBD but also to CITES.

In the first two years of the project the CBD agenda included a strong focus on wild meat in the context of sustainable wildlife management. Our project was able to contribute directly to the discussions on this issue including through submission of our evidence review on the drivers of wild meat as a food choice to the SBSTTA meeting.

Over this last year the focus of the CBD has been on developing the new Post2020 Global Biodiversity Framework. There have been no specific discussion on wild meat consumption into which project findings could feed. There have, however, been many consultations - both led by the CBD and independently on related issues including sustainable use and the Post 2020 monitoring framework. The project has helped shape our inputs into those consultations although they have not specifically focussed on wild meat and wildlife management associated with that.

There were no CITES meetings over the last year.

We have introduced the project to the new Cameroon CBD focal point – Mme Eloundou – and will follow up with her in Year 4 particularly as Cameroon engages in the CBD negotiations. We will also explore opportunities for feeding project findings into ongoing Covid19 response discussions where these suggest bans on wild meat consumption.

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

Our project anticipates supporting poverty alleviation by contributing to higher levels of food and nutritional security for rural populations. The beneficiaries of wild meat alternatives projects are the rural poor that are dependent on wild-caught meat for their protein source, as well as trading for revenue. Covid 19 has resulted in a series of calls to ban consumption and trade in wild meat which would have serious negative implications for such people. We anticipate the findings of our project - once published - being used to counter such calls. We have already started to try to do this through opinion pieces, one example being a recent article in Nature (<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41893-020-00676-1>) which cites our evidence review in making the case for *not* banning wild meat consumption.

Our field research has reached out to 177 rural households living around DFR to understand what factors affect their choice of food stuffs and their perspectives on what they would like to see from a wild meat alternatives project. This has informed the design of our decision support tool for wild meat alternatives projects, and we will continue to consult with households around DFR when we work with partners to use the decision support tool. We know from our inventory of wild meat alternatives projects that there are at least 7 wild meat alternatives projects around DFR. While we do not know the scale of beneficiaries for each project we anticipate that our tool has the potential to improve projects and benefit over 1000 people even if it is only adopted by 3 of those projects. It is worth noting that although the focus of our project is to understand the drivers of choice for wild meat *consumption*, that Darwin project 24-004 has highlighted that increased access to animal protein has resulted in *increased trading* and hence household GDP in poor households, assisting the drive to poverty alleviation.

## **7. Consideration of gender equality issues**

As reported last year, our research has consistently sought to include equal representation from women and men. In our fieldwork from a total of 524 interviews across 4 villages, 49% of

respondents were female and 51% of respondents were male. We were also careful to ensure we sampled women and men from different age ranges – 53% of respondents were aged 16-35, 29% 36-55 and 18% were 56 years old or over. In addition, we convened female only focus groups with a total of 13 women over 4 workshops, to gather the perspectives of women and better understand the drivers of food choice and barriers to their participation in alternative projects.

In our analysis of the fieldwork results, we explored differences between genders (as well as other socio-economic variables including age, wealth and ethnicity) in food choice and intervention type. While gender was not a predictor of species preference, it was a predictor of species avoidance, an important result when designing alternatives that historically, better reflect the needs and desires of men. Our results and the process we followed to gather evidence on gendered differences can act as a framework for future wild meat alternatives intervention design, allowing them to cater to the needs of both women and men, where typically many alternative projects focus on providing alternative activities (livelihood alternatives and wild meat alternatives) for male hunters. Evidence for these findings and for the methodology followed are in the Internal Research Report submitted last year and resubmitted this year. The decision support tool also stresses the need to explore differences between stakeholders (including men, women, youth, marginalised groups) in terms of wild meat consumption patterns and preferences.

## **8. Monitoring and evaluation**

We have held regular team meetings to track progress against our logframe activities and indicators and the Gantt chart timeline detailed in our proposal and updated in our change request (meeting notes are included in the Annex 4 evidence folder). Previous sections have described the indicators we are using to monitor progress in the project and we have described our progress against each activity, output and indicator. Part of measuring our progress against outcome indicators is to undertake two baseline surveys and the results of these surveys are available in an IIED project report ('Why Eat Wild Meat? Factors affecting the success of alternative protein projects' [pubs.iied.org/14676IIED](https://pubs.iied.org/14676IIED)). We will undertake endline surveys in Year 4 in order to determine progress against the baseline.

We did undertake a stocktake of the project in April 2020 following the Covid 19 outbreak in order to review possible changes we might need to make (see the evidence folder in Annex 4 for our scenario planning exercise). This resulted in some changes to some of the indicators we were monitoring to take into account delays and also the limited amount of in-person contact time we were likely to have during the pandemic.

## **9. Lessons learnt**

As everyone now knows, April 2020 to March 2021 have been 12 months of disarray due to the global pandemic. The disruption this has caused reveals the pace at which work needs to be pursued in short (3 year) projects in order to make the necessary progress. We have been lucky in that some work has been able to continue both in person and virtually, but a general lesson is the overall fragility of project plans, especially for short term projects.

However our research has been particularly relevant for the Covid19 pandemic, especially with calls to ban the trade and consumption of wild meat. Our research has generated useful lessons on why people eat wild meat highlighting that it is not simply a case of there being a lack of alternatives and has shed light on the cultural and health considerations that would need to be taken into account should a ban on wild meat consumption be taken forward as a covid response strategy.



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

Recommendations from last years review were:

- To provide more narrative and evidence on how the project is supporting the biodiversity conventions.
- Provide details of measures the project has taken in relation to health and safety of project staff and beneficiaries.
- Explore sharing lessons and decision making tools through an online platform.
- Make a change request to DEFRA.

Actions taken are as follows:

### ***Narrative and evidence on Conventions:***

We have provided more narrative on support to the conventions. However, unless formal submissions are made (which we have previously done via a SBSTTA Inf Doc) it is hard to provide evidence of engagement in policy discussions since these are not minuted. Project findings have fed into the Sustainable Use consultation and to other virtual consultations and webinars on indicators, but it is not possible to provide evidence of specific contributions that are made as part of a general discussion.

### ***Details of health and safety measures related to Covid 19***

We articulated these in the half year report and are as follows:

- i. Project staff will wear a face mask in the car travelling to and from villages
- ii. Only two staff members will travel in the car (the driver and the research facilitator)
- iii. The research team will take hand sanitiser, soap and water to the villages for their own personal use.
- iv. Interviews to be undertaken with no more than one person.
- v. Interviews to be undertaken away from the public eye, to avoid a crowd forming.
- vi. Interviewee's age to be considered – people over 60 not to be included in the interview sample.
- vii. Interviews to be undertaken outside.
- viii. Interviewer and interviewee to sit 1-2 metres away from one another.
- ix. Interviewer to wear a mask and provide the interviewee with a mask
- x. Interviewer to provide sanitiser or soap to the interviewee for use immediately before and after the interview.
- xi. Interviewer to provide advice on sanitation and COVID 19 prevention (FCTV have existing advice and posters from a partner project).
- xii. Interviewer will take the names of interviewees and addresses and if possible phone numbers, so if the FCTV interviewer becomes ill with suspected COVID in the 14 days following the interviews we can warn interviewees. This can be undertaken by the FCTV community liaison officer, or other FCTV partners based close to the northern buckle. The government will also be informed. This will be done to the best of our ability, noting possible logistical constraints of operating in Cameroon.
- xiii. Where possible (ie there is phone signal), the research coordinator will make appointments with NGO project leaders so that they can prepare a safe meeting place at their premises

### ***Explore sharing lessons and decision-making tools through an online platform***

We are not quite clear as to the background to this recommendation. The project outputs are all available online via the project website. We don't, however, have resources to develop an additional online platform if that is what is being suggested here.

### ***Make a change request to DEFRA***

A change request was submitted and accepted in June 2020

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

No further comments

## **12. Sustainability and legacy**

Our exit strategy detailed in the proposal remains the same. This includes:

- Supporting local people, NGOs and government actors to identify and implement projects leading to increased food security (through sustainable animal protein sources), while safeguarding species of conservation concern in protected areas from overexploitation.
- All the outputs of the project will remain available to download from the IIED website beyond the life of the project, and will continue to be promoted regularly by all partners.
- FCTV and TCF are committed to ongoing work in the Dja region. In particular, FCTV/TCF commit to working with project implementers and funders to bring to reality the wild meat-alternative project enhancements and proposals desired by local people e.g. through the established Dja Actors' Forum.
- All project partners will continue to engage with international wild meat-related processes and actions, ensuring that both locally and internationally our findings will be taken on board, and built upon.

## **13. Darwin identity**

We have used the Darwin identity on all project outputs. This includes use of the logo on published project outputs, website, presentations etc, and acknowledgement of Darwin on outputs where a logo is not possible (eg journal articles). We also routinely use Twitter and tag the Darwin twitter handle when promoting project activities or outputs.

## **14. Impact of COVID-19 on project delivery**

Covid19 affected our project in terms of cancelled meetings and international events. Field work was able to continue although TCF staff were not able to travel to Cameroon to support FCTV. We conducted a Covid risk analysis (findings in the dropbox folder linked to in Annex 4) in order to identify key activities likely to be delayed and mechanisms to mitigate the delays.

Covid19 also coincided with two of the key project team members going on maternity leave which would have caused us to request an extension to the project regardless of the pandemic.

We submitted a change request in June 2020 to extend the project by 6 months to account for Covid delays as well as maternity leave. Prior to field activities around the Dja Faunal Reserve, FCTV and IIED worked together to define safeguards for reducing COVID 19 exposure risk to the project participants and FCTV colleagues. These safeguards were approved by IIED's Ethics Committee and were detailed above in Section 10.

For non-fieldwork activities we have moved our meetings online where possible and we anticipate continuing with this way of working where we can.

## 15. Safeguarding

Please tick this box if any safeguarding or human rights violations have occurred during this financial year.

If you have ticked the box, please ensure these are reported to [ODA.safeguarding@defra.gov.uk](mailto:ODA.safeguarding@defra.gov.uk) as indicated in the T&Cs.

IIED has the following policies relevant to safeguarding, which were provided with last year's report.

- Anti-Fraud and Bribery Policy
- Anti-Harassment and Anti-Bullying Policy
- Complaints Policy
- IIED Disciplinary Procedure
- Safeguarding Policy
- Staff Code of Conduct 2020
- Whistleblowing Policy

These policies guide our approaches to zero tolerance for bullying, harassment, sexual exploitation and abuse, protection for whistleblowing, safeguarding and the code of conduct staff are obliged to uphold to ensure high quality work and partnerships. The policies also detail the process of how to register, investigate and respond appropriately and sensibly to issues raised that are related to safeguarding, disciplinary procedures, and whistleblowing. We now specify that Grantees (partners) must have appropriate policies and procedures in place, including a Code of Conduct and/or a Safeguarding Policy, which are followed by all staff and volunteers, or sign-up to IIED's.

In addition the project processes are conducted within the frameworks of Oxford and IIED's research ethics policies. Concerns about safety in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic were addressed through the additional health and safety measures detailed in Section 10.

## 16. Project expenditure

Table 1: Project expenditure during the reporting period (1 April 2020 – 31 March 2021)

Project spend since last annual report	2020/21	2020/21	Variance	Variance	
	Darwin Grant (£)	Darwin costs (£)	£	%	Comments
<b>Staff costs (see below)</b>					
Dilys Roe - IIED					
Francesca Booker - IIED					
Fiona Roberts - IIED					
Communications staff - IIED					
EJ Milner-Gulland - Oxford					
Stephanie Brittain - Oxford					
Neil Maddison - TCF					
FCTV Mama Mounafon					
FCTV Finance Manager					
FCTV Administrator					
FCTV Research Facilitator					
<b>Consultancy costs</b>					
<b>Overhead Costs</b>					
<b>Travel and subsistence</b>					
<b>Operating Costs</b>					
<b>Capital items (see below)</b>					
<b>Monitoring &amp; Evaluation (M&amp;E)</b>					
<b>Others (see below)</b>					
IIED publications production costs					
<b>TOTAL</b>					

None of our spend to budget variances are above 10%. We understand we have to surrender overspend on the total budget value.

## Annex 1: Report of progress and achievements against Logical Framework for Financial Year 2020-2021

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2020 - March 2021	Actions required/planned for next period
<p><b>Impact</b></p> <p>Improved “wild meat-alternative” projects in Cameroon and Africa-wide result in reduced exploitation of wild species and increased food security, contributing to achievement of SDGs while meeting CBD and CITES obligations.</p>		<p>We are on track to contribute to this impact but we will not be able to quantitatively measure our contribution until we repeat our online surveys in Y4 and work with partners around DFR to apply the decision support tool.</p>	
<p><b>Outcome</b> Strengthened capacity of policy-makers and practitioners in Cameroon and Africa-wide to design and implement effective “wild meat-alternative” interventions that reflect drivers of food choice, conserve biodiversity and contribute to food security.</p>	<p>0.1 Improved understanding by conservation policy-makers in sub-Saharan Africa of different drivers of wild meat as a food choice of local people, compared to baseline at start of project</p> <p>0.2 Improved understanding by “wild meat-alternative” project designers in sub-Saharan Africa of characteristics of effective wild meat-alternative projects compared to baseline at start of project</p> <p>0.3 Enhancements to the designs of three existing (or past) wild meat alternatives projects at DFR, by the end of the project, so that projects have the right conditions in place to a) improve food security and provide sustainable nutrition</p>	<p>0.1 Baseline survey designed and analysed and reported in previous years</p> <p>0.2 Baseline survey designed and analysed and reported in previous years</p> <p>0.3 Decision support tool drafted, content of tool used to inform design of community hunting zone</p> <p>0.4 Draft decision support tool sent to key stakeholders and feedback being collected</p>	<p>0.1 Repeat baseline survey and analyse data in year 4.</p> <p>0.2 Repeat baseline survey and analyse data in year 4.</p> <p>0.3 Roll out decision support tool to other projects and identify and agree areas for improvement.</p> <p>0.4 Finalise tool, translate, disseminate and collect feedback</p>



	<p>while also b) reducing exploitation of wild species.</p> <p>0.4 Receipt, uptake and commitments to use project-generated evidence and tools by at least 50% of existing wild meat-alternative project designers, funders and implementers in DFR (from inventory generated in output 2).</p>		
<p><b>Output 1.</b> Factors influencing use of wild meat as a food choice around Dja Biosphere Reserve and elsewhere in sub-Saharan Africa understood and documented</p>	<p>1.1 Evidence review of drivers of wild meat as a food choice across Africa completed by end of year 1</p> <p>1.2 Field work to gain local communities' perspectives on food choice at DFR completed and analysed by end of Y2Q2</p> <p>1.3 Findings of the evidence review and fieldwork are discussed with Cameroon and DFR policy makers and conservation practitioners by end of Y2.</p> <p>1.4 Findings reported to CBD at 2020 CoP in Y3</p>	<p>On track:</p> <p>1.1 and 1.2 complete and reported on in previous years</p> <p>1.3. Delayed due to Covid19 due to be rescheduled for Year 3</p> <p>1.4 Changed to webinar to be held in Y4 since CoP rescheduled to beyond project lifetime</p>	
<p>Activity 1.1 Desk-based evidence review of drivers of food choice (sub-Saharan Africa)</p>		<p>Completed</p>	
<p>Activity 1.2, Fieldwork in Dja on local preferences, drivers and constraints, &amp; role of wild meat in food security (focus groups, key informant interviews) (Oxford, FCTV, TCF)</p>		<p>Completed</p>	

1.3 Synthesis and write up of food choice evidence review (IIED)	Completed - available as a <a href="#">CBD Inf Doc.</a> Journal article drafted (see evidence folder)	Possible further analysis and publication in peer reviewed journal.
1.4 Synthesis and write up of first phase of fieldwork (Oxford)	Completed - Internal report submitted last year	Further analysis and publication in peer reviewed journal.
1.5 Meetings with DFR and national policy-makers, conservation actors and community representatives/associations to present findings and discuss uptake (Oxford, FCTV, TCF)	Delayed activity due to Covid19	Will be held as soon as it is safe to convene meetings in Cameroon.
1.6 Side event at CBD CoP (IIED)	Rescheduled as a webinar	To be organised in Y4
1.7 Dissemination of food choice evidence review report internationally (IIED)	Not yet started	Dissemination will start in Y4
<p><b>Output 2.</b> Characteristics of existing wild meat alternative projects in DFR and elsewhere, and the role of drivers of food choice in project success, analysed</p>	<p>2.1 Evidence review of the factors affecting success of wild meat-alternative projects in sub-Saharan Africa completed by end of year 1</p> <p>2.2 Inventory of existing wild meat alternative projects in Dja region completed and placed in online database by end of Y1Q3</p> <p>2.3 Analyses of evidence review &amp; inventory to discern success factors completed by end of year 1</p> <p>2.4 Fieldwork completed to explore wild meat-alternative intervention preferences in three case study sites in DFR, and data analysed, by Y2Q4</p> <p>2.5 Findings discussed with Cameroon and DFR policy</p>	<p>On track:</p> <p>2.1 Completed and reported in previous year.</p> <p>2.2 Completed and reported in previous year</p> <p>2.3 Delayed activity to year 4 of the project (to allow for project partner's participation).</p> <p>2.4 Completed - internal report of research findings submitted in previous year and resubmitted this year - link in Annex 4.</p> <p>2.5 Delayed activity to Y4 due to Covid19 (was planned for March 2020).</p> <p>2.6 As above – will be organised as a webinar.</p> <p>2.7 Year 4 activity</p>

	<p>makers and conservation practitioners by end of Y2Q2.</p> <p>2.6 Findings reported to CBD at 2020 CoP in Y3</p> <p>2.7 Findings disseminated internationally by end of project</p>	
2.1 Desk-based evidence review of wild meat alternative projects (IIED)	Completed in previous years	
2.2 Inventory of wild meat-alternative initiatives around DFR completed and posted in online database (IIED & all teams)	Completed in previous years.	
2.3 Cross checking of Dja projects with success factors from evidence review (IIED and Oxford)	To be carried out in Y4	Cross check in meetings (online and in person) with project partners success factors identified in the evidence review.
2.4 Synthesis and write up of evidence review on wild meat alternative projects (IIED and Oxford)	Completed and reported in previous years	
2.5 Fieldwork to explore preferences for wild meat-alternative interventions with villagers in 3 case study sites (including survey design, training of FCTV staff in survey techniques, implementation of choice experiment and household surveys) (Oxford & FCTV/TCF)	Completed and reported in previous years	
2.6 Data analysis and write up of overall research report & other outputs such as papers (Oxford with inputs from all)	Internal report completed in previous years. Drafting of journal articles ongoing	Further analysis and publication in peer reviewed journal.
2.7 Meetings with DFR and national policy-makers and conservation actors to present findings and discuss uptake (Oxford, FCTV, TCF)	Delayed to Y4.	Will be held as soon as it is safe to convene meetings in Cameroon.
2.8 Side event at CBD CoP (IIED)	Changed to webinar	To be organised in Y4
2.9 Dissemination of report internationally	Not yet started	Comms strategy to be revised in light of Covid19 continued constraints
<b>Output 3.</b> Enhancements to existing wild meat-alternative projects and a new	3.1 Recommendations for the improved design of 3 existing (or past) wild meat-	Largely on track

<p>proposal, agreed with villagers and implementers at DFR case study sites</p>	<p>alternative projects around DRF building on experience from implementing the decision support tool (facilitated by the project team in partnership with conservation NGOs working around DFR)</p> <p>3.2 At least 50% of project implementers acting within the DFR report improved understanding of the drivers and barriers to successful wild meat-alternative projects, resulting in improved implementation effectiveness by end of project</p>	<p>3.1 One initiative (community hunting zone) has benefitted from content of decision support tool</p> <p>3.2 Not yet started – endline survey to be carried out in Y4</p> <p>3.3 Not yet started</p>	
<p>3.1 Share insights with villagers and project implementers in 3 sites on ways to improve existing wild meat alternative projects based on findings (Mindourou, Northern buckle) (TCF/FTCV &amp; Oxford)</p>	<p>Meetings held to feedback to villagers (see video documentary)</p>	<p>Engage with remaining projects around Dja</p>	
<p>3.2 Meetings with project designers/implementers (community organisations, NGOs, govt) in DFR to disseminate project findings and explore ways to improve project design &amp; implementation (FCTV/TCF)</p>	<p>One (Darwin funded) community hunting zone has benefitted in design based on content in the decision support tool Discussions via email started with ZSL.</p>	<p>Meetings to be organised in Y4</p>	
<p>Output 4. Capacity to design and implement improved “wild meat alternative” interventions improved elsewhere in Cameroon and internationally.</p>	<p>4.1. Policy recommendations developed discussed and agreed with Cameroonian government by end of project</p> <p>4.2 Decision support tool designed, and tested in DFR, by end of Y3Q2.</p> <p>4.3. Decision support tool disseminated to at least 100 conservation and/or</p>	<p>Largely on track</p> <p>4.1 Not yet started due to Covid delays</p> <p>4.2 DST designed and presented to local stakeholders as well as to key project implementers for feedback</p> <p>4.3 Dissemination will start in Y4 once tool is finalised based on feedback</p> <p>4.4 Not yet started</p>	

	<p>development organisations, tested and validated for at least 20 projects, and refined accordingly, by end of Y3Q3.</p> <p>4.4. Endorsement of guidance/ recommendations by at least one international conservation policy process or large-scale programme developing wild meat-alternative interventions, by end of project.</p>	
4.1 Drafting and translation of policy recommendations (IIED & FCTV/TCF with inputs from Oxford)	Not yet started	Drafting to start in Y4 informed by research results
4.2 Development of Decision Support Tool based on experience in case study sites & evidence reviews (TCF/FCTV with inputs from all)	Major focus of activity this year. Tool has been designed, drafted and translated into French	Minor revisions based on feedback received, further translation into Spanish and Portuguese
4.3 Meetings with project designers/implementers (community organisations, NGOs, govt) in DFR to test & validate tool and refine/update its design (FCTV/TCF)	Meetings not possible due to Covid19 restrictions, tool circulated to limited groups of stakeholders electronically for feedback	Synthesise feedback and update tool, republish
4.4 Presentation of tool (and experience from case study sites including new project designs) to other project implementers via the Dja Actors Forum & PCLG (FCTV/TCF)	Not yet started	Tool will be presented at first Dja Actors Forum meeting in Y4
4.5 Meetings with Cameroon policy makers to discuss recommendations & feasible changes in interventions (FCTV/TCF)	Meetings not possible in Y3 due to covid restrictions	Meetings will be organised in Y4
4.6 International dissemination of project findings and tool (IIED with inputs from all)	Not yet started.	Dissemination plan to start in Y4
4.7 Validation exercise for tool in other projects (IIED & Oxford)	Not yet started.	Planned for Year 4
4.8 Feedback survey on project's impact on intervention design internationally (IIED with inputs from all)	Not yet started.	Survey will be designed and implemented in Y4



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

UPDATED LOGFRAME AGREED JUNE 2020

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
<p><b>Impact:</b> Improved “bushmeat-alternative” projects in Cameroon and Africa-wide result in reduced exploitation of wild species and increased food security, contributing to achievement of SDGs while meeting CBD and CITES obligations</p>			
<p><b>Outcome:</b> (Max 30 words)</p> <p>Strengthened capacity of policy-makers and practitioners in Cameroon and Africa-wide to design and implement effective “bushmeat-alternative” interventions that reflect drivers of food choice, conserve biodiversity and contribute to food security.</p>	<p>0.1 Improved understanding by conservation policy-makers in sub-Saharan Africa of different drivers of wild meat as a food choice of local people, compared to baseline at start of project</p> <p>0.2 Improved understanding by “bushmeat-alternative” project designers in sub-Saharan Africa of characteristics of effective bushmeat-alternative projects compared to baseline at start of project</p> <p>0.3 Enhancements to the designs of three existing (or past) wild meat alternatives projects at DFR, by the end of the project, so that projects have the right conditions in place to a) improve food security and provide sustainable nutrition while also b) reducing exploitation of wild species.</p>	<p>0.1 Survey of policy-makers to determine understanding before and after project implementation</p> <p>0.2 Survey of project designers/implementers (identified in evidence review) before and after dissemination of project findings/tool, to determine understanding and willingness to implement improved projects</p> <p>0.3 Reports from project designers/managers; feedback from villagers</p> <p>0.4 Reports on uptake of decision support tool and policy guidance materials; feedback from project funders and implementers</p>	<p>International NGOs and policy-makers (e.g. ECOFAC, CBD) are responsive to findings and change their processes accordingly [our strong international networks and involvement of key players in Advisory group will help here]</p> <p>Feasible and effective bushmeat alternatives exist, that can divert enough consumption from bushmeat to reduce hunting pressure [In the long run, food systems need to reflect changing environmental, social &amp; economic realities. In the short-medium term there is potential for e.g. aquaculture, wild-caught fisheries, mini-livestock]</p> <p>Better-designed “bushmeat-alternative” projects will lead to reduced hunting and reduced threats to wildlife (because rural consumption is a major threat) [Our</p>

	<p><b>0.4</b> Receipt, uptake and commitments to use project-generated evidence and tools by at least 50% of existing bushmeat-alternative project designers, funders and implementers in DFR (from inventory generated in output 2).</p>		<p>experience in DFR and elsewhere suggests rural consumption is a threat; detailed research by J Wright suggests design improvements are feasible and could be effective]</p> <p>Local people are willing to take part in surveys and engage with research team [the team has very good relationships with local people in areas around the DFR and have worked with them for a number of years]</p> <p>Creation of decision support tool is feasible based on information collected, and evidence from DFR will be generalisable [we expect the evidence internationally to be weak; our new evidence-base for DFR will be locally relevant and our expectation based on previous work is that broad general lessons will emerge]</p> <p>Cameroon government remains supportive of the project and responsive to research findings</p>
<p><b>Outputs:</b></p> <p>1. Factors influencing use of wild meat as a food choice around Dja</p>	<p>1.1 Evidence review of drivers of wild meat as a food choice across Africa completed by end of year 1</p>	<p>1.1 Report and database of sources available online and disseminated via partner networks</p>	<p>Sufficient information is available at the international scale to draw conclusions</p>

<p>Biosphere Reserve and elsewhere in sub-Saharan Africa understood and documented</p>	<p>1.2 Field work to gain local communities' perspectives on food choice at DFR completed and analysed by end of Y2Q2</p> <p>1.3 Findings of the evidence review and fieldwork are discussed with Cameroon and DFR policy makers and conservation practitioners by end of Y2.</p> <p>1.4 Findings reported to CBD at 2020 CoP in Y3</p> <p>1.5 Findings disseminated in Cameroon and internationally by end of project</p>	<p>1.2 Biannual progress reports to Darwin, research findings report, research paper</p> <p>1.3 Meeting reports</p> <p>1.4 CBD reports</p> <p>1.5 PCLG meeting reports, dissemination records</p> <p>1.5 IIED and partner websites with materials available</p> <p>1.5 Research papers and conference presentations</p>	<p>Local people are willing to participate in surveys and interviews</p> <p>Policy makers and practitioners are sufficiently interested and engaged to attend meetings and provide feedback</p>
<p><b>2.</b> Characteristics of existing bushmeat alternative projects in DFR and elsewhere, and the role of drivers of food choice in project success, analysed</p>	<p>2.1 Evidence review of the factors affecting success of bushmeat-alternative projects in sub-Saharan Africa completed by end of year 1</p> <p>2.2 Inventory of existing bushmeat alternative projects in Dja region completed and placed in online database by end of Y1Q3</p> <p>2.3 Analyses of evidence review &amp; inventory to discern success factors completed by end of year 1</p>	<p>2.1 Project progress reports and publications</p> <p>2.2 Project report and database of projects published on website</p> <p>2.3 Research paper and report</p> <p>2.4 Results of household surveys; write up of focus group discussions, data from choice experiments;</p>	<p>Sufficient information is available [we already have a foundation from J Wright's work]</p> <p>Local people prepared to respond to survey questions and engage with project design.</p> <p>Policy makers and practitioners are sufficiently interested and engaged to attend meetings and provide feedback</p>

	<p>2.4 Fieldwork completed to explore bushmeat-alternative intervention preferences in three case study sites in DFR, and data analysed, by Y2Q4</p> <p>2.4 Findings discussed with Cameroon and DFR policy makers and conservation practitioners by end of Y2Q2.</p> <p>2.5 Findings reported to CBD at 2020 CoP in Y3</p> <p>2.6 Findings disseminated internationally by end of project</p>	<p>project progress reports, research report/paper</p> <p>2.5 Meeting reports</p> <p>2.6 CBD reports</p> <p>2.7 Dissemination reports, web download stats, conference proceedings, journal article altmetrics</p>	
<p><b>3.</b> Enhancements to existing bushmeat-alternative projects and a new proposal, agreed with villagers and implementers at DFR case study sites</p>	<p>3.1 <u>Recommendations for the improved design of 3 existing (or past) wild meat-alternative projects around DRF building on experience from implementing the decision support tool (facilitated by the project team in partnership with conservation NGOs working around DFR)</u></p> <p>3.2 At least 50% of project implementers acting within the DFR report improved understanding of the drivers and barriers to successful bushmeat-alternative projects,</p>	<p>3.1 Inventory results, minutes of meetings held with implementers, project progress reports</p> <p>3.2 Feedback from survey of project implementers;</p> <p>3.7 Community surveys at beginning and end of project</p>	<p>Local people willing to participate in the project</p> <p>There is sufficient information generated from the research under outputs 1 and 2 that a locally acceptable and effective project design improvement can be agreed</p> <p>Implementers of existing and planned projects are prepared to engage with us to improve their projects and monitor outcomes. [our strong relationships with these project implementers, and careful laying of the groundwork in year 1, makes this likely]</p>

<p><b>4. Capacity to design and implement improved “bushmeat alternative” interventions improved elsewhere in Cameroon and internationally.</b></p>	<p>4.1. Policy recommendations developed discussed and agreed with Cameroonian government by end of project</p> <p>4.2 Decision support tool designed, and tested in DFR, by end of Y3Q2.</p> <p>4.3. Decision support tool disseminated to at least 100 conservation and/or development organisations, tested and validated for at least 20 projects, and refined accordingly, by end of Y3Q3.</p> <p>4.4. Endorsement of guidance/ recommendations by at least one international conservation policy process or large-scale programme developing bushmeat-alternative interventions, by end of project.</p>	<p>4.1 Policy recommendations available in French and English on project website; minutes of meetings</p> <p>4.2 Tool available on project website, web download stats, PCLG meeting reports; project design documents, project implementer feedback and reports</p> <p>4.3 Evidence of dissemination online and at CBD side-event. Report of validation testing.</p> <p>4.4 Dissemination records, downloads from website, feedback surveys reporting on uptake and usefulness, letter of confirmation of use from at least one organisation.</p>	<p>Policy makers and practitioners are receptive to research findings and recommendations and willing to provide feedback</p> <p>Tool is useful and generalizable beyond case study sites.</p> <p>“Bushmeat-alternative” projects continue to be developed by other actors</p>

## Annex 3: Standard Measures

Code No.	Description	Gender of people (if relevant)	Nationality of people (if relevant)	Year 1 Total	Year 2 Total	Year 3 Total	Total to date	Total planned during the project
Established codes								
6A	Number of people to receive other forms of education/training (which does not fall into categories 1-5 above) *	M & F	Cameroonian	0	6	0	6	6
6B	Number of training weeks			0	3		3	3
7	Number of training materials					1	1	1
11B	No of journal articles submitted						0	2
14 A	Workshops etc organised			0	2	0	0	4

**Table 2 Publications**

Title	Type (e.g. journals, manual, CDs)	Detail (authors, year)	Gender of Lead Author	Nationality of Lead Author	Publishers (name, city)	Available from (e.g. weblink or publisher if not available online)
Why Eat Wild Meat	Flyer	IIED, 2018	F	GB	IIED	<a href="https://pubs.iied.org/17485IIED/">https://pubs.iied.org/17485IIED/</a>

Pourquoi manger de la viande sauvage ?	Flyer	IIED, 2019	M	Cam	IIED	<a href="https://pubs.iied.org/17485FIIED/">https://pubs.iied.org/17485FIIED/</a>
Why Eat Wild Meat website		IIED, 2019	F	GB	IIED	<a href="https://www.iied.org/why-eat-wild-meat">https://www.iied.org/why-eat-wild-meat</a>
WHY EAT WILD MEAT? PRELIMINARY FINDINGS FROM A LITERATURE REVIEW ON KEY DRIVERS OF WILD MEAT AS A FOOD CHOICE	Review	IIED 2019	F	GB	CBD	<a href="https://www.cbd.int/doc/c/c7e8/3ab4/dbfb512d72dcb56952d8a0ea/sbstta-23-inf-21-en.pdf">https://www.cbd.int/doc/c/c7e8/3ab4/dbfb512d72dcb56952d8a0ea/sbstta-23-inf-21-en.pdf</a>
How Cameroon love for bush meat dey put animals for danger	BBC News	External writer for BBC		Cameroonian	BBC	<a href="https://www.bbc.com/pidgin/tori-48034874">https://www.bbc.com/pidgin/tori-48034874</a>
The covid-19 response and wild meat: a call for local context	Blog	Stephanie Brittain	F	GB	OU	<a href="https://www.iccs.org.uk/blog/covid-19-response-and-wild-meat-call-local-context">https://www.iccs.org.uk/blog/covid-19-response-and-wild-meat-call-local-context</a>
Why Eat Wild Meat – Results from a review of the factors that affect the success of alternative protein projects	Project Report	IIED 2020	F	GB	IIED	<a href="https://www.iied.org/why-eat-wild-meat">https://www.iied.org/why-eat-wild-meat</a>
Exploring why people eat wild meat – and exploring better alternatives	Blog	Stephanie Brittain, 2020	F	GB	IIED	<a href="https://www.iied.org/exploring-why-people-eat-wild-meat-designing-better-alternatives">https://www.iied.org/exploring-why-people-eat-wild-meat-designing-better-alternatives</a> .



We did it to ourselves- Scientist says intrusion into nature led to pandemic	The Guardian	Mama Mouamfon, 2020	M	Cameroonian	The Guardian	<a href="https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/apr/25/ourselves-scientist-says-human-intrusion-nature-pandemic-aoe">https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/apr/25/ourselves-scientist-says-human-intrusion-nature-pandemic-aoe</a>
What does more environmental damage: eating meat from the wild or a factory farm?	The Guardian	Stephanie Brittain, 2020	F	BG	The Guardian	<a href="https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2020/may/26/ban-on-bushmeat-after-covid-19-but-what-if-alternative-is-factory-farming">https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2020/may/26/ban-on-bushmeat-after-covid-19-but-what-if-alternative-is-factory-farming</a>
How is COVID-19 affecting wild meat consumption in rural Cameroon?	Blog	Mama Mouamfon and Cedric Thibaut Kamogne Tagne, 2020	M	Cameroonian	IIED	<a href="https://www.iied.org/how-covid-19-affecting-wild-meat-consumption-rural-cameroon">https://www.iied.org/how-covid-19-affecting-wild-meat-consumption-rural-cameroon</a>
Saving lives, protecting livelihoods and safeguarding nature: risk-based wildlife trade policy for sustainable development outcomes post-COVID.	Peer reviewed article	Booth, H., Arias, M., Brittain, S., Challender, D., Khanyari, M., Kuiper, T., Li, Y., Olmedo, A., Oyanedel, R., Pienkowski, T., Milner-Gulland, E.J.		Multiple	Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment	<a href="https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fevo.2021.639216/full">https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fevo.2021.639216/full</a>
Investigating the risks of removing wild meat from global food systems.	Peer reviewed article	Booth, H., Clark, M., Milner-Gulland, E.J., Amponsah-Mensah, K., Antunes, A.P., Brittain, S., Castilho, L., Campos-Silva, V., Constantino, P.A.L., Li, Y., Mandoloma, L., Nneji, L.M., Iponga, D.M., McNamara, J., Rakotonarivo, S., Shi, J.,		Multiple	Current Biology	<a href="https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0960982221001445?fbclid=IwAR3oPA1yMY_f8I44qLxT6tNRhVDUQ4Dv_C-">https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0960982221001445?fbclid=IwAR3oPA1yMY_f8I44qLxT6tNRhVDUQ4Dv_C-</a>

		Tagne, C.T.K., van Velden, J., Williams, D.R.				<a href="#">YyEXvsOMzWgEaUHd5pHHwYBA</a>
Beyond banning wildlife trade: COVID-19, conservation and development.	Peer reviewed article	Roe, D., Dickman, A., Kock, R., Milner-Gulland, E.J., Rihoy, E., 't Sas Rolfes, M.,		Multiple	World Development	<a href="https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0305750X20302485">https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0305750X20302485</a>
Possible negative consequences of a wildlife trade ban	Peer reviewed article	Roe D and Ming Lee, T		GB, China	Nature	<a href="https://www.nature.com/articles/s41893-020-00676-1">https://www.nature.com/articles/s41893-020-00676-1</a>

## 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.	X
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<b>Have you included means of verification?</b> You should not submit every project document, but the main outputs and a selection of the others would strengthen the report.	X
<b>Do you have hard copies of material you need 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.	No
Have you involved your partners in preparation of the report and named the main contributors	X
Have you completed the Project Expenditure table fully?	X
Do not include claim forms or other communications with this report.	