

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: 30th April 2020

Darwin Project Information

Project reference	25-029
Project title	Rehabilitation of the ecosystem of the Park W landscape
Host country/ies	Niger
Lead organisation	TREE AID
Partner institution(s)	COGEZOH
Darwin grant value	£309,545
Start/end dates of project	1 st of July 2018 to - 31st of March 2021
Reporting period (e.g., Apr 2018 – Mar 2019) and number (e.g., Annual Report 1, 2, 3)	April 2019 – March 2020, Annual report 2
Project Leader name	Aboubacar Gadage
Project website/blog/Twitter	Website: https://www.treeaid.org.uk/2018/protecting-biodiversity-in-a-world-heritage-site/ http://nigerexpress.info/2018/11/22/long-tree-aid-lance-au-niger-un-nouveau-projet-de-rehabilitation-de-lecosysteme-du-paysage-du-parc-w/ Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/TREEAID/ Linkedin: https://www.linkedin.com/company/tree-aid/ Twitter account : @TREEAID
Report author(s) and date	Aboubacar Gadage and Sean McGough April 2020 Abdoulkarim Samna, CoGeZoH

Acronym List

Assisted Natural Regeneration – ANR
Contribution à la Gestion des Zones Humides- COGEZOH
Communal land tenure commission – COFOCOM
Human-wildlife conflicts - HWC
Non-timber forest product – NTFP
Soil and Water Conservation Techniques - SWC
TWR-DMP – Tamou Wildlife Reserve Development and Management Plan
Village tree enterprise – VTE
Village land tenure commission – COFOB
W trans-boundary biosphere reserve – WTBR

1. Project summary

Niger is bottom of the Human Development Index¹ ranking 187th out of 188 countries. 84% of Niger's population lives in rural areas, largely relying on natural resources for survival. Consequently, Niger's forest habitat and its immense biodiversity is under significant threat. Over 25 years, Niger has lost 41% of forest cover (848,000 hectares).

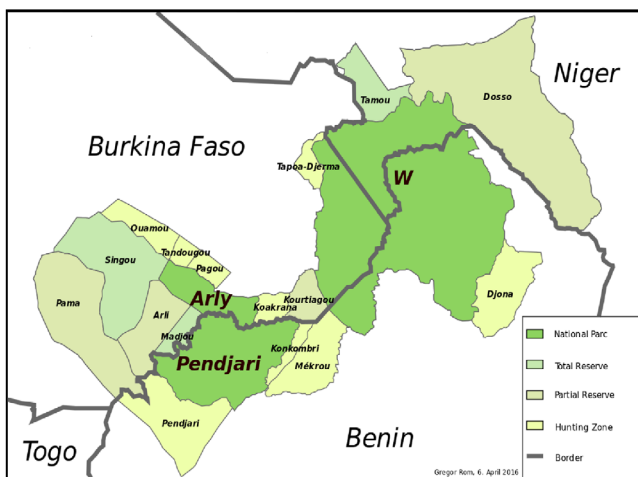


Figure 1: Land use map of Parc W and the total WTBR of Tamou with intervention zone of project in black

Accelerated population growth, together with high levels of poverty, has put great pressure on the protected areas, threatening natural resources (including dry zone mahogany³ and Acacia ⁴) through transhumance, poaching, uncontrolled bushfires, overgrazing and unsustainable harvesting of non-timber forest product (NTFPs) and timber. This has also resulted in more frequent human-wildlife conflicts (HWC) (e.g. destruction of crops and livestock by baboon, elephants or hyenas).

Currently the majority of interventions are directed towards Park W, leaving the peripheral area unmanaged, risking the integrity of WTBR in the long term. To decrease pressure on the protected areas, interventions are needed in the periphery to support riverine communities to improve natural resources, local forest governance, their collaboration with Park W authorities, as well as to maximise the sustainable use of NTFPs for alternative economic opportunities.

2. Project partnerships

During the course of the project, COGEZOH realised the need to adjust the project team in order to become more effective on the ground. This was due to the fact that the field facilitators, although numerous, were unable to properly report on project activities, process financial reports, and encountered difficulties in coordinating effectively with the activities of Park W authorities and the TREE AID-led project management unit. In order to remedy these problems, a revised team structure was put in place with Darwin's agreement (Change Request #1) by which the outgoing NTFP advisor position was replaced by an officer and a local project accountant. The field team was also rearranged by reducing the number of local facilitators from four to two for efficiency reasons. This restructuring has improved the running of activities

The project is being implemented in the W trans-boundary biosphere reserve (WTBR) (Park W) - a biodiversity reserve across Niger, Benin and Burkina Faso - recognised as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The reserve is the largest and most important continuum of terrestrial, semi-aquatic and aquatic ecosystems in the West African savannah.² However, the area's biodiversity has suffered severe degradation from anthropogenic pressures and climatic variabilities.

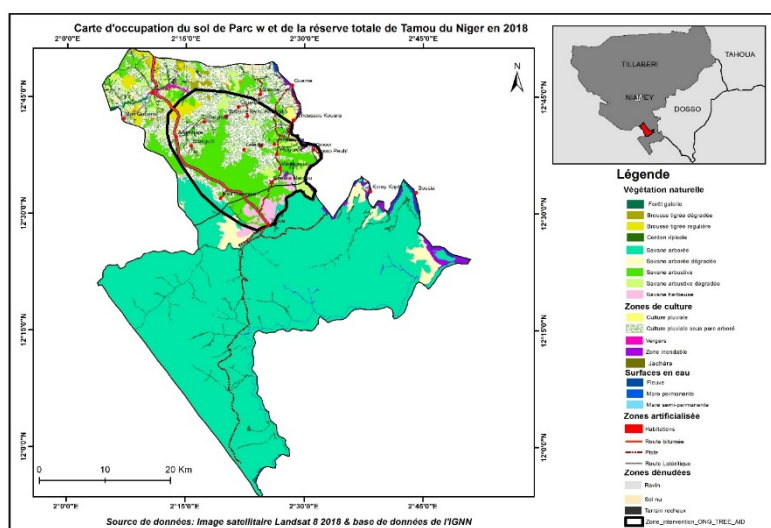


Figure 2: Map of Parc W and boundary zones

¹ PNUD, 2016

² Elephant- *Loxodonta Africana* – vulnerable IUCN redlist 3.1

³ IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. Version 2017-3 – Vulnerable status

⁴ "Plan d'Aménagement et de Gestion de la Réserve de Biosphère Transfrontalière W - 2006-2010", Volume I : Etat des lieux, Mai 2005

in the field and the ease at which financial and progress reports are consolidated on a quarterly basis.

The changes in staff outlined in Change Request 1 left the partner devoid of existing Market Analysis and Development (MA&D) knowledge. MA&D is a key TREE AID approach in developing enterprises and while we can progress somewhat with enterprise development, it's better for it to be grounded in this technical approach. Despite the departure of the project NTFP advisor, it was expected that he would be able to conduct further training in MA&D for the project staff (some having been provided in March 2019). However, over time it became clear that this would not be possible and alternatives – within Niger from other NGOs, from TREE AID Burkina Faso and beyond – were sought. Despite plans being put in place the training was delayed until March 2020 and then cancelled due to COVID-19 (more detail below). Another impact of the departure of the NTFP officer was that the project coordinator at CoGeZoH had taken on more work. However, with pre-existing health issues and orders to avoid stress, his involvement has been limited (from Aug 19 – Feb 20). TREE AID has been working with CoGeZoH to understand if the project coordinator will be replaced, but – as yet – this is not clear.

The project has been working closely with park management and the local authorities (mayor and commune authorities) due to the ongoing security situation (see Annex A Security Situation context) in the area. In a positive sense this close relationship has enabled the project to progress with developing local conventions and the Tamou Wildlife Reserve Development and Management Plan (TWR-DMP) thus contributing to Indicators 0.1 and 1.2. Furthermore, this relationship is vital in travelling safely in the area. Support and advice from the authorities have helped the project team avoid areas in which armed groups have been operational and – thus far – there have been no incidents involving project staff.

3. Project progress

3.1 Progress in carrying out project Activities

Output 1 Local communities in 12 villages in the peripheral area of the park W have their capacities strengthened in sustainable forest management

ACTIVITY 1.1 Assessment of COFOBs in the Response Zone

Completed in year 1.

ACTIVITY 1.2 Training of the 60 members of COFOB on the texts and laws on natural resource management and land transactions and on community conflict management

Following the training for COFOB members in y1 (covering 46 members), a total of forty-five (45) participants, 40 men and 5 women, were trained on the texts and laws governing the management of forest resources in the commune of Tamou. These participants included 22 members of COFOB (village chiefs, permanent secretaries, women representatives, farmers, pastoralists and artisans, etc.), members of the municipal council (4), representatives of pastoralists (5) of the project area, agents of the protection and conservation services (14) (Park W, Tamou Wildlife Reserve, forest posts etc.) and local authorities. A consultant was hired (see attached report for the training) and a document reviewing the texts and laws in Niger governing the management of natural resources and relevant applicable legislation, was prepared and shared with the participants. This summary document is also being shared with the commune and regional administrations and will be made available to the Ministry of the Environment for review and dissemination to its relevant staff.

ACTIVITY 1.3 Updating land use maps

The updated land use maps were finalized in February 2020, they present the land use status of the project area from 1979 to 2018 through a comparative study over three periods for an interval of 40 years: 1979, 1998 and 2018. In the process of developing the land use mapping, three data sources were used. These include 1979 Landsat ETM satellite imagery, 1998

Landsat ETM satellite imagery and landsat 8 Oli satellite imagery from 2018. In order to validate the maps, a field visit was carried out during the first half of November 2019, which coincided with the date the images were taken. The participation of the local population were also effective during the field mission as they were able to provide guidance as to land uses that would form the basis for the manual classification.

Cross-referencing the two land-use maps of the study sites (see Annex C Land Use Maps) from 1979-1998 and 1998-2018 provides a comparison that shows the evolution of the different land classifications over time. Some key facts that came to light include:

- 25,841 additional hectares are considered degraded (degraded tiger bush, degraded wooded savannah, degraded shrubby savannah, bare surfaces) in 2018 compared to 1979.
- Recognised Wooded savannah and native vegetation dropped by 34,548 hectares
- The amount of land being left fallow dropped by almost four thousand hectares and almost no hectares were considered fallow in 2018.

The findings fed into the development of the local village conventions and the management plan as the trends over time could be demonstrated and agreement made as to how to manage threats to the environment. This process had to happen concurrently as both activities were happening simultaneously. The final maps will be shared with communities for use.

ACTIVITY 1.4 Development of 12 local agreements and a development plan based on updated land use maps

The process of developing a management plan (TWR-DMP) started in February 2019 in the first year, but due to the complexity of the project area, the process took longer than expected. As a prelude to the elaboration of the 12 local conventions, the stakeholders⁵ held a meeting to identify the resources that are the object of conflicts in the 12 villages in June-July 2019 and two inter-village meetings in August 2019 to harmonize the points of view of the communities on the rules of participatory management of the reserve resources. The results of these workshops were submitted to a consultant who developed the 12 local conventions on the basis of the texts governing the management of the reserve. These local conventions define a local legal framework for a resilient and non-conflictual use of natural resources in a context of climate change.

The local conventions and the TWR-DMP were finalised in March 2020. However it is important, before their application, to ensure that the communities understand the implications in case of violation of these management rules.

ACTIVITY 1.5 Support and monitoring of COFOBs in particular on the development and implementation of the WTBR Management Plan and on the implementation of local conventions

This activity is about supporting and monitoring the implementation of the local agreements and the WTBR management plan. As those were not completed until the end of year 2, the activity will be carried out in year 3. This will entail the dissemination of local agreements in the villages through village assemblies and the use of community radios.

ACTIVITY 1.6 Exchange Forum on WTBR Management Plan and Local Conventions

Given the threat of the COVID 19 pandemic the government in Niger has put restrictions on assembly - reducing the number of people that can participate in a meeting. With this in mind, a

⁵ Project staff, the park management unit, other NGOs working in the reserve and the administrative and communal authorities surrounding Park W
Annual Report Template 2020

small committee was set up from 26 to 28 March 2020 under the responsibility of the Director of Wildlife, Hunting, Parks and Reserves (this department is under the Ministry of Environment and Water and Forestry) for the review of the TWR-DMP and local conventions. This workshop was attended by 8 people. The process focused on the harmonisation of the eight intervention axis within the TWR-DMP and how best to align these to the WTBR Management Plan. The committee approved the plan and recommended the review of the various budgets relating to each axis of the TWR-DMP as well as the overall budget.

For the local conventions, the workshop recommended 1) the involvement of the Environment and Livestock services, for the popularisation of Assisted Natural Regeneration (ANR) and the periods when grazing is prohibited in the fields; and 2) to initiate a process locally to grant the exploitation of non-timber forest products for processing and traditional medicines purposes authorised by the law governing the management of NTFPs and 3) to specify that the fine to be imposed on offenders for cutting green timber will be made under the control of the Forest Service to avoid a conflict of jurisdiction.

Rapport atelier de
validation deu PAG

ACTIVITY 1.7 Training of the population on Soil and Water Conservation (SWC) and Assisted Natural Regeneration (ANR) techniques

In April 2019, communities from the six remaining villages (6 were completed in year 1) were trained on SWC and ANR techniques. There were two phases of the training; theoretical and practical. 313 people (48% women) attended the theoretical trainings, which included a documentary projection on sustainable land management practices. For the practical training events 293 people (43% women) participate. In addition, we supported the communities with small equipment to facilitate the work, including shovels, cutters, ropes and picks. The plan was to reach a total of 600 farmers. We have trained 770 people on at least five techniques – stone bunding, zai technique, half-moon, ANR, mulching and composting. An evaluation carried out in February-March 2020 shows that at least 93% of the trained farmers have practiced at least one of the different techniques and 63% all of them.

rapport de
formation CEDS et R

ACTIVITY 1.8 Training of the population on tree planting and management

Completed year 1 – though demonstration sessions took place for beneficiaries on the days of planting under 1.12.

ACTIVITY 1.9 Establishment of 3 nurseries and training of 9 nurserymen

The production of 20,000 plants took place between April and August 2019 in the three nurseries, with the final 5,000 being planted in September. The seeds were bought in consultation with the beneficiaries and according to their use and importance: species grown were Baobab, Moringa, Acacia Senegal, *bohinia ruffescens*, *cassia siberina*, and *Prosopis Africana*.

ACTIVITY 1.10 Delimitation and weeding of the 25 ha of pastureland

The identification of 25 ha of grazing land and 25 ha of degraded land in the Tamou Wildlife Reserve took place in June and July 2019.

In September 2019, 25 ha of pasture land in three villages were weeded as part of a cash-for-work programme. In times of food shortage, 757 households (1,386 people) worked between 3 and 5 days for cash, enabling them to buy food before their harvest arrived. Rehabilitation will continue in the next six months with the sowing of the sites with grasses more palatable to animals as this was delayed due to security issues (see Appendix A).

rapport mission
georeferencement_f

ACTIVITY 1.11 Rehabilitation and enrichment of 25ha communal degraded land

The planned activity was due to take place in Q2 and Q3 but had to be postponed until after the rainy season as priority was given to the 25 ha of pastureland and planting on private land. However, with the Jihadist attack of 28th February and 9th March 2020 it has not been possible to implement the activity. With the new restrictions related to COVID-19 now in place, it is still hoped that this activity can be carried out between April and May with an authorization from the Governor of Niamey granting the green light to crucial field activities such as planting.

A mission to the field identified and agreed the sites in July 2019.

Rapport suivi
pep_identif Site NA2

ACTIVITY 1.12 Planting of native trees on private land.

Planting took place in August and September. 320 households received 8,000 food trees (baobab and moringa) from the nurseries. The activity was launched in Djaogoga on August 1st under the supervision of the Mayor of the commune of Tamou. Under the theme: "Let's plant wisely: a household a grove". A local filmmaker captured footage of the event and it was broadcast on national television (see Annex F). By the end of September, more than 20,000 trees had been planted on farmland and on the riverine area along the Korie River. The fact that a large proportion of these trees are planted on private land will improve their chance of survival as farmers tend to care for trees on their land more than in communal areas. Initial monitoring of these plants shows that they are well established and protected by farmers. Permanent monitoring plots will be set up to help monitor the survival rates and level of protection the trees are getting this coming growing season.

rapport mission
plantation des plan

Output 2 Developed partnership between Park W management authorities and local communities in order to protect the biodiversity of the WTBR/Niger

ACTIVITY 2.1 Exchange forum between the ecoguards, Park W Management Unit and 24 local informants to establish a data collection, protection and monitoring system.

Activity planned in year 2 but carried out in March 2019 of year 1 in order to set up a clear data collection system and build the capacity of actors involved in data collection and strengthen the capacity of intelligence officers. Monitoring system is working.

ACTIVITY 2.2 Forum for exchange at the national level between the different departments of the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development and the project partners.

The annual consultation forum for the management of the W reserve was held from 27th to 28th February 2020 at the town hall of Falmey departments. This meeting, organized by the Department of Wildlife, Parks and Reserves in partnership with the NGO TREE AID and COGEZOH, brought a range of stakeholders⁶ together. The objective of this forum was to create a consultation framework that will be formalized in order to strengthen the co-management of existing and potential natural reserves, including the WTBR, in a context of degradation and scarcity of natural resources and the pressure exerted by the population on these resources. The meeting was accompanied by a proposal for a draft decree on the creation, attributions and organization of a Concertation Framework for the Sustainable

⁶ the Prefects of the Departments bordering the W Reserve (Falmey, Say, Kollo); the Mayors of the communes bordering the W Park (Tamou, Kouré, Falmey and Kirtachi); the heads of the Department of Wildlife, Parks and Reserves; the Departmental Directors in charge of the environment of Kollo, Falmey and Say; the Conservators of Protected Areas (Park W, Tamou Wildlife Reserve, Dosso Partial Wildlife Reserve) of the Biosphere Reserve W and the National Director of Nature Protection and Equipment of the General Directorate of Environment and Water and Forests of Niger; representatives of NGOs and Development Associations working in the periphery, including: TREE AID, the local NGO ATPF (Aménagement des terroirs et Productions Forestières) and the local NGO COGEZOH

Management of Natural Resources in the W Park Biosphere Reserve and its related areas, which will be submitted to the supervisory ministry for approval. The scope of the concertation framework covers all the activities devoted to the sustainable management, exploitation, use, preservation, protection and mobilization of the natural resources of the Parc W Biosphere Reserve and its related areas, with a view to a fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from their management.

rapport cadre de
concertation Falmei

ACTIVITY 2.3 Training for the 24 local informants on data collection

Completed in year 1.

ACTIVITY 2.4 Development of a coordination-network unit for local informants and follow-up activities.

Informants continue to benefit from the project's support and regularly communicate cases of infractions observed in the area of natural resource management. The informants are also gathering data on the incidents of Human-Wildlife Conflict (HWC) in order to support the project in monitoring whether or not strategies to reduce these are working or not. These are covered in sections 3.2 and 3.3.

ACTIVITY 2.5 Park Value Awareness Program

After 917 people attended sessions in year 1, the project undertook another mission to raise awareness among the population in the 12 villages. The activity took place from 20 to 25 January 2020. A General Assembly was held in each village in order to contribute to the sustainable management of the park by ensuring that the populations appreciate the many advantages that this park provides them. In each village, the communities were informed of the benefits they can derive from the Park. This awareness raising engaged directly 792 people, including 483 men and 308 women.

ACTIVITY 2.6 Organization of training sessions in villages targeted on HWC prevention and mitigation strategies

1,981 people participated in the training sessions: these sessions were open sessions per village with film screenings on strategies for the protection and prevention of conflicts with wildlife; participants include women, young and old men so that everyone can learn and adapt prevention strategies.

ACTIVITY 2.7 Establishment of a demonstration plot for HWC prevention and mitigation techniques

As of March 2020, 13 Bomas (enclosures with three levels of protection: dead hedge inside, surrounded by a live hedge based on cuttings of *Commiphora africana*, itself protected by a wire mesh belt) have been created. Six of these were developed by the project in year 1 in the five villages identified as the most exposed to attacks by lions and Hyenas.

ACTIVITY 2.8 Organization of awareness campaigns at the village level in the project area on wildlife behaviour and HWC prevention strategies.

The sensitisation campaign on wildlife behaviour and on the prevention strategies for human-wildlife conflict took place in the 12 target villages as planned from May 21 to June 1, 2019. Passing through each village the sensitization team explained to the local populations through films the different types of human-wildlife conflict, the reasons for conflict and the prevention measures. A total of 806 participants were registered during the campaign. The numbers of rudimentary enclosures seen at the end of year 2 are testament to the impact that the demonstration plots and this campaign have had.

Rapport campagne
de sensibilisation H'

ACTIVITY 2.9 Support for the good functioning of the network of local informants

Local informants successfully reported and recorded illegal activities and wildlife intrusions and continue to be supported with phone credit. They continue to use the bikes provided by the project. The results of their data collection is discussed in sections 3.2 and 3.3.

Output 3 Supporting local economic development through the establishment 10 VTEs based on sustainable forest product value chains

ACTIVITY 3.1 MA&D training for the technical team

The plan to recruit a consultant to conduct the training (in light of the lack of MA&D experience in the CoGeZoH team following the departure of the NTFP Advisor) was unsuccessful and therefore training by TREE AID UK and Burkina Faso staff was planned for the end of 2019 but then delayed to March 2020. COVID-19 meant that the training had to be cancelled. TREE AID is looking at ways that the required training for staff in the MA&D approach can be delivered during the restrictions, and at ways that the VTEs can be well established without the full MA&D approach being taught to all trainers. This is possible by focusing more on the Enterprise Development Plans now that enterprises have selected products already.

ACTIVITY 3.2 Establishment of 10 VTEs and follow-up

As activity 3.1 has been delayed, little was done with VTE groups in year 2 until November when a mission by CoGeZoH and TREE AID teams visited project sites with the aim of conducting capacity assessment and strengthening the VTE groups by looking at existing village groups. These groups, from which the VTEs are derived, have resources in kind such as fields, products (sesame, peanuts) and practice market gardening and small trade. Based on interest from different groups doing different activities, a number of highly motivated farmers came forward to be involved. We know from experience that not all members of groups have the inclination, want or time to do NTFPs enterprise and commit to this. These members are able to draw on assets from the pre-existing village groups. For example, the VTE of Allambaré brings together members of 10 pre-existing groups; its 10 groups have total assets of more than 5,895,000 francs (about £8,000). The 10 VTE groups and their respective products are listed in Annex E Details of VTE group products.

The project has been able to provide practical technical support for the VTEs. In a combination of activities (see 3.4), members of VTEs set up by TREE AID during the DFID-funded BRACED programme visited the project villages between 6th and 13th March. The 10 VTE groups were trained by these visiting groups in the production of soap and ointment based on Balanites oil, Neem oil, Shea butter and mosquito repellent based on neem leaves. 277 women (some VTE members brought friends) were trained and equipped with the small processing equipment and soap and ointment kits that enable them to produce and market their products. The purchase of larger equipment (manual presses, crushers, soap kit, ointment kit, packaging kit) was delayed but the process is now underway and three centres have been proposed in which to place equipment so that it is accessible for all the VTEs.

ACTIVITY 3.3 Dissemination of information on VTE products on local radio stations.

Not carried out due to the delay in the implementation of VTEs.

ACTIVITY 3.4 Exchange visits

The trip to the project sites from group members of VTEs set up on the BRACED project was also an exchange visit – providing the opportunity for new VTE members to learn from these experienced VTE group members. The members of the BRACED groups spent two days in each village to train and prepare the VTE groups in the production of Solid Soap, Liquid Soap and anti-mosquito product but also exchanged on the valorisation of the processed products, packaging and putting them in contact with Micro Finance Institutions and wholesale buyers – both of which are key project indicators under Output 3.

ACTIVITY 3.5 Participation in a national event to present VTE products

Not achieved due to the delay in the implementation of the VTEs.

ACTIVITY 3.6 Participation in two regional events to present VTE products

Not achieved due to the delay in the implementation of the VTEs.

ACTIVITY 3.7 Establishment of 3 agreements between VTEs and buyers

Not achieved due to the delay in the implementation of the VTEs.

ACTIVITY 3.8 Establishing links with microfinance institutions

Not achieved due to the delay in the implementation of the VTEs.

3.2 Progress towards project Outputs

Output Indicator 1.1 "12 COFOB and 1 COFOCOM (40% women as members) are established by year 1 and effectively functioning by year 2"

Baseline: 8/12 COFOBs established; 47 members, of which 7 were women (14.9%).

1/1 COFOCOM established but not functioning.

Change to date: 12/12 COFOBs established; 90 members, of which 24 are women (27%).

1/1 COFOCOM established; 22 members, of which 10 are women (45%)

Means of Verification: Project reports; Field Visits; Attendance sheets; Project Beneficiary List

Comment: This output has been achieved, though with less women in COFOBs than targeted.

However, there is a membership of 39.2% overall across the groups. There were 47 COFOB members, of which 7 were women; 14.9%. All 12 groups are now established as Basic Land Commission of the 12 villages of intervention of the project and contain 27% women 24 out of 90 members. Every COFOB has at least two women. The COFOCOM had been established by the government in 2012 but its function was limited by the absence of the members. The project has helped find the necessary people to complete the group with 22 members - 10 of whom are women (45%).

Training has been provided in activity 1.2 in order to ensure all members are aware of the texts and laws on natural resource management, land transactions and community conflict management. This has allowed them to support the staff of Park W in the management of the park resources. It has also allowed them to provide support to the discussion and agreement of local village level conventions and at COFOCOM level the TWR-DMP. Focus Group Discussions with group members and representatives from the communities are planned to further explore the functionality of these groups. We will work closely with the groups over year 3 to assess how well they are functioning – for example the number of meetings held, and numbers of cases handled.

The established COFOB and COFOCOM agreements are attached.

Output Indicator 1.2 "12 local conventions and one management plan for Tamou Faunal Reserve developed by year 2"

Baseline: 0/12 local conventions; 0/1 management plan for Tamou Faunal Reserve

Change to date: 12 local conventions and the management plan for the Tamou reserve have been completed.

Means of Verification: Project reports, final documents

Comment: This output has been achieved. Despite the delays in finalising and implementing the 12 local conventions due to the peculiarity of the reserve statue, the 12 local conventions and the TWR-DMP have been completed. They are attached as evidence under the activity. Once these conventions have been validated and signed, they will be popularised among the communities so that they can become aware of their scope. The popularisation will be done in village information and awareness raising meetings and through radio broadcasts by community radios in the project area.

Output Indicator 1.3 "40,000 seedlings (from the 3 nurseries established by the project) planted (by year 3) including *Khaya senegalensis* and *Acacia spp* (threatened species) in the peripheral area of the WTBR"

Baseline: n/a

Change to date: 20,000 trees planted

Means of Verification: Seedlings inspected by TREE AID staff and photos taken of the plants in-situ.

Comment: The project is on target against its milestone of 40,000 trees by the end of year 3 thanks to the production and planting of 20,000 seedlings between April and August 2019 in the three nurseries. During the planting photos were taken by TREE AID staff and the filmmaker. 15,000 seedlings were planted between August 1, 2019 and August 8, 2019. A further 5,000 seedlings were planted in late August and early September 2019.

Another 20,000 plants are in production in the three nurseries in Baniguitti (7,000 plants), Leledje (6,000 plants) and Djagoga (7,000 plants). A focus on *Khaya Senegalensis* is necessary in y3 to try and increase the numbers in the area.

"Within 3 years, no one in this village will need to go to the park to look for Baobab leaves."

Chief of Leledji Village

Output Indicator 1.4 "70% of the people interviewed acknowledged that their community is involved in the sustainable management of the WTBR by the end of the project"

Baseline: 70% of project beneficiaries felt that their village was moderately to well engaged in the sustainable management of local forest resources, compared to 52% amongst control villages. 28% of project beneficiaries reported no engagement or did not know of any engagement, compared to 49% amongst control villages.

Change to date: Will be monitored again at the end of project to see the change.

Means of Verification: RHoMIS socio-economic household level survey (Oct-Dec18); Interviews

Comment: The indicator was already achieved at baseline. However, we will monitor change at the end of the project to see if we can achieve closer to 100% positive responses by beneficiaries.

Output Indicator 1.5 "100% of the lead farmers (600) incorporated good natural resource management practices on their land by year 3"

Baseline: 56% of Lead Farmers report using Natural Resource Management Techniques. 16% use Soil & Water Conservation techniques, 56% use Biological Practices and only 1% use any Gully Control techniques.

Change to date: 93% (+37%) of Lead Farmers report using Natural Resource Management Techniques. 88% (+72%) use Soil & Water Conservation techniques, 96% (+40%) use Biological Practices and 63% (+62%) use Gully Control techniques.

Means of Verification: RHoMIS socio-economic household level survey (Oct-Dec18); Natural Resource Management Survey (March 2020).

Comment: Regular monitoring in villages and farmers' fields and reports from local facilitators show a wide adoption of sustainable land management techniques. Training delivered in the villages for the Lead Farmers is participatory and open to the general public, which has allowed for rapid learning and dissemination. Trained farmers continue to train others.

Output Indicator 1.6 "80% of the farmers trained by the lead farmers incorporated good natural resource management practices on their land by year 3"

Baseline: In Project Villages Soil & Water Conservation: 42/170 (25%), Biological Practices: 103/170 (61%) Gully Control: 10/170 (6%).

In control villages: Soil & Water Conservation: 13/93 (14%), Biological Practices: 27/93 (29%), Gully Control: 19/93 (20%).

Change to date: 73/75 (97%) of Lead Farmers report training other farmers each. An average of 2.51 farmers each. Increase in use of practices compared to baseline: Soil & Water Conservation: 115/129 (89%) Biological Practices: 120/129 (93%), Gully Control: 81/129 (63%). Control group has also increased adoption: Soil & Water Conservation: 49/54 (91%), Biological Practices: 48/54 (89%), Gully Control: 34/54 (63%).

Means of Verification: RHoMIS socio-economic household level survey (Oct-Dec18); Natural Resource Management Survey (March 2020).

Comment: This indicator has been achieved and has seen wider impact than expected. In terms of techniques practiced or adopted by the 'other' farmers trained by lead farmers, 91% say they practice water and soil conservation techniques (up from 25% at baseline), 89% practice biological measures RNA and planting (61% at baseline), and 63% practice techniques against gullies (6% at baseline). The project has also been tracking a control group to see how behaviours of project beneficiaries differ to those of other nearby villages. Surprisingly untrained people are now reporting that they are practicing the different techniques too; perhaps they have observed the results with other farmers; perhaps they have learned from the open and participatory training. The spill-over effect into neighbouring farmers shows the very positive impact the project's sustainable land management techniques and their high adoptability to the context of the riverine communities of Park W .

Output Indicator 2.1 "Coordinated community patrol (24 members) system established and reporting to Park W management by year 1

Baseline: n/a

Change to date: Community control system established with 24 members.

Means of Verification: 24 named members, each with a contact mobile phone number, two from each of the 12 villages.

Comment: Achieved in year 1.

Output Indicator 2.2 "70% of the people interviewed perceived the park W as being a valuable resource to protect by the end of the project

Baseline: 95% of project beneficiaries felt the Park W to be a precious resource (compared to 92% amongst control group) and 96% thought that it should be protected (compared to 92% amongst control group).

Change to Date: n/a (no update to report).

Means of Verification: RHoMIS socio-economic household level survey (Oct-Dec18; this survey will be repeated at project endline).

Comment: Indicator achieved. Learning shows need for less binary questions to have a more insightful understanding of people's perceptions.

Output Indicator 2.3 "120 (40% women) people trained on protection measures to protect crops and livestock from wild animals from the Park W (e.g. beehives, spices) by year 1 and Demonstration plots established by year 2

Baseline: n/a

Change to date: Training of 120 beneficiaries and 6 targeted demonstration plots were established in year 1. A further 7 enclosures have been created by the project in year 2.

Means of Verification: Project reports; Human & Wildlife Conflict (HWC) survey (March 2020)

Comment: The indicator has been completed, but with low women's engagement. 61/75 (81%) Lead Farmers surveyed report receiving training on HWC. Of these 4/61 (5%) were women. 42/54 (78%) of 'other' farmers surveyed report receiving training on HWC. Of these 12/42 (22%) were women. There is a low engagement with women on this indicator due to cultural barriers that make it difficult for women to participate in these types of activities, which are most often dedicated to men. The project is not looking at investing more money into improving engagement in this aspect of the project as protection measures generally are being adopted.

Output Indicator 2.4 "80% persons trained (96) have implemented at least one HWC prevention and mitigation strategy by the end of the project

Baseline: n/a

Change to Date: 72/75 (96%) of Lead Farmers report using HWC mitigation strategies such as Beehives, Spices and Scarecrows. Of these 9/72 (12%) were women. 53/54 (98%) of 'other' farmers report using HWC mitigation strategies such as Beehives, Spices and Scarecrows. Of these 17/53 (31%) were women.

Means of Verification: Project reports; Human & Wildlife Conflict (HWC) survey (March 2020)

Comment: The data shows that more than 80% of those trained are already adopting at least one HWC prevention strategy. We will track change against this indicator through the endline RHoMIS socio-economic survey planned for Jan-Mar2021.

Given their importance in the protection of livestock, the populations have replicated in their own way 63 rudimentary enclosures, based on dead hedges made of dead wood or dead branches of thorn bushes. 11 households have adopted dogs to increase the safety of their livestock despite the persistence of certain religious beliefs means that people do not like being close to dog and the issue of vaccinations and medical follow-up for these dogs.

Table 1: Adoption of HWC prevention and mitigation techniques for cattle

Types	Molli	K.Margou	Wérégorou	Windéboga	Gosso
Project Bomas	2	2	5	1	3
Rudimentary Enclosures	11	17	15	13	7
Guard dogs	1	4	3	2	1

After the evaluation in the second year, 121 households were recorded to have adopted prevention strategies ranging from night patrols, night fires, and scarecrows, .

Output Indicator 3.1 "10 VTE groups (175 women and 75 men) based on the production, processing and marketing of NTFPs established by year 1, functional by year 2 and profitable by year 3

Baseline: n/a

Change to Date: 10 VTE groups have been established. (248 named VTE members, of which 28 are representing pre-existing groups)

Means of Verification: Project records and reports. Beneficiary List. VTE assessments to be done Oct-Dec2020.

Comment: The groups at present have received technical training so cannot be reported as being functional yet, but we expect that to happen quickly following the training and the provision of processing equipment, the procurement for which has started. Their functionality will be assessed with a VTE capacity assessment (Oct-Dec2020) to establish their profitability and capacity. Enterprise development plans are also a key milestone that will be expected in year 3. These outline more formally the inputs required from group members and the price their product should be sold at.

Output Indicator 3.2 "3 agreements between VTE groups and buyers signed by year 3 (1 year 2 and 2 year 3)

Baseline: n/a

Change to Date: n/a

Means of Verification: Copies of agreements. VTE assessments to be done Oct-Dec2020.

Comment: We expect that with the training of the VTEs and their equipment in processing equipment, by the end of the first quarter of year 3, they will be functional and connected with the buying groups. We will monitor any agreements by collecting copies of the said agreements. This may be dependent on the possibility of attending national and regional events that usually derive some connections to buyers. If restrictions around COVID-19 remain throughout the year, the project may need to look at alternative ways of connecting to buyers.

Output Indicator 3.3 "linkages with financial institutions established with VTEs by year 3

Baseline: n/a

Change to Date: n/a

Means of Verification: VTE assessments to be done Oct-Dec2020.

Comment: As above believe that with the training of VTEs and their equipment in processing equipment, by the end of the first quarter of year 3, VTEs will be functional and connected with financial institutions. Any loans will be recorded in the VTE assessment at the end of the project.

3.3 Progress towards the project Outcome

Outcome Indicator 1 "7,600 hectares in the peripheral area of the WTBR including Tamou Faunal Reserve benefit from improved management of natural resources by local communities with the support of the technical services of Tamou commune by year 3

Baseline: TBC

Change to Date: TBC

Means of Verification: Ecological survey (Jan-Mar2019)

Comment: This will be fully assessed in the final year of the project to compare it against the evidence gathered at baseline. This will entail the consultant recruited returning to the points from which data was collected at baseline. The indicator is a fairly broad statement and the ecological survey will provide some elements of whether or not this is on course.

The establishment of the TWR-DMP, covering all 77,740 hectares of the WTBR and the 12 local conventions will improve management of natural resources. The indicator will also benefit from the achievements of COFOCOM and COFOB structures if they can be shown to strengthen the non-conflictual management of natural resources for the benefit of the area. The COFOCOM has also been an active actor in the elaboration of the 12 local conventions for natural resource management and the elaboration of TWR-DMP. This has enabled it to be in contact with the communities and monitor the availability, use and degradation of the natural resource base in the area.

The capacities of the other actors involved in the governance of forest resources have been strengthened, such as local elected officials, representatives of nomadic pastoralists and farmers, and the reserve's forest control and monitoring agents. The objective is to involve all actors with usufruct rights of the natural resource base to manage these resources in a more sustainable and inclusive manner. This revitalization and the involvement of the different structure has helped to reduce pressures and to raise the awareness of the communities.

The establishment of a management coordination unit for Park W with the involvement of local informants, has helped reduce illegal activities such as land clearance, uncontrolled fires, and transhumance and the arrest of suspects.

Outcome Indicator 2: Reduction by 30% from baseline of illegal activities (e.g. tree cutting, land clearing, harvesting, fishing) in the WTBR (adjacent to Tamou) by year 3

Baseline: n/a

Change to Date: From June 2019 – Feb 2020 (9 months) there have been 9 reported incidents all involving the clearance of land over an area of 15.5ha. Four of these incidents have recorded responses (2 arrests; 2 summons by the Village Chiefs).his is an increase from July2018 – May 2019 (11 months) when there were 5 reported incidents, resulting in four arrests.

Means of Verification: The data being collected by the informants at village level have allowed us to track the progress of this indicator.

Comment: The results of the activities reported by local informants reveal the importance of this monitoring unit. Since the project was set up there have been a total of 14 notices of illegal activities compared to zero before the project, including 10 cases of illegal clearing as well as 9 cases of arrests and fines. Among these 14 cases recorded, 9 of these took place in the second year and concern a total of 15.5 ha of cleared land. The fact that these offences may have gone unreported or unpunished before is perhaps the biggest step forward.

Considering that year 1 was 9 months long and that informants were just getting up to speed by October, it is no surprise that year 2 had more cases recorded. It will be interesting to see if the numbers fall in year 3.

Although the indicator is a useful one, the informant network is newly established and the pilot methodology under development. This means that we could see overall increases in the numbers of cases identified and reported due to their improved efficiency at monitoring and data collection rather than an overall increase in the occurrence of illegal activity. This is a limiting factor to the usefulness of this indicator. However, in the absence of better records of illegal practices at the local level it is felt that this is currently the best approach.

A fear at the end of year 1 was that only 3 villages were recording illegal practices. The fact that they come from 8 villages now suggests that the informant network is starting to function across multiple villages.

Base de données
dégradation RN_Apr

Outcome Indicator 3

Reduction of frequency of human- wildlife conflict incidents (destruction of crops and livestock, human injuries from wildlife including from threatened species) by 50% from baseline by year 3 in the WTBR peripheral area

Baseline: n/a

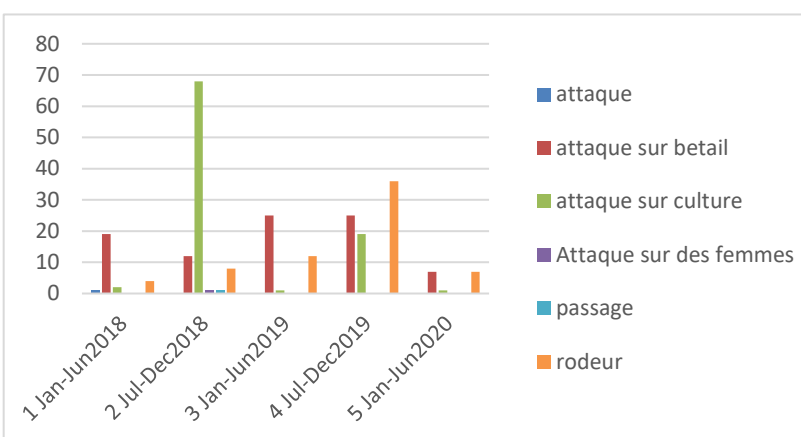
Change to date: Please see table below.

Means of Verification: The data being collected by the informants at village level have allowed us to track the progress of this indicator. Data is analysed twice a year (July-Dec and Jan-Jun).

Comments: We are tracking year-on-year decline as opposed to a 'baseline' as such. A 50% reduction looks unlikely at the current rate, but the trend is positive. Table 2 summarises the data, which has been split into 6 months periods to capture change from season (dry/wet) to season. Unfortunately, as Jan-Jun 2018 was only partially reliable (as the informant network wasn't in place) and Jan-June is not yet complete for 2020, only the Jul-Dec wet seasons for 2018 and 2019 offer a real chance for comparison. Overall cases were down suggesting that the strategy is working so far.

Table 2: Summary of HWC conflict reported since Jan 2018 in six month periods

January-June 2018(Base line)	Jul18 - Dec18	Jan19 - Jun19	Jul19 - Dec19	Jan20 - Jun20 (as from March2020)
Cases reported: 25	Cases Reported: 90	Cases Reported: 38	Cases Reported: 80	Cases Reported: 9
(a) Crops: 2	(a) Crops: 68	(a) Crops: 1	(a) Crops: 19	(a) Crops: 1
(b) Animals: 19	(b) Animals: 12	(b) Animals: 25	(b) Animals: 25	(b) Animals: 7
(c) Humans: 0	(c) Humans: 1	(c) Humans: 0	(c) Humans: 0	(c) Humans:
(d) Human attack on wild animal: 0	(d) Human attack on wild animal: 0	(d) Human attack on wild animal: 0	(d) Human attack on wild animal: 0	(d) Human attack on wild animal:
(e) Visual/No Attack (Rodeur+Passage): 4	(e) Visual/No Attack (Rodeur+Passage): 9	(e) Visual/No Attack (Rodeur+Passage): 12	(e) Visual/No Attack (Rodeur+Passage): 36	(e) Visual/No Attack (Rodeur+Passage): 1



Especially promising is the fact that attacks on crops dropped significantly from 2018 to 2019. This could be linked to the adoption of HWC strategies as outlined in **Error! Reference source not found.** The fact that animals were seen in the villages but not attacking crops is evidenced by the increase in the number of roaming animals recorded (up from 9 to 36 over Jul-Dec period). However,

Figure 3: Types and numbers of attacks over 6 month periods since Jan-18 to Mar-20

despite enclosures being set up and dogs being adopted, attacks on cattle have increased and are on course to match Jan-Jun 2019 in 2020. The lack of poaching or retributive attacks on animals is also noted.

Base de données
suivi incursion Faun

Outcome Indicator 4

"Increased income from NTFPs by 100% from baseline for the 250 household involved in VTEs by the end of year 3

Baseline:

Baseline	All Respondents	VTE Members	Project Beneficiaries	Control Group
Mean Annual Household NTFP Income		(NOTE: These were members of pre-existing local groups, rather than the x10 TREE AID VTE groups which had not yet been established.)		
Median Annual Household NTFP Income	\$0 Inter Quartile	: \$0 (NOTE: These were members of pre-existing local groups, rather than the x10 TREE AID VTE groups which had not yet been established.)	\$0	\$0

Change to Date: This indicator will be monitored in year 3 of the project and has no planned interim milestones. The process will be to repeat the household survey conducted at baseline and analyse the difference in reported income.

Means of Verification: RHoMIS socio-economic household level survey (Oct-Dec18; this survey will be repeated at project endline)

Comment: Baseline data showed zero median incomes for all survey respondents, indicating a majority of respondents were not generating any income at all from NTFPs. Ongoing monitoring of VTE functionality is part of the work for the project staff and support will be provided throughout year 3 in order to ensure that the VTEs can realise an increase in household income by project end.

3.4 Monitoring of assumptions

Level	Assumption	Comment
Outcome assumptions	<u>Assumption 1:</u> Legislation and decentralisation of natural resource management remains favourable to local authorities	Still true. Engagement from government agencies in development and adoption of TWR-DMP and conventions.
	<u>Assumption 2:</u> The local communities work together in forest protection and tree planting activities	True – engagement from communities in tree planting and weeding grazing land was strong.
	<u>Assumption 3:</u> Community nurseries will be well functioning and organised, following training and provision of materials (output 1). They will have the capacity to cultivate the required amount of seedlings	Still true – though additional support was required during y2.
Output assumptions	<u>Assumption 4:</u> TREE AID and COGEZOH are able to effectively engage community members to participate in the forest management	True – informants and other beneficiaries are demonstrating their engagement.
	<u>Assumption 5:</u> Training is effective in building the NRM capacity and knowledge of biodiversity of the communities	Training has generally led to good adoption of the techniques shared.

	<i>Assumption 6:</i> TREE AID and COGEZOH are able to effectively engage community members on the HWC activities	True – adoption of HWC strategies and reduction in HWC – especially around crops.
	<i>Assumption 7:</i> Climatic conditions continue to favour the products value chains of selected by the VTEs	True – although the ongoing impact of climate change is negative, it has not resulted in seasonal dip in resources.

The issues: Two major issues have hampered the project by the end of March 2020. 1) The ongoing security issues in the area and 2) COVID-19. Please see Annex A on the security situation. In terms of COVID-19: the project is continuing with some activities on hold (these generally require assembly of people that contravene the restrictions). If restrictions get worse or there is a breakout in our area of intervention the risk is that all activities will stop. If restrictions are in place for a prolonged period then the project will need to look at other ways of investing funds to meet the objectives of the project but not contravene local law.

The other risks around fraud, climate, women’s role, and partner capacity are unchanged and still true.

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

By improving the management of 7,600 hectares in the WTBR and the sustainable land management skills of 3,000 smallholder farmers and developing enterprises based on NTFP products the project will protect and restore the biodiversity of the WTBR while contributing to poverty reduction. During this second year of implementation, 20,000 tree seedlings have been planted in farmland and an additional 20,000 tree seedlings are currently being grown in the project nurseries. As part of this exercise, 320 households received 8,000 food trees contributing to the increased in tree cover while providing extra source food and income for the local community. The plantation of the threatened indigenous tree species in the WTBR by communities will set in motion restoration of biodiversity, thereby strengthening key resources which local livelihoods rely on.

The local conventions and TWR-DMP have been finalised in March 2020 based on the updated land use maps. They are key documents, in order to protect and sustainably manage the WTBR. In order to protect further the WTBR a monitoring unit has been established. Since the project was set up there have been a total of 14 notices of illegal activities compared to zero before the project, including 10 cases of illegal clearing as well as 9 cases of arrests and fines. The increase in reported cases of illegal activities and punishment is showing the efficiency of the monitoring system established by the project. This will lead naturally to a reduction of the illegal cases over time.

This year, 313 farmers attended the theoretical training on soil and water conservation and ANR techniques and 293 the practical training. Up to date, the project trained 770 people on at least five techniques – stone bunding, zai technique, half-moon, ANR, mulching and composting. 85% of the trained farmers have practiced the different techniques. Through the improved on-farm management practices, need for agricultural expansion of the forest will reduce while increasing the land productivity and income of the farmers.

The project aims also to reduce the HWC in the area reducing the loss for the farmers. So far, the data shows that the overall reported cases of human- wildlife conflict incidents have reduced as result from the training held on prevention and mitigation strategies and the adoptions of these techniques by the local communities.

This year, 10 VTEs received technical training for the production of their Non-Timber Forest Products as well as small processing equipment. This is creating an incentive for the communities

to protect and sustainably managed the natural resources while improving livelihoods and increase incomes. Through these viable economic opportunities, people will be empowered with new, alternative livelihoods to alleviate poverty and increase their well-being, whilst also preventing exploitation of resources from Park W.

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

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): This project contributes to various SDGs, including: Goal 15: Life on Land. This year 20, 000 trees seedlings were planted and 20,000 additional tree seedlings are in production in project nurseries. In addition, 8,000 food trees have been distributed to 320 households to be planted on their land. 293 farmers attended the technical training and practical training on SWC and ANR techniques bringing the total number of lead farmers to 770. These lead farmers are in charge of the training of the other community members. So far 85% of all he farmers trained are using the different techniques taught. This will ensure the rehabilitation of a large number of hectares of farmland. In addition, the 13 COFOB and COFOCOM have been established and trained to ensure the good management of the local natural resources including through the implementation of the the process of developing local conventions and a management plan for Tamou reserve finalised in March 2020.started. Finally, 25 hectares of pastoral land have been weeded with the participation of 757 housheholds.

Goal 1: End Poverty in all its forms everywhere. The project will support households in targeted villages to form 10 new Village Tree Enterprises (VTEs), in order to increase incomes from the production, processing and sale of NTFPs, to provide sustainable livelihoods and reduce local poverty. The project will also reduce the frequency of HWC incidents, enabling further economic development. This year, the 10 VTEs have been equipped in small processing equipment and received technical training for the production of their selected NTFPs products. The business side of the training for VTEs will be organised next year.

In addition, 1,981 people were trained on the techniques of prevention and management of HWC and the importance of the HWC mitigation mechanisms in the area. 13 Bomas (enclosures with three levels of protection: dead hedge inside, surrounded by a live hedge based on cuttings of *Commiphora africana*, itself protected by a wire mesh belt) have been created. In addition, 63 rudimentary enclosures have been established and adopted 11 dogs. In total 121 farmers have adopted prevention strategies. As a results, the reported cases of HWC incidents by the local patrol, have been reduced.

Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls. TREE AID and local partners will actively work to target women and ensure inclusion in all activities. This will involve overcoming certain barriers around women's perceived traditional roles in the intervention areas, through knowledge-sharing, training, equipment and discussion. Women will be engaged in initiatives including forest management, NRM and VTE activities. This year 126 women were trained on ANR and SWC techniques out of 293 participants. 5 women's leaders and COFOB participated to the training on land tenure law, transaction law and communal conflict management. Women participation in the 12 COFOB have increase to 39.2%. Finally, 277 women have received technical training and equipped.

5. Project support to the Conventions, Treaties or Agreements

Our project aims to contribute to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), particularly the article 8 (c, d, e and f) on the in-situ Conservation and the article 10 c) on the sustainable use of components of biological diversity. It also contributes to the target 5, 7, 12 and 14 and to the Strategic goal B, C and D

In 2014, Niger adopted a new National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan for implementing the CBD at the national level. Objective 1 of the Strategy is to "conserve and sustainably exploit ecosystems, species and genetic resources" and objective 3 is to "improve and develop tools for managing protected areas". The project will contribute to this by working with communities to improve their capacities on forest governance and NRM and their collaboration with Park W authorities to effectively conserve and manage forests, while increasing economic benefits

through strengthening VTEs. This year, the project good progress toward the sustainable management of the WTBR. First of the land used maps have been updated and were used as basic for the development of the local conventions and the Tamou management plan finalised in March. The capacity of the 13 COFOB/ COFOCOM have been strengthen to ensure they have the capacity to implement these conventions and management plan. In addition, an exchange forum have be held to ensure the conformity of the convention and of the management plan to the WTBR management plan. Finally, the annual consultation forum for the management of the Park W took place in February 2020 with the different project stakeholders. During this meeting, the participants draft a decree on the creation, attributions and organisation of the concertation framework. The validation of the decree is expected next year. This will allow the formalisation of the co-management of the Park W and ensure the sustainability of this collaboration between the local communities and the Park W authorities.

The project team is regularly in contact with the Executive Secretary of the National Council for Environment and Sustainable Development, who is the focal point of the CBD in Niger and with whom project data and results are shared.

6. Project support to poverty alleviation

The project aims to increase income from NTFPs by 100% for the 250 people involved in the NTFPs enterprise (outcome indicator 4). These people will be able to use the increased income to meet their basic household needs. Women, who are the most significantly impacted by poverty, compose 100% of the direct recipients of this support.

Furthermore, 770 lead farmers have been trained on sustainable land management practices and started to share their knowledge with other community members. This practices have been adopted by the large majority of the farmers trained, which will contribute to increase their land productivity (crop yields). This will lead in the long term to increase the household income and so participating to the sustainable reduction of poverty in the project area.

The reduction in HWC incidents already observed will also allow greater economic development of the local communities through protection of their livelihoods (agriculture and livestock) as well as reducing the pressure on wildlife.

Through these viable economic opportunities, people will be empowered with new, alternative livelihoods to alleviate poverty and increase their well-being, whilst also preventing exploitation of resources from Park W.

7. Consideration of gender equality issues

The project is actively targeting women and ensure inclusion in project inputs and outcomes (e.g. 40% training attendance). This involves tackling certain barriers around women's perceived traditional roles. To ensure women's effective participation and long-term attitudinal change, we employ proven techniques such as sensitising community leaders and project stakeholders to gender issues. Women have been supported to actively participate in governance structures (e.g. 39.2% women in COFOB/COFCOM) and management arrangements across all outputs in order to increase their capacity to understand and implement sustainable forest management and their sense of ownership over natural resources. It will also increase women's voice and community decision-making power. The VTE groups have eventually been created as 100% female enterprises with all 250 members women. Through these women will be empowered by contributing household income, increasing their skills and confidence through training, and taking up leadership positions within VTEs. This will increase women's voice in household decision-making and control over their lives.

This year 126 women were trained on ANR and SWC techniques out of 293 participants. 5 women's leaders and COFOB participated to the training on land tenure law, transaction law and communal conflict management. In addition, with the re-structuration of the land tenure commissions, the COFOCOM have now 45% of women and the 12 COFOB 27% of women. Finally, 277 women - 250 from the VTEs (+27 others) have received technical training and been equipped.

8. Monitoring and evaluation

M&E tools which have been used this year (May2019-April2020):

(1) Data collection templates for illegal activities (Outcome Indicator 0.2). These have allowed us to collect, collate and analyse the data by month, by type of incident, and by type of response. Templates were used by local partner and shared with the project team for comment and feedback.

(2) Data collection templates for Human and Wildlife conflicts (Outcome Indicator 0.3). These have allowed us to collect, collate and analyse data by month, and by type of incident. Templates were used by local partner and shared with the project team for comment and feedback.

(3) ODK, electronic survey, was designed specifically to gather data on:

- Training in and adoption of Natural Resource Management practices by Lead Farmers and 'other' farmers. (Output Indicator 1.5 and 1.6)
- Training in and adoption of measures to protect crops and livestock from wild animals. (Output Indicator 2.3 and 2.4)

(4) Project Beneficiary List and activity attendance sheets. These have allowed us to track the numbers of Direct Beneficiaries partaking in project activities, and to track project indicators and organisational Key Performance Indicators (KPIs). Data is triangulated with field visits and observations.

(5) COFOB/COFCOM records used to collect data on group formation, function and membership numbers and composition (gender).

(6) Training feedback forms. These collect data regarding the individual's experience of the training, and their reflection on how useful the content of the training could prove to be.

Changes to the M&E Plan

Assessments of the x10 new VTE groups were originally schedule in Year 2 and 3. However, due to the delays in their establishment the assessment will now be done in Year 3.

Focus Group Discussions (FGD) are being introduced to the M&E Plan, specifically for Output Indicator 1.1 and 1.2. The intention is to explore the functioning of the COFOBs and COFCOMs in more detail. Additional questions are being added to the RHoMIS Endline Survey (scheduled for Jan-Mar 2021) to track further changes against Output Indicator 2.4.

M&E Roles and Responsibilities

The local partner, COGEZOH, leads on the collection of field data. The data is collated and analysed by the TREE AID national office in Niger, with support from TREE AID UK. Interpretation of results is done collaboratively between COGEZOH and TREE AID Niger. Feedback to local communities regarding project progress and in relation to beneficiary feedback is done by both COGEZOH and TREE AID Niger.

9. Lessons learnt

In terms of VTE development, the potential of working with people from existing structures that require an element of social cohesion, enterprise and development of shared assets (including access to cash), can provide fertile ground for our VTE establishment process. If we can show that VTEs can be developed quicker and more effectively this way, it is an option for TREE AID to take forward.

Remote working – the issues with security and COVID-19 have put project activities in question due to restrictions. We, like many NGOs, are exploring ways of delivering activities remotely and acquiring information from community members directly. The fact that the project has a network of beneficiaries with phones and training means that we have a ready-made link. We are exploring the potential of developing that link to provide more information from the field. Indicators – certain indicators have been achieved very quickly and developing more nuanced indicators would be advantageous to understanding change over time.

It will be important as much as possible to target other stakeholders – namely transhumance herders that pass through the zone that may contravene the

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

- 1- Updated in partner section
- 2- As much evidence as available has been attached to the report under relevant sections and in Annexes.
- 3- The market analysis is done as part of Phase 1 and 2 of the MA&D approach and the VTEs will have selected products based on an analysis of the local resources available and their understanding of the marketability of those goods. The potential of soap-making is well-known from previous projects and makes good use of tree products readily available.
- 4- 2018.xlsx
- 5- All funding for the project has now been acquired – though the amount is as planned

11. Other comments on progress not covered elsewhere

Most additional information provided in annexes.

A £15k carry forward was agreed for the project as a result of slow progress on Output 3. A further £9k has been requested due to security/COVID-19 delays.

12. Sustainability and legacy

The National Director of Wildlife Hunting and Protected Areas under the Ministry of Environment and Water and Forestry, got involved in the development of the TWR-DMP for the reserve and participated in the exchange forum held in March 2020 on the harmonisation of the local conventions and the TWR-DMP with the WTBR plan. Finally, they are part of the coordination units of the local patrols and of the early warning system.

Our exit strategy is still the same and the key activities are:

- Continued strengthening and building the capacity of the COFOB/COFOCOM to ensure a sustainable management of the forests and natural resources in the long-term
- Continue to support the close collaboration between the different project stakeholders (communities, park management unit and the Ministry of Environment). The relationships created will ensure the successful implementation of our project but also the long-term impact of our intervention.
- NRM capacity building, so village leaders and COFOB/COFOCOM members can continue to carry out various NRM techniques following the project's end.
- The established community nurseries will continue to operate and produce seedlings after project completion, to be sold to farmers for agroforestry planting.
- Activities to increase VTEs capacities' to be fully functional in order for them to sustain and increase profits and linkages to businesses, so they continue to grow their businesses without further support.

13. Darwin identity

Please see Annex F

14. Safeguarding

TREE AID has a duty through its staff, volunteers and partner NGOs to protect children and vulnerable adults who they come into contact with from abuse. We include safeguarding as part of our sub grant agreements with partners and provide training annually to country teams and partners. We also have detailed prevention and reporting procedures in place. Safeguarding is a standing item in all partner meetings. The organisational safeguarding policy (see Annex G) outlines TREE AID's approach to safeguarding and provides links and a process through which people can report issues. TREE AID's new Compliance Manager based in the UK has strengthened safeguarding training and systems across country offices and TREE AID now has a central register for ensuring that all staff and partner staff have been trained – not just provided with the policy.

The Chief Executive has ultimate responsibility for safeguarding within TREE AID and ensure:

- That partner NGOs, delivering services to or for TREE AID are aware of, and abide by our safeguarding policy.
- That any evidence or complaint of abuse or lack of care is reported to the appropriate body.
- Ensuring that proper records are kept of incidents that occur.
- Ensuring that all employees, volunteers and partners are adequately trained and aware of their responsibilities in safeguarding.

Local informants on the project have been given a process with which to raise any concerns or threats. They are also told to not intervene directly, rather report incidents to the relevant authorities.

15. Project expenditure

Table 3: Project expenditure during the reporting period (1 April 2019 – 31 March 2020)

Project spend (indicative) since last annual report	2019/20 Grant (£)	2019/20 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)				
Others (see below)				
Agreed Carry Forward (CR#2)				
TOTAL				

Annex 1: Report of progress and achievements against Logical Framework for Financial Year 2019-2020

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2019 - March 2020	Actions required/planned for next period
<p>Impact</p> <p>The W Trans-boundary Biosphere Reserve in Niger is a thriving ecosystem supported by local communities</p>		<p>Representative and functional land commissions at village and commune level.</p> <p>Local conventions and reserve-level management plan developed to help outline best practice/rules for use of natural resources. And pastoral area delimited and weeded.</p> <p>Adoption of sustainable land management practices by project and non-project beneficiaries through trainer-of-trainer approach.</p> <p>Increase in reporting of illegal practices and arrests for infringements will reduce infractions.</p> <p>Reduction in HWC conflict overall.</p> <p>Enterprises trained in how to develop Non-Timber Forest Products.</p>	
<p>Outcome</p> <p>Threatened species protection and community forest management in the WTBR/Niger, supported by sustainable economic development of local communities.</p>	<p>0.1 7,600 hectares in the peripheral area of the WTBR including Tamou Faunal Reserve benefit from improved management of natural resources by local communities with the support of the technical services of Tamou commune by year 3</p> <p>0.2 Reduction by 30% from baseline of illegal activities (e.g. tree cutting, land clearing, harvesting, fishing) in the WTBR (adjacent to Tamou) by year 3</p> <p>0.3 Reduction of frequency of human-wildlife conflict incidents (destruction of crops and livestock, human injuries from wildlife including from threatened</p>	<p>0.1 Management plan and local developed. COFOB and COFOCOM functional and more than 50 ha delimited for rehabilitation/grazing.</p> <p>0.2 Regular data coming through from informants and authorities able to make arrests and hand out fines. #s recorded have gone up, not down.</p> <p>0.3 13 enclosures set up. Huge adoption of rudimentary enclosures and other strategies have seen a drop in HWC overall.</p>	<p>0.1 Dissemination of final documents to communities and other stakeholders. Complete activities for rehabilitation/grazing. Complete ecological survey.</p> <p>0.2 Continue to support informants. And track whether or not incidents drop.</p> <p>0.3 Try and reduce attacks on cattle through further analysis and strengthening of approaches.</p>

	<p>species) by 50% from baseline by year 3 in the WTBR peripheral area</p> <p>0.4 Increased income from NTFPs by 100% from baseline for the 250 household involved in VTEs by the end of year 3</p>	<p>0.4 VTEs established and trained in NTFP-production. Small equipment provided.</p>	<p>0.4 Fast-track VTEs through MA&D focusing on development of Enterprise Development Plans to ensure sustainability. Purchase large equipment. VTE assessments to be carried out.</p>
<p>Output 1.</p> <p>Local communities in 12 villages in the peripheral area of the park W have their capacities strengthened in sustainable forest management</p>	<p>1.1 12 COFOB and 1 COFOCOM (40% women as members) are established by year 1 and effectively functioning by year 2</p> <p>1.2 12 local conventions and one management plan for Tamou Faunal Reserve developed by year 2</p> <p>1.3 40,000 seedlings (from the 3 nurseries established by the project) planted (by year 3) including Khaya senegalensis and , Acacia spp species (threatened species) in the peripheral area of the WTBR</p> <p>Year2: 20 000 and year3: 20 000</p> <p>1.4 70% of the people interviewed acknowledged that their community is involved in the sustainable management of the WTBR by the end of the project</p> <p>Year 1:30% , Year 2: 40% and Year 3: 70%</p> <p>1.5 a)100% of the lead farmers (600) incorporated good natural resource management practices on their land by year 3</p> <p>Year 1: 70% Year 2:90% Year 3: 100%</p> <p>b) 80% of the farmers trainers by the lead farmers incorporated good natural resource management practices on their land by year 3</p> <p>Year 2 : 50 % Year 3: 80%</p>	<p>1.1 The 12 COFOC and the COFOCOM have been re-structured. 27% of the COFOB members are women and 45% of the COFOCOM (39.2% overall). Members have all been trained.</p> <p>1.2 12 local conventions and 1 management plan developed.</p> <p>1.3 20,000 seedlings planted. 20,000 more in cultivation. Focus required on Khaya Senegalensis.</p> <p>1.4 Campaign on the value of the park and the needs of protection took reaching 792 people including 483 men and 308 women. Totals to date = 1,709 people.</p> <p>1.5 a) 93% (+37%) of Lead Farmers report using Natural Resource Management Techniques. 88% (+72%) use Soil & Water Conservation techniques, 96% (+40%) use Biological Practices and 63% (+62%) use Gully Control techniques.</p> <p>b) Increase in use of practices compared to baseline: Soil & Water Conservation: 89% (+64%) Biological Practices: 93% (+32%), Gully Control: 63% (+57%).</p> <p>A Control group has also increased adoption: Soil & Water Conservation: 91% (+77%), Biological Practices: 89% (+59%), Gully Control: 63% (+43%).</p>	

Activity 1.1 Assessment of the COFOBs and COFCOM in the intervention area		Activity completed	N/A
Activity 1.2, Training of 65 COFOB/COFCOM members on land tenure law, land transaction law and communal conflict management.		Training completed	
Activity 1.3 Support and follow up of the COFOBs/COFCOM especially on the development and implementation of the management plan and on the implementation of the local conventions		N/A	Needs to take place in y3 now that conventions and management plans are available.
Activity 1.4 Update land use maps of the Tamou Faunal Reserve		Completed	Dissemination for use by communities and authorities.
Activity 1.5 Development of 12 local conventions and one management plan for the Tamou Faunal Reserve based on the updated land use maps.		Developed	Need signatures from relevant authorities. Dissemination for use by communities and authorities.
Activity 1.6 Exchange forum on the local conventions. With support of communal and regional government stakeholders		Completed	
Activity 1.7 Training of the population on SWC and ANR techniques.		707 lead farmers trained each training 2.51 other farmers. 2481 people trained overall (lead farmers + those they have trained).	Encourage lead farmers to train more people.
Activity 1.8 Training of the population on the plantation and management of trees		Demonstrations took place for participants in tree planting days.	Demonstrations will take place for participants in tree planting days.
Activity 1.9 Setting up 3 nurseries and training of the 9 nursery staff		Activity completed	N/A
Activity 1.10 Delineation of 25 ha of pastureland		25 ha delineated and weeded.	Sowing of seeds of plants for animal fodder will take place in y3.
ACTIVITY 1.11 Rehabilitation and enrichment of 25ha communal degraded land		25 ha delineated	Rehabilitation work to commence in y3.
ACTIVITY 1.12 Planting of native trees on private land.		20,000 trees planted	Some planting may take place in y3, though priority is being focused on communal areas.
Output 2. Developed partnership between Park W management authorities and local	2.1 Coordinated community patrol (24 members) system established and reporting to Park W management by year 1	2.1 Information continues to come through the patrol system allowing authorities to react and make arrests. 2.2 RHoMIS data will be collected at project end to see whether the project has had an impact on the indicator, which was already achieved in y1.	

<p>communities in order to protect the biodiversity of the WTBR/Niger</p>	<p>2.2 70% of the people interviewed perceived the park W as being a valuable resource to protect by the end of the project Year1: 30%, Year2: 50% and Year3; 100%</p> <p>2.3 120 (40% women) people trained on protection measures to protect crops and livestock from wild animals from the Park W (e.g. beehives, spices) by year 1 and Demonstration plots established by year 2</p> <p>2.4 80% persons trained (96) have implemented at least one HWC prevention and mitigation strategy by the end of the project Year1: 60% Year 2: 70% and year 3:80%</p>	<p>2.3 120 people have been trained and 13 demonstration plots set up. Women's engagement is lower than planned, though the impact of the training has been positive on HWC rates.</p> <p>2.4 The data shows that more than 80% of those trained are already adopting at least one HWC prevention strategy. We will track change against this indicator through the endline RHoMIS socio-economic survey planned for Jan-Mar2021.</p>	
<p>Activity 2.1. Local exchange forum between the forest guards, the management unit of the WTBR and 24 patrol members in order to establish system of data collection, protection and surveillance.</p>	<p>System functional.</p>	<p>Agree how the network will be able to continue after the project e.g. phone credit for the informants.</p>	
<p>Activity 2.2. Regional and National exchange forum with the different departments of the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development and the project partners.</p>	<p>Activity took place and concertation framework decree developed.</p>	<p>Follow up on concertation framework establishment and function.</p>	
<p>Activity 2.3 Training of the 24 patrol members on the different fauna species in the area and on data collection</p>	<p>Activity completed</p>	<p>Agree how the network will be able to continue after the project e.g. phone credit for the informants.</p>	
<p>Activity 2.4 Development of a coordination unit for local patrol and follow up activities</p>	<p>Activity completed</p>	<p>N/A</p>	
<p>Activity 2.5 Awareness raising programme on the value of the park</p>	<p>792 sensitised</p>	<p>Activity scheduled for y3 – though COVID-19 restrictions may mean it is adapted.</p>	
<p>Activity 2.6 Organisation of awareness raising campaigns at the village level in the project area on wildlife behaviour and strategies to prevent HWC.</p>	<p>1,981 people trained</p>	<p>N/A</p>	
<p>Activity 2.7 Organization of training sessions in the targeted villages on the HWC prevention and mitigation strategies</p>	<p>Completed</p>	<p>N/A</p>	

Activity 2.8 Establishment of demonstration plots for physical protection techniques against HWC	Activity completed	N/A
Activity 2.9 Establishment of an early warning system.	Activity completed	N/A
Output 3. Supporting local economic development through the establishment 10 VTEs based on sustainable forest product value chains	3.1 10 VTE groups (175 women and 75 men) based on the production, processing and marketing of NTFPs established by year 1, functional by year 2 and profitable by year 3 3.2 3 agreements between VTE groups and buyers signed by year 3 (1 year 2 and 2 year 3) 3.3 3 linkages with financial institutions established with VTEs by year 3	3.1 The 10 VTEs have been established (eventually 100% women) and trained in production techniques. Some equipment has been provided. Larger equipment under procurement. MA&D process to focus on Enterprise Development Plan to rapidly reach profitability. 3.2 No progress toward this indicator. The training and equipment for the VTEs need to happen first 3.3 No progress toward this indicator. The training and equipment for the VTEs need to happen first
Activity 3.1 Training on MA&D for the 10 VTEs	Activity delayed and then cancelled due to COVID-19	TREE AID looking at conducting focused training to staff remotely.
Activity 3.2 Follow up on the 10 VTEs established and distribution of equipment/material	10 VTEs trained - equipped with the small processing equipment and soap and ointment kits that enable them to produce and market their products	The large equipment will be distributed shortly and installed into selected sites. Utilisation of equipment will be agreed and VTEs rapidly taken through EDP development.
Activity 3.3 Dissemination of information on the VTEs' products through local radios.	Activity no yet started	Prospect research will start find a local radio partner. The messages will be developed
Activity 3.4 Organise exchange visits for VTE members	Activity complete as old project (BRACED) VTE members visited to share experience and conduct training for 10 VTEs.	N/A
Activity 3.5 Participation in a regional event to present the VTEs products	Activity no yet started	Planned for year 3 – COVID-19 allowing
Activity 3.6 Participation in a national event to present the VTEs products	Activity no yet started	Planned for year 3 – COVID-19 allowing
Activity 3.7 Establishment of 5 agreements between the VTEs and private/buyers	Activity no yet started	Now expected in year 3, though COVID-19 may restrict access to buyers.
Activity 3.8 Establishment of links with microfinance institutions	Activity no yet started	Now expected in year 3, though COVID-19 may restrict access to MFIs. The leveraging funds from existing village groups is being explored.

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

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
<p>Impact: The W Trans-boundary Biosphere Reserve in Niger is a thriving ecosystem supported by local communities</p>			
<p>Outcome: Threatened species protection and community forest management in the WTBR/Niger, supported by sustainable economic development of local communities.</p>	<p>0.1 7,600 hectares in the peripheral area of the WTBR including Tamou Faunal Reserve benefit from improved management of natural resources by local communities with the support of the technical services of Tamou commune by year 3</p> <p>0.2 Reduction by 30% from baseline of illegal activities (e.g. tree cutting, land clearing, harvesting, fishing) in the WTBR (adjacent to Tamou) by year 3</p> <p>0.3 Reduction of frequency of human- wildlife conflict incidents (destruction of crops and livestock, human injuries from wildlife including from threatened species) by 50% from baseline by year 3 in the WTBR peripheral area</p> <p>0.4 Increased income from NTFPs by 100% from baseline for the 250 household involved in VTEs by the end of year 3</p>	<p>0.1 Updated land use maps, ecological surveys and final evaluation</p> <p>0.2 Ecological baseline survey, TREE AID and partner activity records, final evaluation</p> <p>0.3 Socio-economic baseline-final evaluation, updated land use maps, data from Park W management, data from the patrols</p> <p>0.4 Socio-economic baseline-end line,</p>	<p>Legislation and decentralisation of natural resource management remains favourable to local authorities</p> <p>The local communities work together in forest protection and tree planting activities</p> <p>Community nurseries will be well functioning and organised, following training and provision of materials (output 1). They will have the capacity to cultivate the required amount of seedlings</p>
<p>Outputs:</p> <p>1. Local communities in 12 villages in the peripheral area of the park W have their capacities strengthened in sustainable forest management</p>	<p>1.1 12 COFOB and 1 COFCOM (40% women as members) are established by year 1 and effectively functioning by year 2</p> <p>1.2 12 local conventions and one management plan for Tamou Faunal Reserve developed by year 2</p>	<p>1.1 TREE AID field monitoring, COFOBs/COFCOM documentation including certificates and agreements</p> <p>1.2, TREE AID and partner field monitoring, physical documents of the local conventions and the management plan</p>	<p>TREE AID and COGEZOH are able to effectively engage community members to participate in the forest management</p> <p>Training is effective in building the NRM capacity and knowledge of biodiversity of the communities</p>

	<p>1.3 40,000 seedlings (from the 3 nurseries established by the project) planted (by year 3) including <i>Khaya senegalensis</i> and , <i>Acacia spp</i> species (threatened species) in the peripheral area of the WTBR Year2: 20 000 and year3: 20 000</p> <p>1.4 70% of the people interviewed acknowledged that their community is involved in the sustainable management of the WTBR by the end of the project Year 1:30%, Year 2: 40% and Year 3: 70%</p> <p>1.5 a)100% of the lead farmers (600) incorporated good natural resource management practices on their land by year 3 Year 1: 70% Year 2:90% Year 3: 100%</p> <p>b) 80% of the farmers trainers by the lead farmers incorporated good natural resource management practices on their land by year 3 Year 2 : 50 % Year 3: 80%</p>	<p>1.3 TREE AID and partner field monitoring, observation, photos</p> <p>1.4 Regular KAP surveys, Focus groups, TREE AID and partner field monitoring</p> <p>1.5 Regular KAP surveys, observation, photos, TREE AID and partner field monitoring</p>	
<p>2. Developed partnership between Park W management authorities and local communities in order to protect the biodiversity of the WTBR/Niger</p>	<p>2.1 Coordinated community patrol (24 members) system established and reporting to Park W management by year 1</p> <p>2.2 70% of the people interviewed perceived the park W as being a valuable resource to protect by the end of the project Year1: 30%, Year2: 50% and Year3; 100%</p> <p>2.3 120 (40% women) people trained on protection measures to</p>	<p>2.1 Patrol records, TREE AID field monitoring, interviews</p> <p>2.2 Regular KAP surveys, Focus groups, TREE AID and partner field monitoring</p>	<p>TREE AID and COGEZOH are able to effectively engage community members on the HWC activities</p>

	<p>protect crops and livestock from wild animals from the Park W (e.g. beehives, spices) by year 1 and Demonstration plots established by year 2</p> <p>2.4 80% persons trained (96) have implemented at least one HWC prevention and mitigation strategy by the end of the project Year1: 60% Year 2: 70% and year 3:80%</p>	<p>2.3. Training records, Photos, observation, TREE AID and partner field monitoring,</p> <p>2.4 Regular KAP survey, Photos, observation, TREE AID and partner field monitoring</p>	
<p>3. Supporting local economic development through the establishment 10 VTEs based on sustainable forest product value chains</p>	<p>3.1 10 VTE groups (175 women and 75 men) based on the production, processing and marketing of NTFPs established by year 1, functional by year 2 and profitable by year 3</p> <p>3.2 3 agreements between VTE groups and buyers signed by year 3 (1 year 2 and 2 year 3)</p> <p>3.3 3 linkages with financial institutions established with VTEs by year 3</p>	<p>3.1 Business plans, VTE records, interviews, TREE AID field monitoring, final evaluation</p> <p>3.2 Contracts, VTE records, TREE AID field monitoring, interviews, final evaluation</p> <p>3.3 VTE records, TREE AID field monitoring, interviews, final evaluation</p>	<p>Climatic conditions continue to favour the products value chains of selected by the VTEs</p>
<p>Activities (each activity is numbered according to the Output that it will contribute towards, for example 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 are contributing to Output 1)</p> <p>Output 1</p> <p>1.1 Assessment of the COFOBs and COFCOM in the intervention area.</p> <p>1.2 Training of 65 COFOB/COFCOM members on land tenure law, land transaction law and communal conflict management.</p> <p>1.3 Support and follow up of the COFOBs/COFCOM especially on the development and implementation of the management plan and on the implementation of the local conventions.</p> <p>1.4 Update land use maps of the Tamou Faunal Reserve</p> <p>1.5 Development of 12 local conventions and one management plan for the Tamou Faunal Reserve based on the updated land use maps.</p> <p>1.6 Exchange forum on the local conventions. With support of communal and regional government stakeholders</p> <p>1.7 Training of the population on SWC and ANR techniques.</p> <p>1.8 Training of the population on the plantation and management of trees.</p> <p>1.9 Setting up 3 nurseries and training of the 9 nursery staff.</p> <p>1.10 Delineation of 25 ha of pastureland</p> <p>1.11 Rehabilitation and enrichment of degraded the 25 ha by the communities</p>			

1.12 Plantation of indigenous nutritional tree species on farm land.

Output 2

- 2.1 Local exchange forum between the forest guards, the management unit of the WTBR and 24 patrol members in order to establish system of data collection, protection and surveillance.
- 2.2 Regional and National exchange forum with the different departments of the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development and the project partners.
- 2.3 Training of the 24 patrol members on the different fauna species in the area and on data collection
- 2.4 Development of a coordination unit for local patrol and follow up activities.
- 2.5 Awareness raising programme on the value of the park.
- 2.6 Organisation of awareness raising campaigns at the village level in the project area on wildlife behaviour and strategies to prevent HWC.
- 2.7 Organization of training sessions in the targeted villages on the HWC prevention and mitigation strategies
- 2.8 Establishment of demonstration plots for physical protection techniques against HWC.
- 2.9 Establishment of an early warning system.

Output 3

- 3.1 Training on MA&D for the 10 VTEs
- 3.2 Follow up on the 10 VTEs established and distribution of equipment/material
- 3.3 Dissemination of information on the VTEs' products through local radios.
- 3.4 Organise exchange visits for VTE members
- 3.5 Participation in a regional event to present the VTEs products
- 3.6 Participation in a national event to present the VTEs products.
- 3.7 Establishment of 5 agreements between the VTEs and private/buyers
- 3.8 Establishment of links with microfinance institutions

Project Start-Up, Monitoring & Evaluation

- 1 Project launch workshop
- 2 Workshop to define the M&E plan with the partner
- 3 Establishment of project baseline (baseline on biodiversity)
- 4 RHoMIS (Socio-economy baseline)
- 5 Training M&E collection for the partner
- 6 Bi-annual workshops
- 7 Quarterly follow up by TREE AID
- 8 Project capitalisation
- 9 Final evaluation
- 10 International monitoring field visit form TREE AID West Africa and TREE AID UK

Annex 3: Standard Measures

Table 1 Project Standard Output Measures

Code No.	Description	Gender of people (if relevant)	Nationality of people (if relevant)	Year 1 Total	Year 2 Total	Year 3 Total	Total to date	Total planned during the project
6A	COFOB/COFCOM members on land tenure law, land transaction law and communal conflict management	39.2% women	Nigerien	46	22		68	60
6A	Local informants were trained on species, collection and transmission of data on wildlife and environmental problems.		Nigerien	24			24	
6A	Farmers trained on SWC and ANR techniques	245 women	Nigerien	481	2000		2481	3,600
6A	People trained on protection measures to protect crops and livestock from wild animals from the Park W	40% women	Nigerien	120			120	120
6A	VTEs members trained	277 women	Nigerien		277		277	250

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)