

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	26-003
Project title	Securing the long-term future of Kenya’s largest freshwater wetland
Country/ies	Kenya
Lead organisation	Nature Kenya (The East Africa Natural History Society – EANHS)
Partner institution(s)	The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB), The Inter-ministerial Technical Committee for the sustainable management of Kenya Deltas (IMTC), County Government of Siaya, County Government of Busia, Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS), National Environment Management Authority (NEMA), Yala Ecosystem Site Support Group (YESSG), Yala Planning Advisory Committee (YPAC), Lower Nyandera Water Resource Users Association (WRUA) and Muweri WRUA
Darwin grant value	£341,972
Start/end dates of project	1 st April 2019-31 st March 2022
Reporting period (e.g. Apr 2019 – Mar 2020) and number (e.g. Annual Report 1, 2, 3)	April 2020 – April 2021, Annual Report 2
Project Leader name	Dr Paul Matiku
Project website/blog/social media	www.naturekenya.org
Report author(s) and date	John Kiptum and Emily Mateche, 30 th April 2020

1. Project summary

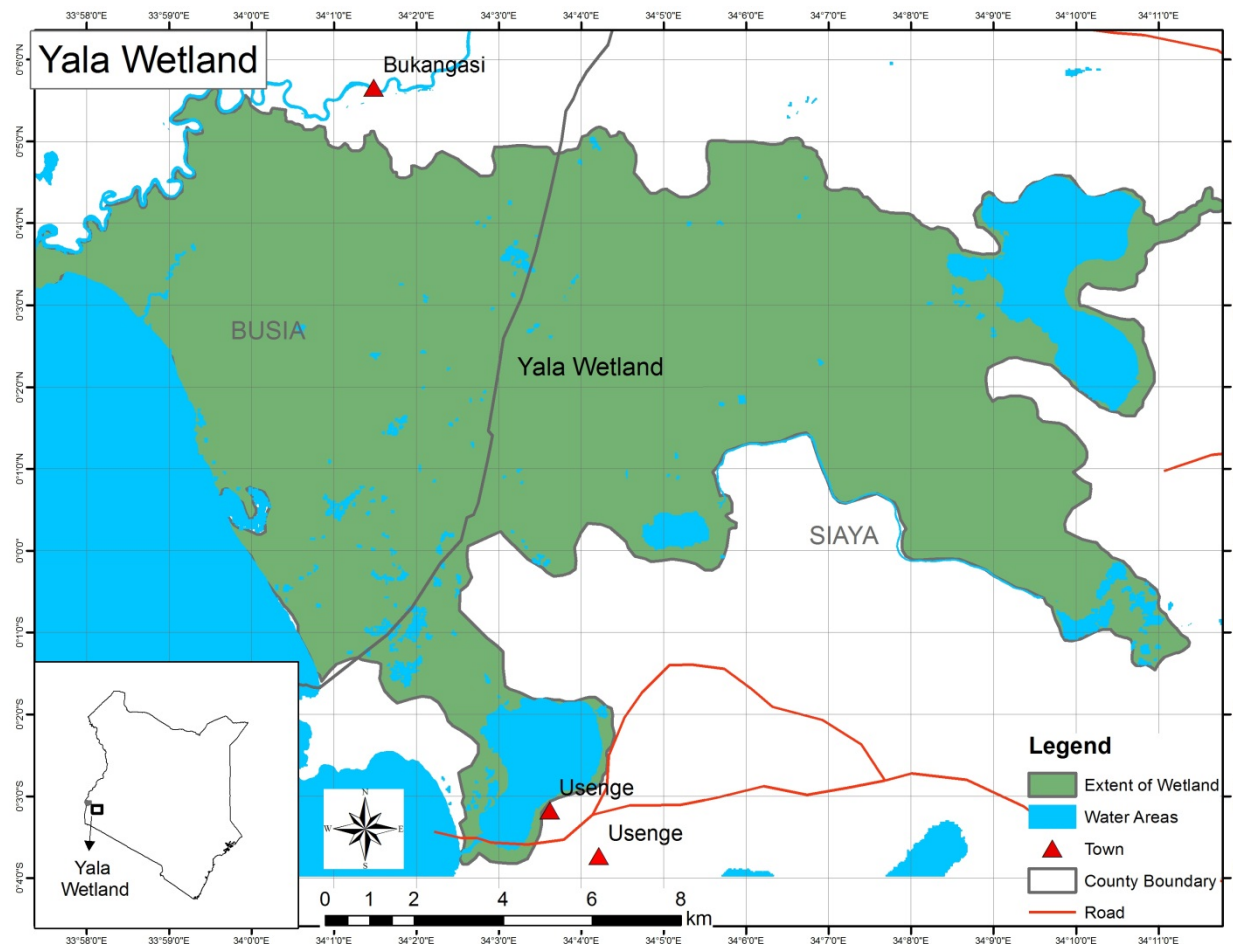


Figure 1: Map of the Yala Wetland showing project location, Source: Dickens Odeny, 2016

Yala Delta covers an area of 20,756 ha on the north-eastern shore of Lake Victoria. It is Kenya’s largest freshwater wetland, a key biodiversity area and a proposed Ramsar site. It is a stronghold for the nationally threatened Sitatunga antelope, other larger mammals, numerous wetland birds (including the vulnerable Papyrus Yellow Warbler), and cichlid fish endemic to Lake Victoria (many of which have been extirpated in the main lake by introduced Nile Perch). In addition, it provides numerous essential ecosystem services: it acts as a filter for water flowing into the lake, and provides people who live around it with vital resources such as fish, papyrus and wood. These people number approximately 250,000, and many are extremely poor. Unfortunately, Yala is threatened by the establishment of large-scale agricultural operations and by over-exploitation of its natural resources by competing local communities. The American company Dominion has already converted 1,951 ha of wetlands to rice fields, fish ponds and banana and sugarcane plantations; and communities have converted 2,101 ha to subsistence production. The agricultural conversion work carried out to date has destroyed natural habitats directly, and – together with earlier engineering schemes – caused detrimental hydrological changes over a wider area.

Nature Kenya has worked in the Yala Delta for thirteen years, since 2008. In partnership with county governments of Busia and Siaya, and local communities under Darwin project 21-015, Nature Kenya facilitated the formulation of the Yala Delta Land Use Plan (LUP) informed by Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) between 2014 and 2017. In 2019, County Governments of Siaya and Busia endorsed the LUP and SEA .The LUP and SEA further received high level endorsement by H.E. The Rt. Hon. Raila Odinga.

Despite these milestones, threats still persist. Lake Agro Limited took over farming operations from Dominion Farms Limited. Lake Agro Limited applied to the County government of Siaya to lease more land within the swamp to expand sugarcane farming-a move strongly objected by

Nature Kenya and the local community conservation champions on account of threats posed to critical biodiversity and livelihoods (see Annexes 55-59 and Annex 140). This project thus supports adoption and implementation of the land use plan to safeguard the biodiversity of the delta and ensure that it retains its great value.



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs



2. Project partnerships		
Partner Name	Progress in partnership	Evidence
Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB)	During the implementation of the initial Darwin project 21-015 in the Yala delta, staff from the RSPB provided technical support to Nature Kenya , including training Nature Kenya staff in ecosystem services assessment, which provided the basis for the establishment of the Indigenous Community Conservation Areas (ICCA).	
County government of Siaya and County government of Busia	County governments of Siaya and Busia: attended the IMTC briefing meeting on Yala swamp LUP/SEA, have committed to support the adoption of the land use plan as policy (Annexes 71, 72, 73 and 74); provided technical support during the revision and harmonization of the Yala swamp ICCA management plan with the ICCA business case; agreed on strategies to embed the resource mobilization pillar of the ICCA management plan in the county planning frameworks and validated the ICCA management plan (Annexes 5, 6, 7,8); made presentations on the role of County government in management of Yala Swamp ICCA during the training of the ICCA management committee (Annex 10 and 11); engaged Nature Kenya to provide input during the development of the Siaya County Climate Change Bill 2021 (Annex 142 and 143), Busia County Climate Change Bill 2021 (Annex 141), Siaya County Tourism Policy (Annex 144), and the Siaya County Forestry Strategy (Annex 145). 10 County Executives provide guidance, overall strategic policy and management direction to the project through the Project Implementation Committee (PIC) (Annex 120); County Government of Siaya engaged Nature Kenya as a member of County Agricultural Sector Coordination Committee (CASSCOM)-Thematic Working Group on Research, Extension and capacity building and the Siaya County Multi Stakeholder Platform on Climate Smart Agriculture (Annex 112); supported awareness creation highlighting the importance of biodiversity conservation during global events-International Day of Forests 2021 and World Water Day 2021(Annex 127 and 128). Fisheries Extension Officers from the 2 county governments trained fish farmers on basics in formulation of fish feeds, proper handling and storage of feeds (Annex 26); Agriculture Extension Officers trained crop farmers hands on in climate smart conservation agriculture techniques (Annex 32) as well as interpretation and	Annex 5-Proceedings of Meeting with Technical Team from Siaya & Busia on Yala ICCA management plan Annex 6-Proceedings of the Validation Meeting for the Yala Swamp ICCA Management Plan Annex 7-PES Based Business case for the Sustainable management of Yala Delta ICCA Annex 8-Revised Yala Swamp ICCA management plan Annex 10-County Government of Busia presentation during Training of the ICCA management committee Annex 11-County government of Siaya presentation during Training of the ICCA management committee Annex 25-Report ToT training of beneficiaries in chicken keeping Annex 26-Report Demonstration Training in Formulation of Fish Feeds Annex 32-Photo of crop farmers with Agriculture Extension officer during training Annex 71-Yala swamp SEA/LUP Briefing meeting report, Siaya County

	<p>dissemination of weather information and advisories in collaboration with Meteorology Departments (this includes timing for land preparation, planting, fisheries forecasts etc). Livestock officers trained chicken farmers as trainers of trainers (ToT) in chicken keeping and provided veterinary services (Annex 25). The partnerships lend government legitimacy to activities which are more acceptable to community and provide technical support at no cost to the project.</p>	<p>Annex 72-Yala swamp SEA/LUP Briefing meeting report, Busia County Annex 73-County government of Siaya Letter to CECM Lands to develop a roadmap for adoption on Yala swamp SEA/LUP Annex 74-County government of Busia Work Plan for Adoption of Yala LUP Annex 112-Report on Siaya County Multi Stakeholder Platform on Climate Smart Agriculture Annex 118-TORs list of members and contacts PIC Darwin Project Annex 127-Report International Day of Forests 2021 Annex 128-Report World Water Day 2021 Annex 141-Nature Kenya Submission on Busia County Climate Change Bill 2021 Annex 142-Letter from County Assembly of Siaya to Nature Kenya Annex 143-Nature Kenya Submission on Siaya County Climate Change Bill 2021 Annex 144-Invitation Stakeholders forum to develop Siaya County Tourism Policy Annex 145-Invitation Stakeholders meeting to develop Siaya County Forestry Strategy</p>
Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS)	<p>KWS is a member of the ICCA management committee, participated in the validation of the ICCA management plan (see annex 6). KWS staff joined communities in biodiversity monitoring including monthly bird walks, detailed monitoring, common bird monitoring and waterfowl counts. KWS is also a member of the PIC at the county level (see annex 118).</p>	<p>See Annex 6 and 118</p>
Inter-Ministerial Technical Committee on Sustainable Management of	<p>On 8th and 9th March 2021, IMTC held a briefing meeting with Members of County Assembly and Executives from Siaya and Busia; the county governments agreed on the next steps to progress the process of adoption of the Yala swamp SEA/LUP as policy documents by July 2021 (see pg. 36 of Annex 71 and pg. 37 of Annex 72). The GIS Specialist within the IMTC agreed to support the</p>	<p>Annex 64-Yala Swamp LUP policy brief Siaya County Annex 65-Yala Swamp LUP policy brief Busia County</p>

Deltas in Kenya (IMTC)	Busia County Physical Planning Department with interpretation of maps in the Yala swamp SEA and LUP (see pg. 35 of Annex 71). Nature Kenya and the IMTC prepared policy briefs and cabinet memos and IMTC presented these to county Executives for onward engagement with county assemblies on adoption of the finalized LUP as policy (Annex 64, 65 and 66).	Annex 66-Kenya Deltas Cabinet memo Annex 71-Yala swamp SEA/LUP Briefing meeting report, Siaya County Annex 72-Yala swamp SEA/LUP Briefing meeting report, Busia County
National Environmental Management Authority (NEMA)	NEMA is a member of the ICCA stakeholders forum, participated in the validation of the ICCA management plan and provided technical support during the training of the ICCA management committee on the legal framework for ICCAs (Annex 12). NEMA is also a member of the PIC at the county level.	Annex 12-NEMA presentation during Training of the ICCA management committee
Kenya Forest Service (KFS)	KFS hosts the Nature Kenya site office in Siaya at no cost to the project. KFS in collaboration with the County Government of Siaya engaged Nature Kenya as a member of the technical team during the development of the Siaya County Forestry Strategy . KFS provided technical support during habitat restoration through tree planting-matching tree species to sites . KFS is a member of the ICCA stakeholders forum, participated in the validation of the ICCA management plan and provided technical support during the training of the ICCA management committee on the legal framework for ICCAs (Annex 13). KFS is also a member of the PIC at the county level.	Annex 13-KFS presentation during Training of the ICCA management committee
Water Resources Authority (WRA)	WRA provided technical support during the preparation of a roadmap to guide the review of sub-catchment management plans . On 13 th and 14 th October 2020 WRA engaged Nature Kenya as a key stakeholder during a virtual National Workshop to formalise the adoption of six Basin Plans including the Lake Victoria North Basin Plan (Annex 146). WRA is a member of the ICCA stakeholders forum, participated in the validation of the ICCA management plan and provided technical support during the training of the ICCA management committee on the legal framework for ICCAs (Annex 14). WRA is also a member of the PIC at the county level.	Annex 14-WRA presentation during Training of the ICCA management committee Annex 146-Concept Note Ministry of Water Sanitation & Irrigation-WRA National Workshop
National Museums of Kenya (NMK)	Scientists from NMK liaise with YESSG to provide routine monitoring data to compile Key Biodiversity Areas (IBAs) Annual Status and Trends Report (see annexes 36-39).	Annex 36-Sample Checklist of birds recorded during monthly bird walks Annex 37-Sample filled Data form for common bird monitoring Annex 38-Sample filled Data form for detailed monitoring Annex 39-Sample filled Data form for waterfowl counts

Kenya Meteorology Department	County Meteorology Departments in Siaya and Busia provide farmers with weather/climate information on weekly and seasonal basis accompanied by advisory services from County departments of Agriculture on timing for land preparation, planting, suitable crops to plant etc. They also provide day and night forecasts for fishermen in Lake Victoria through County Fisheries Departments and Beach Management Units (Annex 113 and 114). The County Directors of Meteorology for Siaya and Busia are members of the PIC.	Annex 113-Sample weekly weather forecast Annex 114-Sample L. Victoria night forecast for fishermen
National government-Ministry of Interior and National Coordination	The County Commissioners of Siaya and Busia chair the respective County Tree Planting Committees for the national tree planting campaign. The committees set targets, monitor and coordinate county tree planting activities (see Annex 19). Assistant County Commissioners and Chiefs mobilized riparian land owners for tree planting; are crucial in convening community sensitization meetings on the LUP, ICCA and oversee elections of committee members for the Village Natural Resources and Land Use Committees (VNRLUCs) (Annex 4 and 22). The County Commissioners of Siaya and Busia are members of the PIC.	Annex 4-Photo of YESSG, Nature Kenya, Deputy County Commissioner during a strategy meeting Annex 19-Planting Programme for 2021 long rain -Siaya County Annex 22-Photo of Chief during a community sensitization meeting
Community groups Yala Ecosystem Site Support Group (YESSG), Yala Planning Advisory Committee (YPAC), Lower Nyandera Water Resource Users Association (WRUA), Muweri WRUA and Bunyala Catchment Water Resource Users Association (BUCAWRUA).	YESSG is a key partner working closely with Nature Kenya as community champions for conservation. YESSG created awareness in villages on the importance of LUP and ICCA and supported formation of VNRLUCs (see Annex 1); secured partnership with a local venacular radio station (Bulala FM, Busia County) to carry on awareness creation during the Covid 19 lockdown (Annex 49) organized events on World Wetlands, Wild Wildlife, World Environment and World Migratory Bird Days to create awareness on the values of Yala swamp (Annex 122, 123, 124, 125 and 126); are mobilizing resources to support conservation of Yala swamp ICCA (Annex 51); wrote to NEMA to stop a proposed commercial sand mining venture by Kylin Works Limited along River Yala (Annex 50); highlighted issues of concern to be addressed through an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) study on proposed establishment of a tourist hotel at Got Ramogi Forest Reserve within the Yala ecosystem (Annex 52); provided input into county decision making fora (Annexes 48, 53 and 54); wrote to NEMA to order Lake Agro Limited to open a blocked canal feeding L. Kanyaboli and stop expansion of sugarcane farming within Yala swamp until due processes are followed (Annex 55); wrote to the National Lands Commission (NLC) to object additional allocation of land to Lake Agro Limited and urged them to take into consideration the recommendations of the Yala swamp LUP (Annex 56); issued a press statement to local and mainstream media condemning the activities of Lake Agro Limited that threatened local livelihoods and biodiversity	Annex 1-Report on community sensitization meetings through chief barazas on LUP, ICCA & formation of VNRLUCs Annex 33-Sample filled Monitoring tool for climate smart agriculture Annex 48-YESSG Memo Siaya County Programme Based Budget 2020-2021 Annex 49-Correspondences between YESSG & Bulala FM Annex 50-YESSG letter to NEMA on sand mining Annex 51-YESSG Proposal to UNDP-GEF Small Grants Programme Annex 52-Photo of YESSG addressing stakeholders during consultations on the EIA study for Got Ramogi Annex 53-YESSG Memo to Busia County assembly on the Climate Change Bill 2021 Annex 54-YESSG Memo to Siaya County assembly on the Climate Change Bill 2021

	<p>(Annex 57); held meetings with County Executives for Lands for Siaya and Busia County urging them to fast track the process of adoption of the Yala swamp LUP (Annex 58 and 59); conducted biodiversity monitoring of the swamp and submitted data to NMK; carried out habitat restoration through papyrus and tree planting (see Annexes 36-39); supervised and coordinated community engagement in income generating activities including mobilization of producer groups for Trainer of Trainers trainings, monitoring and submission of records on production (Annex 33)., implementation of the agreed benefit sharing strategy. YPAC and YESSG jointly supported the formation of VNRLUCs; utilized community gatherings to engage with 2 Members of County Assembly - Bunyala South Ward and Usonga Ward and the Member of Parliament for Budalang'i Constituency to create awareness and rally support for Yala swamp LUP/SEA (see Annex 1). YPAC and YESSG participated in the validation of the ICCA management plan; have representation in the ICCA management committee and are members of the PIC. Chairpersons of Lower Nyandera, MUWERI and BUCAWRUA area actively involved jointly with YESSG and YPAC in mobilization of community awareness meetings on importance of LUP, ICCA and formation of VNRLUCs (see Annex 1); mobilized their members during an organizational capacity assessment (OCA) exercise to inform capacity building plan for user groups in ICCA management. WRUA representatives participated in the validation of the ICCA management plan and are members of the ICCA stakeholders forum and PIC.</p>	<p>Annex 55-YESSG Letter to NEMA on blocked canal feeding L. Kanyaboli and expansion of sugarcane farming within Yala swamp Annex 56-YESSG Letter to NLC to object allocation of land to Lake Agro Limited Annex 57-YESSG Press Release raising concern on activities of Lake Agro Limited Annex 58-Minutes YESSG Meeting with CECM Lands Siaya County Annex 59-Minutes YESSG Meeting with CECM Lands Busia County Annex 122-Weekly Report capturing Birding activities to mark WMBD in May 2020 Annex 123-Weekly Report capturing Birding activities to mark WED 2020 Annex 124-Monthly Summary Report capturing Birding activities to mark WMBD in October 2020 Annex 125-Report World Wetlands Day 2021 Annex 126-Weekly Report capturing Birding activities to mark World Wildlife Day 2021</p>
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3. Project progress

3.1 Progress in carrying out project Activities

Output 1: The 8,404-ha Community Conservation Area (CCA) within the Yala Delta is protected effectively and in perpetuity through formal gazettement and development of a management plan and associated governance bodies and regulations		
Project Activity	Activities carried out in the manner and time planned?	Evidence
1.1 Carry out engagement actions to raise awareness of the CCA and gain support for it in the wider community within and around the delta	YESSG, YPAC, Nature Kenya staff, Chiefs, County government Ward and & Village Administrators held community sensitization meetings in 59 villages around the swamp to create awareness about ICCA and the land use plan (LUP) reaching 2247 (1402M, 845F) people (Annex 1) through chief's barazas. A total of 111 villages have been sensitized	Annex 1-Report on community sensitization meetings through chief barazas on LUP, ICCA & formation of VNRLUCs

	<p>since Y1 surpassing the initial target of 62 villages. Between 29th May 2020 – 21st February 2021 a total of 37 one-hour LUP/ICCA live broadcast awareness talks were conducted on vernacular radio station Bulala FM, in Budalang'i, Busia County. The radio listeners among local communities responded extremely well through calling in/sending messages to ask for advice, seek clarification and give suggestions on enhancing community involvement in ICCA management after each session (Annex 2).</p> <p>Communities support the ICCA model with interest growing beyond the initially targeted villages and appeals to the county governments to fast track adoption of the LUP as policy (See pg.10 in Annex 2).</p>	<p>Annex 2-Report on community sensitization meetings through radio on LUP, ICCA & formation of VNRLUCs Annex 3-Correspondences between YESSG and Office of the County Commissioner Annex 4-Photo of YESSG, Nature Kenya, Deputy County Commissioner during a strategy meeting</p>
1.2 Produce GIS map of CCA showing land use, land cover and extent	<p>GIS maps were produced in Y1 showing various aspects including land use and land cover in a balanced scenario, agricultural potential areas, human settlements, sensitive and vulnerable areas etc. GIS maps of wetland habitats including restored areas within the ICCA were produced in Y2 (Annex 15).</p>	<p>Annex 15-GIS Map of Yala wetland habitats capturing restored areas</p>
1.3 Prepare CCA integrated management plan in consultation with stakeholders	<p>The draft Yala Swamp ICCA management plan developed in Y1 was revised (Annex 8) with input from the county governments of Siaya and Busia. The revised ICCA management plan was harmonized with the finalized ICCA business case informed by feasibility studies of using ecosystem services to generate income for ICCA management (Annex 7). On 12th November 2020 a stakeholders consultative meeting was held to validate the management plan attended by 35 (30M, 5F) people drawn from county governments of Siaya and Busia, national government agencies, YESSG, WRUAs, YPAC, ICCA management committee and VNRLUC members among other stakeholders (See Annex 6 and 8). On 17th November 2020, a technical consultative meeting was held with the county governments of Siaya and Busia. During the meeting, the 2 counties agreed on strategies for embedding the resource mobilization pillar of the ICCA management plan in the county planning frameworks (Annex 5).</p>	<p>Annex 5-Proceedings of Meeting with Technical Team from Siaya & Busia on Yala ICCA management plan Annex 6-Proceedings of the Validation Meeting for the Yala Swamp ICCA Management Plan Annex 7-PES Based Business case for the Sustainable management of Yala Delta ICCA Annex 8-Revised Yala Swamp ICCA management plan</p>
1.4 Form multi-stakeholder CCA management committee	<p>During a stakeholders forum meeting on 30th November 2020, stakeholders reconstituted the 47 members Yala swamp ICCA management committee formed in Y1 into a 17 member committee to make it more functional and operational. On 1st-2nd December 2020, the</p>	<p>Annex 9-Proceedings of the Yala ICCA Stakeholders Forum & Training ICCA Management Committee</p>

	<p>ICCA management committee was trained in legal frameworks for ICCAs in Kenya.</p> <p>The 47 members remain to constitute the Yala swamp ICCA forum with smaller ICCA cluster members able to meet frequently to discuss ICCA matters while the 17 member committee plays a management and coordination role. The 17 ICCA management committee members will be elected from the ICCA forum every 2 years and are scheduled to meet quarterly. YESSG, YPAC and Chiefs jointly facilitated the formation of VNRLUCs in 58 out of 62 villages. Chiefs and village elders oversaw VNRLUC elections to get a federated system of community representation in the ICCA governance. Government is represented by KWS and County Agricultural, Livestock and Fisheries Extension Officers at Ward level (Annex 9).</p>	
<p>1.5 Register CCA management committee as a Community Wildlife Association, providing the name of the CCA, a constitution and a management plan and thus formalising the CCA</p>	<p>Consultations initiated with ICCA members and government stakeholders during meetings held on 12th, 30^h November 2020-2nd December 2020 are on-going to reach a consensus to register the management committee either as a Community Wildlife Association or a Community Conservancy in Y3 with a finalized management plan.</p>	See Annex 9
<p>1.6 Prepare justification for formal protection of the CCA and carry out stakeholder consultations and awareness</p>	<p>Key biodiversity species being monitored by the project forms part of ICCA justification which is included in the ICCA management plan (See pg 8 and 16 in Annex 7). Stakeholder consultations (stated in 1.3, 1.4 above) and awareness (see 1.1 above) is on-going for formal protection of the ICCA.</p>	See Annex 7 and Annexes 37-39
<p>1.7 Prepare and publish formal CCA protection notice</p>	On track for execution after completion of processes in 1.5 and 1.6 above.	
<p>1.8 Support communities to form village natural resource and land use committees</p>	On track. A total of 58 out of 62 VNRLUCs were formed made up of 295 (171M,124F) people and 15 (5M,10F) co-opted members (see Appendix I of Annex 1). During stakeholder meetings in 1.3 and 1.4 above, Terms of Reference for VNRLUC (Annex 43) were adopted to form part of the local resource use guidelines for the ICCA.	Annex 43-Draft Yala Delta CCA VNRLUC ToR
<p>1.9 Develop and implement regulations on water and papyrus access</p>	Draft Regulations on water and papyrus access developed in Y1 were validated as part of the local resource use guidelines for the ICCA during the meetings on 30 th November 2020-2 nd December 2020.	Annex 40-Desktop policy analysis for the development of a land and water register for the Yala delta

		Annex 45-Papyrus use guidelines for Yala swamp ICCA
1.10 Restore 300 ha of degraded swamp habitat (100 ha through direct planting of papyrus and 200 ha through natural regeneration) and 300 ha of riparian habitat in the lower R. Yala (100 ha through direct planting and 200 ha through natural regeneration)	On track. GIS maps of wetland habitats including restored areas within the ICCA were produced in Y2 with ground truthing done by YESSG (Annex 15). 66.7ha of degraded wetland were restored through direct papyrus planting (Annex 16 and 20); 63,946 indigenous tree seedlings were planted to restore the lower River Yala riparian zone (63.95ha) (Annex 17 and 21) and 60,197 exotic tree seedlings were planted in own farm woodlots (60.2ha). Management guidelines were developed and are under application to promote natural regeneration of papyrus in 100ha of degraded areas within Yala swamp and 100ha of riverine vegetation within the River Yala riparian zone (Annex 18).	Annex 15- GIS Map of Yala wetland habitats capturing restored areas Annex 16-Summary report papyrus planting Annex 17-Summary report tree planting Annex 18-Management guidelines to promote natural regeneration of papyrus Annex 19-Planting Programme for 2021 long rain -Siaya County Annex 20-Photo of YESSG during papyrus planting Annex 21-Photo of community members during tree planting
1.11 In order to assess the developmental impacts of specific livelihood interventions under Output 4), carry out baseline and end-of-project surveys on household wellbeing, diet and socioeconomic status in communities around the CCA	On track. Baseline socio-economic surveys on household wellbeing, diet and socioeconomic status in communities around the ICCA conducted in Y1 , end-of-project surveys to be conducted in Y3	
1.12 In order to assess the environmental impacts of the project, carry out baseline, annual and end-of-project surveys on: water quality parameters including transparency, temperature, pH, conductivity and nutrient load (phosphates, nitrates and total dissolved solids); key bird species including East African 'papyrus endemics' such as	On track. Baseline biodiversity assessments on water quality, key bird and fish species conducted in Y1 , detailed monitoring of key bird species (Annex 38) was conducted within the ICCA. end-of-project biodiversity assessments to be conducted in Y3 Activities in output 1 were delivered as planned	Annex 38-Sample filled Data form for detailed monitoring

<p>Papyrus Yellow Warbler, Carruthers' Cisticola, White-winged Swamp-Warbler and Papyrus Canary; Sitatunga; and key fish species, especially endemic cichlids in Lake Kanyaboli and other satellite lakes</p>		
<p>Output 2: The key 'user groups' in the delta are enabled to jointly manage the CCA through the provision of training and on-going support</p>		
<p>2.1 Prepare CCA management framework with a governance structure</p>	<p>On track through activities 1.3-1.9 above</p>	
<p>2.2 Build capacity of the YESSG to provide training on CCA management (including biodiversity monitoring and representation in county decision making)</p>	<p>Trained YESSG cluster groups are on course in safeguarding Yala swamp ecosystem services with notable results. 358 (189M, 169F) YESSG members were trained as trainers of trainers (ToT) in organizational capacity assessment (OCA), (Annex 23), chicken keeping (Annex 25), basics in formulation of fish feeds (Annex 26), use of monitoring tools to track livelihoods interventions (Annex 27), leadership, governance, policy and advocacy (Annex 28), biodiversity monitoring (Annex 29), basics in tour guiding & bird identification (Annex 30), papyrus product development (Annex 31), climate smart agriculture and conservation farming (Annex 32). The ToTs were assigned duties to build the capacity of Yala Swamp user groups in governance and ICCA management (see page 79 of Annex 90). Further, 16 (12M, 4F) members of the ICCA management committee were trained in legal frameworks for ICCAs in Kenya. Crop farmers, livestock keepers, fishermen, wildlife guides and other user groups who constitute YESSG form the ICCA governance structure in partnership with county and national government agencies.</p> <p>Using monitoring tools, ToTs have been systematically collecting data on beneficiaries harvest under climate smart agriculture and conservation agriculture and submitting weekly reports to Nature Kenya field staff for collation and onward reporting and tracking (Annexes 33 and 34).</p> <p>During training in leadership, governance, policy and advocacy between 16th-18th September 2020, YESSG identified key advocacy issues from</p>	<p>Annex 23-Report ToT Training YESSG in conducting organizational capacity assessment (OCA) Annex 25-Report ToT training of beneficiaries in chicken keeping Annex 26-Report Demonstration Training in Formulation of Fish Feeds Annex 27-Report-Training of ToTs in the Use of IGA Monitoring Tools Annex 28-Report Training Yala SSGs in leadership, governance, policy and advocacy Annex 29-Report Training in Biodiversity monitoring Annex 30-Report Training on Basics in tour guiding & bird identification Annex 31-Report Training of weavers on papyrus product development Annex 32-Photograph of crop farmers with Agriculture Extension officer during training Annex 33-Sample filled Monitoring tool for climate smart agriculture</p>

	<p>an existing advocacy strategy for Yala swamp and developed action plans for engaging in county planning and decision making processes (Annex 35).</p> <p>YESSG organized county level celebrations for World Wetlands Day, World Migratory Bird Day and World Environment Day (see Annexes 122-126).</p> <p>YESSG and YPAC held LUP and ICCA awareness meetings in 59 villages (see Annex1).</p> <p>YESSG carried out monthly bird walks, common bird monitoring, detailed monitoring and waterfowl counts and submitted data to the National Museums of Kenya (Annex 36-39) for analysis and production of the Annual Key Biodiversity Areas Status and Trends report for the year 2020.</p>	<p>Annex 34-Sample collated weekly report for Climate Smart Agriculture_3rd-8th Aug 2020 Final</p> <p>Annex 35-YESSG action plans for engaging in county planning and decision making processes</p> <p>Annex 36-Sample Checklist of birds recorded during monthly bird walks</p> <p>Annex 37-Sample filled Data form for common bird monitoring</p> <p>Annex 38-Sample filled Data form for detailed monitoring</p> <p>Annex 39-Sample filled Data form for waterfowl counts</p> <p>Annex 90-Report Training of Extension Officers in CSA & CA</p> <p>Annex 122-Weekly Report capturing Birding activities to mark WMBD in May 2020</p> <p>Annex 123-Weekly Report capturing Birding activities to mark WED 2020</p> <p>Annex 124-Monthly Summary Report capturing Birding activities to mark WMBD in October 2020</p> <p>Annex 125-Report WWD 2021</p> <p>Annex 126-Weekly Report capturing Birding activities to mark World Wildlife Day 2021</p>
<p>2.3 Train and support YESSG to carry out organizational capacity assessment of WRUAs, beach management units (BMUs), farmer groups, and papyrus product weavers groups</p>	<p>50(31M,19F) YESSG ToTs conducted OCA for 128 (95M, 33F) members of 5 WRUAs and 17 BMUs as part of the capacity building of these user groups in ICCA management (Annex 23).</p>	<p>Annex 23-OCA Report for WRUAs and BMUs</p>

<p>2.4 Support YESSG to train WRUAs, BMUs, farmer/livestock cooperatives, and papyrus products weavers in leadership, governance, group management and advocacy</p>	<p>32 members of YESSG (13M, 19F) were trained as ToTs in conservation leadership and governance. YESSG will in turn train WRUAs, BMUs, farmer/livestock cooperatives, and weavers in leadership, governance, group management and advocacy.</p>	<p>See Annex 28</p>
<p>2.5 YESSG and WRUAs develop land and water register within the CCA detailing all land use activities that involve water abstraction</p>	<p>Desktop policy analysis was conducted to inform the preparation of a roadmap for the development of a land and water register for the delta (see Annex 40). YESSG and WRUAs are represented in the ICCA management committee and were involved during the review of land and water sector policy and legal framework (see Annex 9). These are part of the initial steps in preparation of the land and water register within the ICCA in project year 3.</p>	<p>See Annex 9 and 40</p>
<p>2.6 WRUAs review, update and implement sub-catchment management plans taking into account the water sharing regime recommended by the LUP</p>	<p>Consultative meetings were held with officers from WRA (Annex 41) and a roadmap developed to guide the review of sub catchment management plans (Annex 42). Initial meetings are scheduled in project year 3 to constitute a subcommittee to support WRA team in the review process.</p>	<p>Annex 41-Notes on consultations with Water Resources Authority Annex 42- Roadmap to guide review of sub catchment management plans</p>
<p>2.7 BMUs prepare and implement fisheries management guidelines for the CCA</p>	<p>Draft Fisheries management guidelines for the ICCA (Annex 44) were validated as part of the local resource use guidelines for the ICCA during the meetings on 30th November 2020-2nd December 2020 (See Annex 9).</p>	<p>Annex 44-Fisheries management guidelines for Yala swamp ICCA</p>
<p>2.8 Train multi-stakeholder CCA management committee on legal provisions for CCAs and CCA management</p>	<p>On 30th November 2020-2nd December 2020, 16 (12M,4F) members of the ICCA management committee were trained in legal frameworks for ICCAs in Kenya. (See Activity 1.4 above)</p>	
<p>2.9 Support YESSG to organize communities in the CCA into management sub-committees and produce local resource use guidelines and work with County staff to agree responsibilities/resources for CCA management.</p>	<p>During the technical meeting held on 17th November 2020 on Yala ICCA management plan, County technical staff clarified and harmonized roles and responsibilities of the ICCA governance structure and agreed on strategies for embedding the resource mobilization pillar of the ICCA management plan in the county planning frameworks. Draft guidelines on local resource use (water, papyrus, fisheries) were validated during the stakeholder meetings on 30th November 2020-2nd December 2020 where YESSG attended.</p>	<p>See Annex 5, 44,45 and 51</p>

	<p>YESSG is already mobilizing resources for CCA management. On 29th January 2021, YESSG submitted a proposal to the UNDP-GEF Small Grants Programme to support conservation of Yala swamp ICCA (Annex 51).</p>	
<p>2.10 Support YESSG to represent community interests in county planning, budgeting and other decision making that affects their livelihoods</p>	<p>Capacitated YESSG is now ably representing Yala swamp communities in decision making fora at the county level. On 21st May 2020 YESSG submitted a Memorandum to the County Assembly of Siaya in the matter of consideration of the Programme Based Budget 2020/2021 (Annex 48). On 28th May 2020, YESSG secured partnership with a local venacular radio station (Bulala FM, Busia County) to create environmental awareness with special focus on sensitization on Yala SEA/LUP, ICCAs, VNRLUCs (Annex 49). On 22nd June 2020, 3 YESSG members (trained tour guides) were invited by the Siaya County Department of Tourism, Culture, Sports & Arts in a stakeholders meeting to deliberate on the status of the tourism industry during the post COVID-19 (Annex 46). On 5th July 2020, YESSG wrote to National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) to stop a proposed commercial sand mining venture by Kylin Works Limited along River Yala (Annex 50). The private company had started excavation works without following due processes, posing a threat to biodiversity & livelihoods. The YESSG further engaged local media to highlight the issue and formed a WhatsApp group to sensitize the local community on the potential threats of the proposed project to biodiversity & livelihoods without putting in place appropriate mitigation measures. As a result, NEMA and the County Government of Siaya stopped the project. On 15th December 2020, and 21st January 2021, 4 YESSG members (trained tour guides) were invited by the Siaya County Department of Tourism, Culture, Sports & Arts in a stakeholders meeting to provide input during the development of the Siaya county tourism policy (Annex 47). YESSG represented Yala Swamp communities and raised concerns during an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Study on the establishment of Got Ramogi Tourist Resort at Got Ramogi village on 9th February 2021 (Annex 52). On 24th March 2021, YESSG submitted a memorandum to Busia County Assembly on the Climate Change Bill, 2021 and on 31st March 2021,</p>	<p>Annex 46-YESSG Invitation to a stakeholders meeting to deliberate on the status of the tourism industry during the post COVID-19 Annex 47-YESSG Invitation to a stakeholders meeting to provide input to Siaya County Tourism policy Annex 48-YESSG Memo Siaya County Programme Based Budget 2020-2021 Annex 49-Correspondences between YESSG & Bulala FM Annex 50-YESSG letter to NEMA on sand mining Annex 52-Photo of YESSG addressing stakeholders during consultations on the EIA study for Got Ramogi Annex 53-YESSG Memo to Busia County assembly on the Climate Change Bill 2021 Annex 54-YESSG Memo to Siaya County assembly on the Climate Change Bill 2021 Annex 55-YESSG Letter to NEMA on blocked canal feeding L. Kanyaboli and expansion of sugarcane farming within Yala swamp Annex 56-YESSG Letter to NLC to object allocation of land to Lake Agro Limited Annex 57-YESSG Press Release raising concern on activities of Lake Agro Limited</p>

	<p>submitted a memorandum to Siaya County Assembly on the Climate Change Bill, 2021 (Annex 53 and 54).</p> <p>On 6th April 2021 YESSG convened a meeting to deliberate and develop an action plan to address emerging issues of concern within Yala swamp. On 12th April 2021, YESSG wrote to NEMA to order Lake Agro Limited to open a blocked canal feeding L. Kanyaboli and stop expansion of sugarcane farming within Yala swamp until due processes are followed (Annex 55); On 12th April 2021, wrote to the National Lands Commission (NLC) to object allocation of land to Lake Agro Limited and urged them to take into consideration the recommendations of the Yala swamp LUP (Annex 56); On 12th April 2021 issued a press statement to local and mainstream condemning the activities of Lake Agro Limited that threatened local livelihoods and biodiversity (Annex 57).</p> <p>On 12th and 13th April 2021, YESSG leaders held meetings with the County Executives for Lands for Siaya and Busia County respectively. During the meetings, YESSG appealed to the county government of Siaya to stop allocation of more land to Lake Agro Limited until the recommendations of the Yala swamp LUP are implemented. The leaders urged the county governments of Siaya and Busia to fast track the process of adoption of the Yala swamp LUP, consult and involve the local community in decision making (Annex 58 and 59).</p> <p>YESSG attended PIC meetings on LUP and SEA and ICCA management plan formulation.</p> <p>YESSG supervised and coordinated community engagement in income generating activities including mobilization of producer groups for ToT trainings, monitoring and submission of records on production (see Annex 33), implementation of the agreed benefit sharing strategy (Annex 60).</p>	<p>Annex 58-Minutes YESSG Meeting with CECM Lands Siaya County Annex 59-Minutes YESSG Meeting with CECM Lands Busia County Annex 60-Guidelines for Community Contributions Towards Sustainable Financing ICCA Management</p>
<p>2.11 Carry out feasibility studies on using ecosystem services to generate income for CCA management and agree best approach to realise income</p>	<p>The draft ICCA business case was finalized and harmonized with the ICCA management plan (see pages 89 of management plan (Annex 8) and pages 7-10 of the revised business case). This is based on feasibility studies on using ecosystem services to generate income for ICCA management. It provides guidelines on sustainable financing plan with income from community enterprises; county government's budget lines and support from the private sector (see Annex 7). The ICCA business case will</p>	<p>See Annex 7 and 8</p>

	be presented to stakeholders to agree on the best approach to realise income.	
2.12 Prepare a CCA business case that includes a sustainable financing plan and promote it to private sector and county governments	The ICCA business case includes a sustainable financing plan that will be promoted to county governments and private sector See activity 2.11 above	
2.13 Develop and implement guidelines on the financing of CCA management with income from community businesses	The draft ICCA business case in 2.12 above includes guidelines on financing of ICCA management with income from community businesses, county governments budget lines and contributions from the private sector (see annex 7). Draft guidelines for community contributions towards Sustainable Financing ICCA Management were validated during training in leadership, governance, policy and advocacy between 16th-18th September 2020 Activities in output 2 were delivered as planned	See Annex 7 and 60-Guidelines for Community Contributions Towards Sustainable Financing ICCA Management
Output 3: The Land Use Plan (LUP) for the entire delta is adopted as official policy by the governments of Busia and Siaya counties, and capacity is established within these governments to implement the plan effectively		
3.1 Hold meetings of the Inter-Ministerial Technical Committee on Deltas (IMTC) to agree an advocacy strategy and prepare presentations on key elements of the LUP	Done in Y1	
3.2 Hold initial briefing meetings with the county executives and other technical staff to make them aware of the LUP and SEA	Initial briefing meetings held in Y1	
3.3 Hold workshops with the county technical teams (one workshop per county) to educate them about the contents and importance of the LUP and thus secure their support	On 8 th March 2021, 4 members of the IMTC held a briefing meeting on LUP/SEA with 38 (28M, 10F) members from the County executive and County Assembly of Siaya. On 9 th March 2021 the IMTC held a briefing meeting on LUP/SEA with 32 (21M, 11F) members from the County executive and County Assembly of Busia. (Annexes 71 and 72). Technical staff also attended the 2 meetings. During the meeting, the members were sensitized on the importance on LUP/SEA (Annexes 67-70). As a result, the County government of Siaya tasked the County	Annex 67-Presentation on Yala swamp SEA Annex 68-Presentation on Yala swamp LUP Annex 69-Presentation on Yala swamp policy brief

	Executive for Lands to develop a roadmap to guide adoption on Yala swamp SEA/LUP within a timeframe of 3 months by June 2021 while the County government of Busia developed a work plan to guide adoption on Yala swamp SEA/LUP within 60 days by end of June 2021 (Annex 73 and 74).	Annex 70-Presentation Overview of the Nature Kenya Programme in Yala swamp Annex 71-Yala swamp SEA/LUP Briefing meeting report, Siaya County Annex 72-Yala swamp SEA/LUP Briefing meeting report, Busia County Annex 73-County government of Siaya Letter to CECM Lands to develop a roadmap for adoption on Yala swamp SEA/LUP Annex 74-County government of Busia Work Plan for Adoption of Yala LUP
3.4 Support the county technical teams to prepare briefings for their governors to enable them to endorse the LUP	Endorsement of LUP Done in Y1	
3.5 Hold initial meetings with key county assembly members and the chairs of the counties' land and environment house committees to make them aware of the LUP	10 (8M, 22F) Members of the County Assembly (MCAs) of Siaya attended the briefing meeting held on 8 th March 2021 and 16 (9M, 7F) Members of the County Assembly (MCAs) of Busia attended the briefing meeting held on 9 th March 2021. Addressing the meetings respectively in Siaya and Busia, Hon. Willis Ochieng', Chair, Agriculture Committee, County Assembly of Siaya; Hon. Benard Papa, Chair, Lands and Hon. Joab Oteba, Vice Chairperson Committee on Agriculture, Environment & Natural Resources, County Assembly of Busia, expressed support for the LUP (see Annex 71 pp. 4 and Annex 72 pp.4-5)	See Annex 71 and Annex 72
3.6 Hold initial meetings with the chairs of the counties' land and environment house committees to make them aware of the LUP	See activities 3.3 and 3.5 above	
3.7 In liaison with the county assembly clerks, organise workshops to educate assembly members	Same as activities 3.3 and 3.5 above	

about the contents and importance of the LUP (one workshop per county)		
3.8 Support county assembly committees on land use to prepare motions on the adoption of the LUP for tabling in their assembly	The IMTC team supported the County Executives for Lands in Siaya & Busia counties to prepare policy briefs and cabinet memos in readiness for submission of the LUP and SEA to the respective county assemblies for adoption (see annex 64-66).	Annex 64-Yala Swamp LUP policy brief Siaya County Annex 65-Yala Swamp LUP policy brief Busia County Annex 66-Kenya Deltas Cabinet memo
3.9 Support county executives and assemblies to advocate to national government and upstream counties on maintaining ecosystem services of the delta	Planned for project year 3	
3.10 Support county planning departments to create land and water register for the Yala Delta	On track to be done in Y3 after completion of Activity 2.5 above	
3.11 Support YPAC to advocate to members of county assembly to adopt LUP as policy	YPAC and YESSG members reached 1 Member of the County Assembly of Siaya (Usonga Ward) and 1 Member of the County Assembly of Busia (Bunyala South Ward) during community level awareness meetings on the LUP(see Annex 1) On 12 th and 13 th April 2021, YESSG leaders held meetings with the County Executives for Lands for Siaya and Busia County respectively urging them to fast track the process of adoption of the Yala swamp LUP (see Annex 58 and 59 above).	See Annex 1, 58 and 59
3.12 Support county planning departments to prepare up-to-date GIS maps of the Delta	GIS maps produced in Y1 showing various aspects including land use, land use and land cover in a balanced scenario; agricultural potential areas; sensitive and vulnerable areas etc will provide a basis for CPDs to create a detailed and updated map of the delta in year 3.	
3.13 Establish the Yala Delta Sustainable Development Board and	Modalities of establishing a cross-county management structure for Yala swamp was flagged up as part of the discussions during the meetings on 8 th -9 th March 2021. (see pp. 35-36 of Annex 72). This will be discussed	See Annex 72

embed it into county operations	further in subsequent joint meetings between County governments of Siaya and Busia. Activities in output 3 were largely delivered as planned with plans in place to fast track the adoption of LUP as policy.	
Output 4: The poorest and most vulnerable people living in and around the Yala Delta are empowered to further enhance their livelihoods in ways that support the long-term conservation of the delta's natural resources		
4.1 Carry out feasibility studies on establishment of a wholesale market hub for delta products including identification of key stakeholders, roles and responsibilities and a suitable location	Feasibility studies report on establishment of a wholesale market hub for delta products and business plans were revised with write ups/input based on on-going engagement with YESSG (Annex 76 and 81). The revised reports include a marketing strategy for engagement of private sector. The strategy entails conducting a market research, profiling consumers and competitors, analyzing stakeholder roles, agreeing on a marketing approach among others. The feasibility studies reports will be presented to stakeholders for validation in Y3. The stakeholders will agree on establishment of the market hub, bulking centres, market outlets, branding, value addition, external buyers and governance of the market hub among other things.	Annex 76-Revised feasibility studies report for the market hub Annex 81-Revised Business plans for Nature Based Enterprises
4.2 Based on feasibility study carry out stakeholder consultations on establishment of market hub	Stakeholder consultations was done during the feasibility study in 4.1 above (see annex 76)	See annex 76
4.3 Establish hub in line with findings from feasibility study and stakeholder consultation	In line with the recommendations of the Feasibility studies report, the project supported the establishment of an operational bulking centre/outlet for papyrus products within the Kenya Forest Service (KFS) offices compound in Siaya town (Annex 77). The centre doubles up as a display/ market outlet for other nature based products. The recent harvest of honey from beekeepers was bulked, packaged and sold at the centre. The project also established an operational poultry unit at Rawalo village, Siaya county for rearing chicks before supply to farmers (Annex 78). The unit also serves as a bulking and marketing center for chicken farmers.	Annex 77-Photo of the bulking centre in Siaya town Annex 78-Photo of the poultry unit at Rawalo village
4.4 Identify and engage external buyers of delta products	In project year 1, a number of consumers were identified to be engaged as potential buyers for community products. They range from large companies like the East African Breweries Limited (EABL) to smaller businesses such as local hotels and learning institutions. Initial	Annex 79-Copy of Letter of Offer for supply of vegetables

	<p>contacts have been established with the buyers and a good proportion of the producers are already engaged in business with the buyers.</p> <p>32 (6M, 26F) beneficiary crop farming households are already engaged directly with East African Breweries Limited (EABL) through contracts for growing sorghum and soya beans varieties used in brewing beer.</p> <p>7 (3M,4F) beneficiary crop farming households are already engaged directly with 3 schools through tenders for the supply of vegetables (See Annex 79).</p> <p>56 (38M, 18F) beneficiary fish farming households have engaged local hotels and fish mongers at Usenge fish market to sell their fish at competitive prices.</p> <p>Fish farmers through their business committee contacted Pacho Farms Limited in Siaya for optimization of the feeds production machine enterprise in Usenge town. Proposals have been put forward by the farmers to develop a business model for optimal operation of the machine leveraging on managerial/ business skills by Pacho Farms Limited (Annex 80).</p> <p>Beekeepers have held informal meetings with Western Honey Flows Limited for sell of honey. They agreed in principle that the two parties will negotiate and agree on the prices before harvesting and that the company's experienced apiarists have to be present at the apiaries during the next harvesting season for purposes of quality control.</p> <p>Chicken farmers through their business committee have contacted Chicken Basket Limited in Kisumu for commercialization of the chicken enterprise. Under consideration through contractual engagement is the supply of chicks, medication and ready market for mature chicken and eggs.</p> <p>Tour guides have established linkages with Lake Victoria Tourism Association for promotion of ecotourism. Through the linkages, tour guides have established strategies to receive support from the national government Tourism Stimulus Fund towards the revival of the ecotourism sector post the Covid-19 pandemic.</p> <p>Weavers are already engaged with Kisumu Innovation Centre (KICK) through training/mentorship by professional artisan weavers and providing market linkages for papyrus and palm leaves products.</p>	<p>Annex 80-Minutes of meeting between fish farmers representatives and Pacho Farms Limited</p>
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<p>4.5 Develop and implement marketing strategies for delta products targeting bulk buyers</p>	<p>Community producers are implementing some of the marketing strategies proposed in the revised Business Plans for Nature Based Enterprises. During the leadership training on 16th-18th September 2020, a rapid assessment was conducted for community producers to inform capacity needs strengthening on production, value addition, bulking and marketing of the various products with possible solutions for each identified need. Optimization models for the various livelihood initiatives were consultatively developed (Annex 82). Production strategies for chicken (Annex 94), crops (Annex 95), papyrus product development (Annex 96) etc. are already operational. A papyrus catalogue was developed to promote marketing of papyrus/palm leaves products. (Annex 83). YESSG have enhanced social media marketing through WhatsApp groups e.g. YESSG NBE marketing, Yala Wetland Forum.</p>	<p>See Annex 77 Annex 82-Report on Optimization Models for IGAs Annex 83-Papyrus catalogue for publishing Annex 94-Chicken Business Production Strategy Annex 95-CSA Production Strategy Annex 96- Papyrus Product Development Strategy</p>
<p>4.6 Hold meetings with private sector (for each of the products) to discuss their engagement</p>	<p>Initial contacts established with private sector-EABL, Western Honey Flows Limited, Chicken Basket Limited, Pacho Farm Limited (See activity 4.4 above). Further engagements to be formalized in project Y3.</p>	
<p>4.7 Consultatively develop and publicize a Yala Delta products brand</p>	<p>A roadmap is in place for the delta products brand starting with papyrus products brand (see Annex 84), the other products will follow suit in Y3.</p>	<p>Annex 84-Roadmap for the development of a Yala Delta Products Brand</p>
<p>4.8 Identify households to be provided with training in sustainable farming and carry out a baseline survey of diet and income in these households</p>	<p>Done in project Y1</p>	
<p>4.9 Prepare business plans and deliver training/mentoring in conservation farming</p>	<p>Business plans developed for all income generating activities including conservation farming; To roll out training of beneficiaries of Climate Smart Agriculture and Conservation farming (CSA/CA), the project established partnerships at the national level, with the Climate Change Coordination Unit in the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Cooperatives (CCU-MOALFC) (Annexes 85-87). Through this partnership, CCU-MOALFC prepared guidelines and training manuals on CSA/CA (Annexes 88 & 89). CCU-MOALFC in collaboration with county executives for agriculture used these tools to carry out one week hands-on training of 19 (16M 3F) County</p>	<p>Annex 85-Concept for CECM -Training of extension officers on Climate Smart Agriculture Annex 86-Letter to County Executive for Agriculture, Siaya County Annex 87-Letter to County Executive for Agriculture, Busia County Annex 88-Climate Smart Agriculture and Conservation Agriculture Training Manual</p>

	Agricultural Extension Officers (Annex 90). Each trained extension officer was required and supported to apply the acquired knowledge by training 10 beneficiary farmers on field practices in CSA/CA as Trainers of Trainers (ToT). On 5 th -21 st October 2020 trained agricultural extension officers carried out hands on training of 90 (34M 56F) ToT farmers on CSA/CA (see Annex 32). In the current production cycle, the ToT farmers are being supported to train 10 farmers each and as a result all the 250 project beneficiaries on CSA will be trained.	Annex 89-Training Guidelines for Extension Providers on Climate Smart Agriculture and Conservation Agriculture Annex 90-Report Training of Extension Officers in CSA & CA
4.10 Support farmers to form cooperatives for production, bulking and marketing	An assessment on farmers cooperatives was carried out during the feasibility studies. Farmers have existing common interest groups in addition to business committees for production, bulking and marketing. These will be formalized into cooperatives in project Y3 (see annex 81).	See Annex 81
4.11 Establish links between crop farmers and external buyers through the market hub	Crop farmers are already engaged directly with East African Breweries Limited (EABL) through contracts (See activity 4.4 above)	
4.12 Identify households to be provided with fishponds, and carry out a baseline study of diet and income in these households	Done in Project Y1	
4.13 Prepare business plans and deliver training/mentoring in fish farming	Business plans developed for fish production and marketing. 10 (all male) fish farmers received hands on training from the County Fisheries Department & Belvis Hatchery on basics in formulation of fish feeds .The hands on demonstration training covered identification of commonly used locally available & quality ingredients for formulating fish feed, mixing ratios, pelletizing (production of floating pellets), proper storage of ingredients and feeds, and record keeping. (Annex 26).	See Annex 26 and 81
4.14 Support fish farmers to form cooperatives for production, bulking and marketing	Fish farmers have an existing registered umbrella group (Yala Swamp Ecosystem Fish Farmers Conservation Group) made up of 12 different CBOs. The umbrella group supports farmers in fish production through TOT mentorship and marketing, this will be formalized into cooperatives (see annex 81)	See Annex 81

4.15 Establish links between fish farmers and external buyers through the market hub	See activity 4.4 above	
4.16 Identify households to be provided with beehives and carry out baseline survey of diet and income	Done in Project Y1	
4.17 Prepare business plans and deliver training/mentoring in beekeeping	Done in Project Y1	
4.18 Support beekeepers to form a beekeepers association for production, bulking, packaging, branding and marketing	Beekeepers have existing common interest groups for production, bulking and marketing this will be formalized into associations in Y3 (see annex 81).	See Annex 81
4.19 Establish links between beekeepers and external buyers through the market hub	See activity 4.4 above	
4.20 Identify households/women to be provided with support chicken production and marketing and carry out baseline survey of diet and income.	Done in Project Y1	
4.21 Prepare business plan and carry out training/mentoring in chicken production and marketing	Business plans were developed for chicken production and marketing (see Annex 81) 29 (4M, 24F) chicken farmers received hands on training from the County Livestock Department on basics in chicken production. The hands on demonstration training covered factors that hinder successful production; good poultry production practices; chick management; good breeding and stock selection; vaccines and vaccination; disease prevention and control measures; feeds, feeding and egg handling; management of chicken equipment; common bio-security measures; and general farm management for good poultry production (see Annex 25).	See Annex 25 and 81
4.22 Establish links between chicken farmers and external buyers through the market hub	See activity 4.4 above	

4.23 Identify households to be provided with training in production of high value papyrus products and carry out baseline survey of diet and income	Done in Project Y1	
4.24 Prepare business plan and deliver training/mentoring in creation of high value papyrus products	Business plans developed for production and marketing of high value papyrus products (see Annex 81). A papyrus products catalogue is in publishing to support marketing of products (Annex 83). 11(7M, 4F) weavers were trained as ToTs in smooth edge, cushion fixing, glass fitting (see Annex 31).	See Annex 31, 81 and 83
4.25 Support papyrus products weavers to form cooperatives for production, bulking, branding and marketing	Weavers have existing common interest groups for production, bulking and marketing, this will be formalized into associations in Y3(see annex 81).	See annex 81
4.26 Establish links between papyrus products weavers and external buyers through the market hub	See activity 4.4 above	
4.27 Identify households/women to be provided with training on climate smart agriculture and production and marketing of highly nutritious, fast maturing high-value crops and carry out baseline survey of diet and income	Baseline survey of diet and income done in Y1. 17 (4M, 13F) members of Kanyibok Youth Group (part of the 50 (25M, 25F) farmers households identified and supported in climate smart production) were further supported to establish a demonstration site in Kanyibok village to model sustainable production combining both CSA and CA techniques (Annex 91).	Annex 91-Guidelines for production operations at the demo site
4.28 Prepare business plans and deliver training/mentoring on climate smart agriculture	Business plans were developed for climate smart production and marketing (see Annex 81). See also details on training/mentoring in activity 4.9 above	See annex 81
4.29 Establish links between climate smart farmers and	See activity 4.4 above	

external buyers through the market hub		
4.30 Identify households to be trained in wildlife guiding and ecotourism and carry out baseline survey of diet and income	Done in Project Y1	
4.31 Prepare business plans and train/mentor guides in wildlife guiding and visitor etiquette	Business plans were developed for ecotourism/tour guiding; 38 (27M, 11F) wildlife guides were trained in basics of tour guiding and bird identification by professional guides from Nature Kenya. The training covered principles of bird identification, field craft and ethics, bird topography, colors and patterns, identification of the right bird family, taking field notes, field observations, proper use of binoculars and field guides in bird identification, recording bird sightings using mobile phone app – BirdLasser and basics in ecotourism (see Annex 30).	See Annex 30 and 81
4.32 Prepare ecotourism products booklet for marketing Yala Swamp to external markets	An existing draft description for tourist attractions for Yala swamp will be developed into an ecotourism booklet for marketing Yala Swamp in Y3.	Annex 105-Draft description for tourist attractions for Yala swamp
4.33 Carry out end-of-project studies of all beneficiary households to match the baseline studies described above	Planned for project year 3 Activities in output 4 were delivered as planned.	
Output 5: Application of lessons learned from the project at other large wetland sites in Kenya and beyond is encouraged through communication actions reaching all key stakeholders		
5.1 Hold biannual meetings of the Project Implementation Committee to evaluate progress and guide implementation	The Project Implementation Committee (PIC) was inaugurated during a technical briefing meeting held on 8 th October 2020 (Annex 115). The PIC comprises 34 members from local communities (YESSG, YPAC, Water Resource Users Associations (WRUA) and Beach Management Units (BMU)); County Executives from Siaya & Busia; National government agencies including the Ministry of Interior & Coordination of National Government; Research/Institutions of higher learning; the Private sector and civil society organizations (Annex 118). During the meeting, project progress was presented to the PIC members (Annex 116 and 119). Terms of Reference for the PIC and the project work plan for Year 2	Annex 115-Concept Note briefing meeting on Nature Kenya work in Yala swamp Annex 116-Hand out on Darwin Project progress Annex 117-Darwin Yala Y2 Workplan Annex 118-TORs list of members and contacts PIC Darwin Project

	were adopted (see Annex 118 and 117). The PIC meets twice a year and provides guidance, overall strategic policy and management direction to the Project.	Annex 119-Presentation-Overview of the Nature Kenya Programme in Yala swamp and the Darwin Project Annex 120-Proceedings of the Project Implementation Committee Meeting
5.2 Compile findings and recommendations from the project at the end of each project year and disseminate widely	Annual Project Year 1 report submitted; project findings and recommendations were disseminated during the PIC meeting in activity 5.1 above. Project briefs and updates were also disseminated through briefing meetings , stakeholders consultative meetings and trainings (see Annexes 5,6,9,70).	
5.3 Present project findings to the Inter-Ministerial Committee, the Delta's Development Board, the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, NEMA and other key bodies through face-to-face meetings and other appropriate channels	A scheduled briefing meeting with the MP Budalang'i to present project progress and publicize the Yala swamp LUP/ICCA model was hampered by government imposed COVID-19 containment measures that restricted travels (Annex 121). Presentation of project findings will be advanced in Y3 targeting the Delta's Development Board among other stakeholders through virtual meetings among other channels.	Annex 121-Email Correspondences in preparation for a scheduled briefing meeting with the MP Budalang'i
5.4 Create awareness on the values of Yala Delta through WWD, WMBD, WED and other events	Awareness creation is on-going collaboratively led by YESSG, County governments, KFS through global events (World Environment Day, World Wetlands Day, World Wildlife Day, International Day of Forests, World Water Day, World Migratory Birds Day). 453 (278M, 175F) adults and 15 (9 boys, 6 girls) school children were reached (Annexes 122– 128).	Annex 122-Weekly Report capturing Birding activities to mark WMBD in May 2020 Annex 123-Weekly Report capturing Birding activities to mark WED 2020 Annex 124-Monthly Summary Report capturing Birding activities to mark WMBD in October 2020 26-003 Annex 125-Report WWD 2021 26-003 Annex 126-Weekly Report capturing Birding activities to mark World Wildlife Day 2021
5.5 Make presentations to county governments, the National Assembly, Council of Governors and other fora on the CCA model	IMTC members briefed County executives and Members of County Assembly of Siaya and Busia on project outcome and outputs during the meetings held on 8 th and 9 ^h March 2021.	See Annexes 64-70

<p>5.6 Make presentations to National Liaison Committee, Kenya Wetlands Forum and other national fora on project activities, results and outcomes</p>	<p>Nature Kenya provides updates on project activities through membership on the national Multi stakeholder platform on Climate Smart Agriculture https://csa-msp.kilimo.go.ke/nature-kenya/</p>	<p>Annex 129-Profiling Template_MSP Profile Survey</p>
<p>5.7 Support KWS to make presentations to a broad range of stakeholders on the CCA model</p>	<p>Planned for project year 3</p>	
<p>5.8 Carry out broader dissemination activities aimed at non-specialist audiences</p>	<p>Dissemination activities are on-going through radio broadcasts, Television features, calendars (Annex 137), policy briefs (see Annex 64-66), publications (Nature Kenya monthly newsletter, Darwin Newsletter, Kenya Birding Magazine-Annexes 130-136). A lesson learned booklet documenting the lessons we have learned from our work in Yala Swamp is in draft (Annex 138). This will be disseminated to conservation practitioners, students, and decision makers. A team of YESSG, YPAC, and Nature Kenya staff used a local vernacular radio channel, Bulala FM, in Budalang'i, Busia County to broadcast key messages to mark global events such as the World Environment Day (7th June 2020), World Migratory Bird Day (9th May 2020), and World Nature Day (26th July 2020. (See Annex 2) In August 2020, YESSG, YPAC, and Nature Kenya staff were featured on national KTN News TV rallying support for the Yala swamp SEA/LUP and ICCA model (see the link provided https://youtu.be/Wr77SAONE84) Following the press release (see Annex 57) issued by YESSG popular local radio stations Ramogi FM and Mulembe FM featured YESSG leaders during prime time news respectively on 13th and 24th April 2021 condemning the activities of Lake Agro Limited that threatened local livelihoods and biodiversity.</p>	<p>Annex 130-Article in May 2020 Nature Net "<i>The legacy of the Osprey-YESSG Benefits from Bird watching Training</i>" Annex 131-Nature Net Article-<i>Bulking Centre set to Revolutionise Papyrus Product Business in Yala</i> Annex 132-Article in the Darwin Newsletter June 2020 Issue "<i>Fish farming initiative easing pressure on wild fish stocks in Lake Victoria</i>" Annex 133-Article in the Darwin Newsletter September 2020 Issue "<i>Supporting Vital Conservation Efforts in Yala Swamp amidst the Covid-19 Pandemic</i>" Annex 134-Articles in Kenya-Birding-Issue-14 2020 "<i>Birding Beyond Yala Swamp</i>" and "<i>The Yala Bird Ambassadors</i>" Annex 135-Article in the Nature Kenya Newsletter February 2021 Issue "<i>Indigenous Community Conserved Areas Set to Safeguard Critical Ecosystems and Livelihoods in Yala Swamp</i>"</p>

		Annex 136-Article for publishing in the Kenya birding Magazine Issue 15 “Saving Yala” Annex 137-Yala swamp 2021 Calendars distribution list Annex 138-Yala Lessons learned booklet 2014 – 2020 for publishing
5.9 Advocate to KWS to provide wildlife management support to the Yala Swamp CCA	Planned for project year 2	
5.10 Write articles and disseminate widely via Nature Kenya communication channels and CBD meetings and other events.	Articles were published in Nature Kenya monthly newsletter, Darwin Newsletter, and Kenya Birding Magazine (see Annexes 130-136). 3 articles about the project have been published in the Nature Kenya monthly newsletter (Annexes 130, 131 and 135) http://naturekenya.org/2020/04/29/bulking-centre-set-to-revolutionise-papyrus-product-business-in-yala/), 2 articles were published in the Darwin Newsletter (Annex 132 and 133). Two articles were published in Kenya Birding Magazine which is annually disseminated in the UK Bird Fair but was disseminated online this year due to COVID-19 travel restrictions (Annex 134 and 136).	See Annexes 130-136
5.11 Advocate to KWS and county governments to list the Yala Delta as a Ramsar site	On 24 th of November 2020 during a consultative workshop to identify potential Man and Biosphere Reserves in Kenya, a joint team from Nature Kenya, County government of Siaya, KFS and KWS lobbied for Yala swamp to be considered for listing as a potential site. The team provided the site-specific assessment information that is relevant for nomination of a site as a Biosphere Reserve. Based on the information provided for Yala swamp as a potential site, the Kenya Man and Biosphere Committee and the secretariat planned a field visit to the Yala swamp complex (see page 19 of Annex 139). The field visit will be to verify and validate the suitability of the proposed site as to meet the requirements for nomination as a potential Biosphere Reserves in the next nomination process. With designations as an Important Bird Area (IBA), Key Biodiversity Area, potential Ramsar site, biodiversity hotspot for globally threatened and endemic species supported by a LUP that promotes a sustainability model, Yala swamp qualifies for nomination. We anticipate that once the	Annex 139-Proceedings from the Workshop held to identify potential Biosphere Reserves in western Kenya/Nyanza Annex 140-Letter advocating against blockage of R. Yala canal and sugar cane farming threatening the existence of Lake Kanyaboli and Yala Swamp

	<p>site has been earmarked for nomination, a consultative process will commence with relevant stakeholders.</p> <p>Lobbying and advocacy for recognition of Yala swamp both as a Ramsar site and Biosphere Reserve will continue in Y3</p> <p>Activities in output 5 were delivered as planned.</p>	
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3.2 Progress towards project Outputs

Project output	Measurable Indicators and adequacy of indicators	Baseline condition and Progress towards project outputs. Change recorded: April 2020-April 2021	Evidence
<p>Output 1: The 8,404-ha Community Conservation Area (CCA) within the Yala Delta is protected effectively and in perpetuity through formal gazettement and development of a management plan and associated governance bodies and regulations</p>	<p>1.1. The CCA (established under Darwin project 21-015) is added to the official list of protected areas maintained by the Kenyan government by EOP</p> <p>1.2. An integrated management plan for the CCA is developed in close consultation with local communities by the end of Year 1 (EOY1), taking account of both conservation and resource use needs</p> <p>1.3. A multi-stakeholder Management Committee is set up for the CCA by EOY1, together with village-level Natural Resource & Land Use Committees and a Water Resource User Association</p> <p>1.4. Regulations are developed by EOY2 to guide access to water and papyrus and ensure the protection of the CCA</p>	<p>Baseline condition: Yala LUP was completed as a technical document and included recommendation to set up ICCA. ICCA did not exist.</p> <p>Progress: The County Governments of Siaya and Busia, national government agencies and 62 villages have continued to fully support the setting up of an 8,404ha ICCA. The draft ICCA management plan developed in Y1 was revised (Annex 8); validated by stakeholders (Annex 5 and 6) and harmonized with the ICCA business case informed by feasibility studies of using ecosystem services to generate income for ICCA management (Annex 7). The stakeholder’s consultative/validation meeting was attended by 35 (30M, 5F) people drawn from county governments of Siaya and Busia, national government agencies, YESSG, WRUAs, YPAC, ICCA management committee and VNRLUC members among other stakeholders (See Annex 6).</p> <p>178 (68M, 110F) households made up of 890 (418M, 472F) individuals were supported to grow 124,143 tree seedlings for use in habitat</p>	<p>See Annexes 1-22</p>

restoration. A **surplus of 13,260** (1200 indigenous and 12060 exotic) **tree seedlings** were sold for Ksh. 132,060 (£ 1,000). **66.7ha of degraded wetland within the ICCA was restored** through direct papyrus planting (Annex 16,20); **63,946** indigenous tree seedlings were planted to restore the lower River Yala riparian zone (**63.95ha**) and **60,197** exotic tree seedlings were planted in own farm woodlots (**60.2ha**) (Annex 17 and 21). **Management guidelines were developed** and are **under application to promote natural regeneration** of papyrus in 100ha of degraded areas within Yala swamp and 100ha of riverine vegetation within the River Yala riparian zone (Annex 18). **Detailed monitoring of key bird species** was conducted within the ICCA (Annex 38).

During the meetings held on 12th November, 30th November 2020, 1-2nd December 2020 **consultations were initiated** with ICCA committee members and government stakeholders and **are on-going to reach a consensus to register** the management committee **either as a Community Wildlife Association or a Community Conservancy in Y3.**

YESSG, YPAC, Nature Kenya, Chiefs, County Ward & Village Administrators, held meetings in 59 villages to create awareness on Yala swamp LUP, ICCA and VNRLUCs with 2247 (1402M, 845F) people reached and a total of 58 out of 62 VNRLUCs formed (Annex 1).

Key biodiversity species being monitored by the project **forms part of ICCA justification** which is **included in the ICCA management plan** (See pp 32-33 in Annex 8). **Stakeholder consultations** (stated in 1.3, 1.4 above) and **awareness** (1.1

		<p>above) is on-going for formal protection of the ICCA.</p> <p>Draft Regulations on water and papyrus access developed in Y1 were validated as part of the local resource use guidelines for the ICCA during the meetings on 30th November 2020-2nd December 2020.</p>	
<p>Output 2: The key ‘user groups’ in the delta are enabled to jointly manage the CCA through the provision of training and on-going support</p>	<p>2.1. The capacity of 40 members of the Yala Ecosystem Site Support Group (YESSG) (60% male; 40% female) to provide training on CCA management to 200 crop farmers (50% male; 50% female), 100 livestock herders and 150 (60% male; 40% female) fishers, and to represent these groups in county decision-making processes, is built by EOY1</p> <p>2.2. Training and representation is provided by YESSG thereafter, with support from Nature Kenya as needed</p>	<p>Baseline: Yala LUP was completed as a technical document and included recommendation to set up ICCA. ICCA did not exist. Feasibility studies had not been done.</p> <p>Progress:</p> <p>With continued capacity-building, YESSG cluster groups are on course in safeguarding Yala Swamp ecosystem services with notable results.</p> <p>358 (189M, 169F) YESSG members were trained as trainers of trainers (ToT) in organizational capacity assessment (OCA), chicken keeping, basics in formulation of fish feeds, use of monitoring tools to track livelihoods interventions, leadership, governance, policy and advocacy, biodiversity monitoring, basics in tour guiding & bird identification, papyrus product development, climate smart agriculture and conservation farming. Further, 16 (12M, 4F) members of the ICCA management committee were trained in legal frameworks for ICCAs in Kenya (Annex 9). The ToTs were assigned duties to build the capacity of Yala Swamp user groups in governance and ICCA management (see page 79 of Annex 90). Crop farmers, livestock herders, fishermen, wildlife guides and other user groups who constitute YESSG form</p>	<p>See Annex 23-32</p> <p>See Annex 9, 90</p>

	<p>2.3. The capacity of 60 members of the multi-stakeholder Management Committee (60% male; 40% female) to oversee management of the CCA is built by EOY2</p> <p>2.4. All three user groups are making major contributions to the sustainable management of the CCA by EOP, coordinated by the Management Committee</p> <p>2.5 By EOP community production cooperatives are contributing 10% of all proceeds from sales of produce towards CCA management</p> <p>2.6 By EOY1, feasibility studies on using ecosystem services to generate income for CCA management are complete, and the best approach to realising income in this way is agreed</p> <p>2.7 Informed by these feasibility studies, a CCA business case that includes a sustainable financing plan has been developed, applied and promoted to the private sector and county governments by EOY2</p>	<p>the ICCA governance structure in partnership with county and national government agencies</p> <p>Capacitated YESSG is now ably representing Yala swamp communities in decision making fora at the county level with notable outcomes.</p> <p>YESSG wrote to NEMA to stop a proposed commercial sand mining venture by Kylin Works Limited along River Yala; highlighted issues of concern to be addressed through an (EIA) study on proposed establishment of a tourist hotel at Got Ramogi Forest Reserve within the Yala ecosystem; provided input into county decision making fora; (Annexes 46, 47, 48, 53 and 54); wrote to NEMA to order Lake Agro Limited to open a blocked canal feeding L. Kanyaboli (Annex 55) and stop expansion of sugarcane farming within Yala swamp until due processes are followed; wrote to the National Lands Commission (NLC) to object allocation of land to Lake Agro Limited and urged them to take into consideration the recommendations of the Yala swamp LUP (Annex 56); issued a press statement to local and mainstream media condemning the activities of Lake Agro Limited that threatened local livelihoods and biodiversity (Annex 57); held meetings with County Executives for Lands for Siaya and Busia County urging them to fast track the process of adoption of the Yala swamp LUP; are mobilizing resources to support conservation of Yala swamp ICCA (see Annexes 58 and 59);</p> <p>YESSG organized county level celebrations for WMBD, WED, WWD, World Wildlife Day (Annexes 122-126).</p>	<p>See Annexes 46-59</p> <p>See Annexes 122-126</p>
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		<p>YESSG carried out monthly bird walks, common bird monitoring, detailed monitoring and waterfowl counts and submitted data to the National Museums of Kenya (see Annex 36-39) for analysis and production of the Annual Key Biodiversity Areas Status and Trends report for the year 2020; carried out habitat restoration through papyrus and tree planting (see Annexes 16, 17, 20 and 21);</p> <p>YESSG attended PIC meetings on LUP and SEA and ICCA management plan validation (see Annex 6, 118, 120).</p> <p>YESSG supervised and coordinated community engagement in income generating activities including mobilization of producer groups for ToT trainings, monitoring and submission of records on production, implementation of the agreed benefit sharing strategy (see Annex 33).</p> <p>YESSG developed guidelines for community contributions towards sustainable financing of the ICCA management actions, from proceeds of livelihoods activities funded through the project (see Annex 60). Through a benefit sharing strategy, 10% of all proceeds from livelihood enterprises goes to a conservation kitty to support simple but critical conservation actions including ICCA management, biodiversity monitoring, awareness and advocacy. Within the reporting period beneficiaries of livelihoods activities remitted Ksh. 165,896 (£ 1,257) to the conservation kitty. YESSG contributed Ksh. 45,500 (£ 345) from the conservation kitty towards supporting awareness, publicity (Annex 63)</p>	<p>See Annexes 36-39</p> <p>See Annexes 16, 17, 20 and 21</p> <p>See Annex 6, 118, 120</p> <p>Annex 61-YESSG Lette & Sample budget for the Global Bird Day October 2020</p> <p>Annex 62-Sample YESSG budget for a documentary on Yala Swamp</p>
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		<p>and advocacy activities (see budgets in Annex 61 and 62)</p> <p>The draft ICCA business case was finalized and harmonized with the ICCA management plan (see pages 89 of management plan and pages 7-10 of the draft business case). This is based on feasibility studies on using ecosystem services to generate income for ICCA management. It provides guidelines on sustainable financing plan with income from community enterprises, county government's budget lines and support from the private sector (see Annex 60). The ICCA business case will be presented to stakeholders in Y3 to agree on the best approach to realise income.</p>	<p>Annex 63-YESSG Publicity Poster</p> <p>See Annex 7, 8 and 60</p>
<p>Output 3: The Land Use Plan (LUP) for the entire delta is adopted as official policy by the governments of Busia and Siaya counties, and capacity is established within these governments to implement the plan effectively</p>	<p>3.1. The LUP (developed under Darwin project 21-015) is adopted as policy by EOY1</p> <p>3.2. The County Planning Departments (CPDs) are supported to create a detailed, up-to-date map of the delta by EOY2, using satellite imaging with ground-truthing</p> <p>3.3. The CPDs are supported to create and populate a register recording all land- and water-use activities in the delta by EOY2</p>	<p>Baseline: LUP was completed as a technical document with no endorsement.</p> <p>Progress: 1,000 copies each of LUP and SEA were published in Y1 with the endorsement of two counties and high level political support, and distributed to stakeholders. 162 copies each of LUP and SEA were distributed to stakeholders in Y2 (Annex 75).</p> <p>On 8th and 9th March 2021, the IMTC held a briefing meeting on LUP/SEA respectively with 38 (28M, 10F) members from the County executive and County Assembly of Siaya and 32 (21M, 11F) members from the County executive and County Assembly of Busia. During the meetings, the members were sensitized on the importance on LUP/SEA (Annexes 67-70). IMTC presented policy briefs to support adoption of LUP. As a result, the 2 counties agreed on the next steps to fast track adoption of the LUP and SEA as policy documents (see pg. 36 of Annex 71 and pg. 37 of</p>	<p>Annex 75-Distribution lists for SEA/LUP</p> <p>See Annex 67-74</p>

	<p>3.4. A cross-county Yala Sustainable Development Board is established by EOY1 to oversee land and water use in the delta, and regulations and procedures are developed to ensure that these resources are utilised sustainably and equitably</p> <p>3.5. County governors and assemblies are supported throughout the project to advocate for beneficial changes in national policy</p>	<p>Annex 72). The County government of Siaya tasked the County Executive for Lands to develop a roadmap to guide adoption on Yala swamp SEA/LUP within a timeframe of 3 months by June 2021 (Annex 73) while the County government of Busia developed a work plan to guide adoption on Yala swamp SEA/LUP within 60 days by end of June 2021 (Annex 74). Modalities of establishing a cross-county management structure for Yala swamp was flagged up as part of the discussions during the meetings (see pp. 35-36 of Annex 71). This will be discussed further in subsequent joint meetings between County governments of Siaya and Busia.</p> <p>The GIS Specialist within the IMTC agreed to share shape files and other GIS products with the counties and support the CPDs with interpretation of maps in the Yala swamp SEA and LUP (See pg. 35 of Annex 72). These maps will provide a basis for CPDs to create a detailed and updated map of the delta in year 3.</p> <p>Draft guidelines for sustainable use of fisheries, water and papyrus (Annex 44, 45) were validated as part of the local resource use guidelines for the ICCA during the meetings on 30th November 2020-2nd December 2020 (see Annex 9).</p> <p>Desktop policy analysis (see Annex 40) was conducted to inform the preparation of a roadmap for the development of a land and water register for the delta (see Annex 42). Initial consultations were held with Water Resources Authority (WRA) on the land and water register (see Annex 41). WRA is supportive.</p>	<p>See Annex 15</p> <p>See Annex 9, 44 and 45</p> <p>See Annex 40, 41 and 42</p>
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		<p>CPDs together with the ICCA management committee will be supported to generate a register of all land and water use activities in the delta in year 3.</p>	
<p>Output 4: The poorest and most vulnerable people living in and around the Yala Delta are empowered to further enhance their livelihoods in ways that support the long-term conservation of the delta's natural resources</p>	<p>4.1. By EOY1 a wholesale market has been established at a suitable site to act as a 'hub' for the sale of delta products to large external purchasers</p> <p>4.2a. By EOY1 200 existing crop farming households made up of 1,000 people (direct beneficiaries being approximately 50% female, 50% male) have been helped to form cooperatives and given training and support in wholesale marketing</p> <p>4.2b. By EOP these crop farmers are selling at least 50% of their produce to large external purchasers through the market hub</p> <p>4.2c. By EOP the incomes of these households has increased by an average of 30%</p> <p>4.3a. By EOY1 150 households made up of 750 people have been provided with fishponds and associated training and support (with the <u>direct</u> beneficiaries of training etc being approximately 40% female and 60% male)</p>	<p>Baseline: Community production was disorganized using unsustainable methods.</p> <p>Progress: Feasibility studies report on establishment of a wholesale market hub for delta products and business plans developed in Y1 were revised based on input from on-going engagement with YESSG (Annex 76 and 81). The revised reports include a marketing strategy for engagement of private sector. The reports will be presented to stakeholders for validation in Y3. The stakeholders will agree on establishment of the market hub, bulking centres, market outlets, branding, value addition, external buyers and governance of the market hub among other things.</p> <p>In line with the recommendations of the Feasibility studies report, the project supported the establishment of an operational bulking centre/outlet for papyrus products within the Kenya Forest Service (KFS) offices compound in Siaya town. The centre doubles up as a display/market outlet for other nature based products. The recent harvest of honey from beekeepers was bulked, packaged and sold at the centre. The project also established operational poultry unit at Rawalo village, Siaya county for rearing chicks before supply to farmers. The unit serves multipurpose functions as a community training center, bulking and marketing center for chicken farmers.</p>	<p>See Annex 76 and 81</p> <p>See Annex 77 and 78</p> <p>See Annexes 32, 85-90,</p>

	<p>4.3b. By EOY2 participating fish farmers have been supported to form cooperatives for fish production and marketing</p> <p>4.3c. By EOP participating fish farmers are selling fish and fish products to local people and at least one large-scale buyer and household incomes have increased by an average of 30%</p> <p>4.4a. By EOY1 100 households made up of 500 people have been provided with beehives and associated training and support (direct beneficiaries 50% female and 50% male)</p> <p>4.4b. By EOP the income of these households has increased by an average of 25%</p> <p>4.5a. By EOY1 50 households made up of 250 people have been trained and supported to initiate chicken-rearing as a business (direct beneficiaries 75% female and 25% male)</p> <p>4.5b. By EOP the income of these households has increased by an average of 30%</p>	<p>To roll out training of beneficiaries of Climate Smart Agriculture and Conservation farming (CSA/CA), the project established partnerships at the national level, with farmers and the Climate Change Coordination Unit in the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Cooperatives (CCU-MOALFC) (Annexes 85-87). Through this partnership, CCU-MOALFC prepared guidelines and training manuals on CSA/CA (Annexes 88 & 89). CCU-MOALFC in collaboration with County Executives for agriculture used these tools to carry out one week hands-on training of 19 (16M 3F) County Agricultural Extension Officers (Annex 90). Each trained extension officer was required and supported to apply the acquired knowledge by training 10 beneficiary farmers on field practices in CSA/CA as Trainers of Trainers (ToT). On 5th-21st October 2020 trained Agricultural Extension Officers carried out hands on training of 90 (34M 56F) ToT farmers on CSA/CA (Annex 32). In the current production cycle, the ToT farmers are being supported to train 10 farmers each and as a result all the 250 project beneficiaries on CSA will be trained.</p> <p>200 (131M, 69F) crop farming households made up of 1,000 (470M, 530F) people produced 25,385kg of high value vegetables & cereals under conservation agriculture. A total of 5,040kg of the produce worth Ksh [REDACTED] was consumed within households and 20,345kg sold for Ksh. [REDACTED] in market centres local hotels and schools in Siaya and Busia (Annex 106,</p>	<p>Annex 106-Photo of a beneficiary farmer during crop production</p> <p>Annex 107-Photo during crop harvesting</p>
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	<p>4.6a. By EOY1 55 households made up of 275 people that are already producing papyrus products such as baskets have been trained and supported to form a marketing cooperative (direct beneficiaries 40% female and 60% male)</p> <p>4.6b. By EOP these households are selling their products through the market hub and their incomes have increased by an average of 25%</p> <p>4.7a. By EOY1 50 households made up of 250 people have been supported to develop businesses based on the sustainable, climate-smart production of high-value vegetable crops (direct beneficiaries 50% female and 50% male)</p> <p>4.7b. By EOP the income of these households has increased by an average of 25%</p> <p>4.8. By EOP 30 people (50% male and 50% female) have been trained to be wildlife guides and their annual income has increased by an average of 25%</p>	<p>107). 32 (6M, 26F) households sold sorghum and soya beans to East African Breweries Limited.</p> <p>50 (25M, 25F) crop farming households made up of 250 (118M, 132F) people produced a total of 19,381kg high value horticultural crops including kales, capsicum, coriander & indigenous vegetables using climate smart agriculture techniques. A total of 4,002kg of the produce worth Ksh136,280 (£ 1,032) was consumed within households and 15,379kg sold for Ksh. 613,433 (£4,647) in market centres and local hotels and restaurants in Siaya.</p> <p>150 (100M, 50F) households made up of 750 (353M, 397F) people were supported to restock 17 fish ponds (Annex 92). 12 ponds were stocked with tilapia (<i>Oreochromis niloticus</i>) and 5 ponds stocked with catfish (<i>Clarias gariepinus</i>). 10 (all male) fish farmers received hands on training from the County Fisheries Department & Belvis Hatchery on basics in formulation of fish feeds. The hands on demonstration training covered identification of commonly used locally available & quality ingredients for formulating fish feed, mixing ratios, pelletizing (production of floating pellets), proper storage of ingredients and feeds, and record keeping. 10 out of 17 ponds have already yielded 4505 kilos of fish (Annex 109). 382 kilos worth Ksh.133,700 (£ 1,013) were eaten by beneficiary households while 4,133 kilos were sold for Ksh. 1,373,900 (£ 10,408) to local hotels and fish mongers at Usenge fish market.</p> <p>100 (53M, 47F) households made up of 500 people (235M, 265F) were supported to set up three apiaries with a total of 100 beehives. Within the reporting period, 35 beehives yielded 138.45kg of honey. 43.25kg worth Ksh. 34,600 (£ 262) was</p>	<p>Annex 92-Photo of a beneficiary fish farm during restocking</p> <p>Annex 109-Photo during fish harvesting</p> <p>Annex 93-Photo of a beneficiary beekeeper during harvesting</p>
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	<p>4.9a. By EOY1 meetings have been held with the private sector to discuss their engagement</p> <p>4.9b By EOP at least one private sector player is actively engaged in each of the production chains (farming, fish, beekeeping, poultry and papyrus products)</p>	<p>consumed by beneficiary households while the remaining 95.2kg was sold for for Ksh. 76,120 (£ 504) at the product centre in Siaya town and households within Siaya and Busia counties. (See Annex 93).</p> <p>Women from 50 households made up of 250 (118M, 132F) people were supported to establish a poultry production unit. 29 (5M, 24F) chicken farmers received hands on training from the County Livestock Department. The hands on demonstration training covered factors that hinder successful production; good poultry production practices; chick management; good breeding and stock selection; vaccines and vaccination; disease prevention and control measures; feeds, feeding and egg handling; management of chicken equipment; common bio-security measures; and general farm management for good poultry production. Within the reporting period, 298 chicken (536.4kg) were bulked and sold to community event caterers for Ksh. 156,300 (£1,184), while 51 chicken (61.2kg) worth Ksh. 25,500 (£ 193) were consumed within households. (see Annex 108).</p> <p>55 households made up of 275 (130M, 145F) people were supported to produce high value papyrus and palm leaves products. 11(7M, 4F) weavers were trained as ToTs in smooth edge finishing, cushion fixing, glass fitting. Within the reporting period, benefiting households produced 1657 assorted products, sold 1011 assorted high value papyrus and palm frond products worth Ksh. 481,330 (£ 3,646) at a market centre- Mubwayo, in Busia, and the product centre in Siaya Town. (see Annex 111).</p>	<p>Annex 108-Photo during chicken bulking and selling</p> <p>Annex 111-Photo of weavers during production</p>
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		<p>38 (27M, 11F) wildlife guides were trained in basics of tour guiding and bird identification by professional guides from Nature Kenya. 11 out of the 30 guides earned a combined income of Ksh. 68,000(£ 515) from guiding 30 tourists visiting the Yala Swamp and lower River Yala.</p> <p>Monitoring tools to collect data on quantities on crop farming, chicken keeping, beekeeping, fish farming, feeds production, papyrus product development and tour guiding were developed (Annexes 97-104). 53 (28M 25F) YESSG members were trained in the use of the IGA monitoring tools (see Annex 27). The ToT monitors use the tools to track progress in production, consumption, sales, remittance to conservation kitty etc and share reports on weekly & monthly basis. The tools also capture information on challenges encountered for follow up and appropriate remedial actions (see Annex 33).</p> <p>During the feasibility study we found out that some YESSG members are committee members at the existing wholesale fresh farm produce markets in Siaya, Yala and Usenge towns. This is an opportunity that we are using to support farmers to market their produce.</p> <p>The fish farmers have an existing registered umbrella group (Yala Swamp Ecosystem Fish Farmers Conservation Group) made up of 12 different CBOs. The umbrella group currently supports farmers in fish production through TOT mentorship. This will be formalized into a fish farmer’s cooperative.</p>	<p>Annex 97-Conservation Agriculture Monitoring Tool Annex 98-Climate Smart Agriculture Monitoring Tool Annex 99-Chicken farming Monitoring Tool Annex 100-Beekeeping Monitoring Tool Annex 101-Fish farming Monitoring Tool Annex 102-Feeds Production Monitoring Tool Annex 103-Papyrus & Palm fronds Product Development Monitoring Tool Annex 104-Tour guiding Monitoring Tool</p>
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		<p>In project year 1, a number of consumers were identified to be engaged as potential buyers for community products. They range from large companies like the East African Breweries Limited (EABL) to smaller businesses such as local hotels and learning institutions. Initial contacts have been established with the buyers (see activity 4.4) and a good proportion of the producers are already engaged in business with the buyers through contract agreements and tenders (Annex 79). Other meetings with private sector will be set up in project year 3 to discuss further engagement.</p>	<p>Annex 79-Copy of Letter of Offer for supply of vegetables</p>
<p>Output 5: Application of lessons learned from the project at other large wetland sites in Kenya and beyond is encouraged through communication actions reaching all key stakeholders</p>	<p>5.1. Project outcomes are presented at meetings and conferences attended by relevant policy-makers, such as those associated with World Environment Day</p> <p>5.2. County governments throughout Kenya are lobbied to support the creation and management of additional CCAs</p> <p>5.3. The Kenya Wildlife Service is lobbied to provide wildlife management support in other CCAs, including that in the Tana Delta on the Kenyan coast</p>	<p>Baseline: low levels of awareness on LUP among stakeholders Progress: The project outcome and outputs were presented to County executives and Members of County Assembly for Siaya and Busia County and PIC members (see Annexes 70 and 119). Project briefs and updates were also disseminated through stakeholders consultative meetings and trainings (see Annexes 5,6,9,70). Presentation of project findings will be advanced in Y3 targeting the Delta's Development Board among other stakeholders through virtual meetings among other channels. The county governments are in support of the LUP and its implementation. During events held to mark International Day of Forests on 21st March 2021 at Luthehe Village, Siaya County, the County Executive for Water, Environment & Natural Resources) in his speech publicized the sustainability model adopted by the LUP as a concept that can be replicated in the management of other wetlands within and beyond Siaya county to</p>	<p>See Annexes 70 and 119</p> <p>See Annex 127</p>

	<p>5.4. Awareness of wetlands and the need to manage them sustainably is raised among non-specialist audiences through a range of broader dissemination activities</p> <p>5.5. Technical articles about the project are written and disseminated widely through Nature Kenya and RSPB communication channels and at events such as CBD meetings</p>	<p>safeguard natural resources that support livelihoods (see pg. 3 of Annex 127). Set up of the Yala ICCA is modelled after the Tana Delta process where ICCA set up is almost complete. ICCA are also being set up in Dakatcha Woodland Key Biodiversity Area. KWS is committed to provide wildlife management in Yala swamp the same way they have done in the Tana Delta through trainings on legal provisions for CCAs in Kenya and co-chairing of the ICCA Committee with County governments of Tana River and Lamu.</p> <p>Dissemination activities are on-going through radio broadcasts, Television features, calendars, policy briefs and publications (Nature Kenya monthly newsletter, Darwin Newsletter, Kenya Birding Magazine). See Annexes 64-66, 130-137</p> <p>A lesson learned booklet documenting the lessons we have learned from our work in Yala Swamp is in draft for publishing (see Annex 138) for dissemination to conservation practitioners, students, and decision makers.</p> <p>YESSG, County governments of Siaya and Busia, NEMA, KFS led awareness creation through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Birding in 7 villages (i.e. Ndhiha, Kilo, Rawalo, Misori, Urima, Bulemia, Siginga) to mark the World Environment Day event on 5th June 2020 where 33 people (27M,6F) participated. • Birding in 6 villages (i.e. Ndhiha, Misori, Hawinga “A”, Kanyibok, Goye, Bubango) to mark the World Migratory Bird Day event on 9th and 10th May 2020 where 23 people (17M, 6F) participated. 	<p>See Annexes 64-66, 130-138</p> <p>See Annex 122</p> <p>See Annexes 64-66, 130-136</p>
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Birding in 5 sites (i.e. Rawalo hills, L. Kanyaboli, Usalu village, Bunyala irrigation scheme, Rukala) to mark the World Migratory Bird Day event on 17th October 2020 where 50 people (40M, 10F) participated. • World Wetlands Day celebrations held at Rukala Dispensary on 4th February 2021 where 118(60M, 58F) people attended. • Birding in Misori and Usenge villages to mark the World Wildlife Day on 3rd March 2021 where 18 people (13M, 5F) participated. • International Day of Forests held at Luthehe village on 21st March 2021 where 109(69M, 40F) people 21(15boys, 6girls) school children attended. • World Water Day held at Beach 22nd March 2021 where 102(52M, 50F) people attended <p>3 articles about the project have been published in the Nature Kenya monthly newsletter (see Annexes 130, 131 and 135) http://naturekenya.org/2020/04/29/bulking-centre-set-to-revolutionise-papyrus-product-business-in-yala/), 2 articles were published in the Darwin Newsletter (see Annexes 132 and 133). 2 articles were published in the Kenya Birding Magazine which is annually disseminated in the UK Bird Fair but was disseminated online this year due to COVID-19 travel restrictions (see Annex 134). 1 article is due for publication in the latest issue of the Kenya Birding Magazine (see Annex 136).</p> <p>A team of YESSG, YPAC, and Nature Kenya staff used a local vernacular radio station, Bulala FM, in Budalang'i, Busia County to broadcast key messages to mark global events such as the World Environment Day (7th June 2020), World</p>	
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		<p>Migratory Bird Day (9th May 2020), and World Nature Day (26th July 2020) (see Annex 2). In August 2020, YESSG, YPAC, and Nature Kenya staff were featured on national KTN News TV rallying support for the Yala swamp SEA/LUP and ICCA model (see the link provided https://youtu.be/Wr77SAONe84)</p> <p>Following the press release (see Annex 57) issued by YESSG, popular local radio stations Ramogi FM and Mulembe FM featured YESSG leaders during prime time news respectively on 13th and 24th April 2021 condemning the activities of Lake Agro Limited that threatened local livelihoods and biodiversity.</p> <p>The contents of the LUP and SEA were disseminated through policy briefs and cabinet memos.</p> <p>1000 copies each of LUP and SEA were printed with 162 copies each of LUP and SEA distributed to national government agencies, county governments of Siaya and Busia and local communities in Y2. The distribution of the remaining copies hampered by Covid 19 will be done in Y3.</p>	
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3.3 Progress towards the project Outcome

Project Outcome	Outcome indicators and adequacy of the indicators	Baseline conditions and progress to date. Project likely to achieve the Outcome by end of funding? If not, what action will you take to ensure the situation can be improved?
The future of Kenya's globally important Yala Delta is secured for the long term, benefiting both the rich biodiversity of this	0.1. By the end of the project (EOP) 8,404 ha of papyrus swamp have been protected through gazettelement of a Community Conservation Area	<p>Baseline condition Yala LUP was completed as a technical document and included recommendation to set up ICCA. ICCA did not exist.</p> <p>Progress: 1,000 copies each of LUP and SEA were published with endorsement of two counties and high level political support, and 162 copies each of LUP and SEA were distributed to stakeholders in Y2. Two county governments,</p>

<p>site and 250,000 people, and replication elsewhere is encouraged</p>	<p>(CCA); 200 ha of this swamp have undergone natural regeneration; 100 ha have been actively restored; and 300 ha of riparian habitats upstream of the CCA have been protected through implementation of the Land Use Plan (LUP) for the delta</p> <p>0.2. By EOP Encounter rate per Km of papyrus endemics including Papyrus Yellow Warbler, Carruther's Cisticola and Papyrus Canary, have not declined below 0.21, 4.78, 0.13 and 2.94 respectively; Sitatunga and Critically Endangered <i>Oreochromis esculentis</i> and <i>O. variabilis</i> have stopped declining below 6 and 3 Catch Per Unit Effort respectively in the CCA protected by the project, which covers 40% of the Yala Delta.</p> <p>0.3. The quantity of nitrates, phosphates and sediments in water flowing out of Yala Delta into L. Victoria falls measurably below 1.5 mg/l, 0.019 mg/l and 0.049/l respectively, due to improved filtration by better protected papyrus swamp.</p> <p>0.4. By EOP a total of at least 3,055 very poor people are benefiting directly from the livelihood interventions detailed under Output 4, and some 250,000 other people are benefiting indirectly from the improved management of the Yala Delta</p> <p>0.5. By EOP, the governments of Busia and Siaya counties have committed to creating permanent new budget lines to support the implementation of the LUP in the long term</p> <p>0.6 By EOP, lessons learned from the project have informed regional plans created by</p>	<p>national government agencies and 62 villages have continued to fully support the setting up of an 8,404ha ICCA with a finalized management plan, and a trained management committee formed. 2 counties agreed on strategies for embedding the resource mobilization pillar of the ICCA management plan in the county planning frameworks. 58 out of 62 VNRLUCs were formed to provide a vehicle for community involvement in ICCA governance and implementation of management actions on the ground. GIS maps of wetland habitats including restored areas within the ICCA were produced with ground truthing done by YESSG (Annex 15). Ground trothing was done by YESSG. 66.7ha within the ICCA was restored through direct papyrus planting; 63.95ha of riparian zone in the lower River Yala restored through indigenous tree planting and 60.2ha of woodlots established with exotic tree seedlings. Management guidelines were developed and are under application to promote natural regeneration of papyrus in 100ha of degraded areas within Yala swamp and 100ha of riverine vegetation within the River Yala riparian zone.</p> <p>Routine monitoring was conducted within the ICCA through monthly bird walks, common bird monitoring, detailed monitoring and waterfowl counts. Key bird species (Papyrus Gonolek, White-winged Swamp Warbler Carruther's Cisticola and Papyrus Canary were recorded during the dry season detailed monitoring (in January/February 2021) thus quick indicators of good papyrus habitat quality relatively undisturbed and restored areas. Key biodiversity species being monitored by the project forms part of ICCA justification. Water quality was added into the ICCA justification criteria (see indicator 3 in the revised Project full Log frame-under Annex 2 of this report). Within the reporting period, the project continued to support 605 (342M, 263) households made up of 3,025 (1,424M, 1,601F) people directly to produce high value vegetables and cereals, fish, honey, chicken, high value papyrus and palm fronds products using sustainable methods as planned. Additionally 30 (26M, 4F) wildlife guides were trained in basics of tour guiding and bird identification by professional guides from Nature Kenya. This brings total direct beneficiaries of income generating activities to 3,055 (1,450 M, 1,605F). 178 (68M, 110F) households made up of 890 (418M, 472F) individuals were supported to grow 124,143 tree seedlings for use in habitat restoration.</p>
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	<p>the Lake Victoria Basin Commission, and are demonstrably being applied in at least one other large wetland in Kenya</p>	<p>783 households sold vegetables, cereals, fish, honey, chicken, papyrus/palm leaves products, tree seedlings and tour guiding, worth Ksh. 3,788,602 (£28,701) and consumed products worth Ksh. 531,680 (£4,028) 2912 (1841M, 1071F) households made up of 14,560(6843M, 7717F) people and 21 children (15 boys, 6 girls) were reached with awareness messages on LUP/SEA, ICCA and biodiversity values of the Yala Swamp. Awareness was done through village meetings; world environmental awareness days (WWD, WMBD, WED, International Day of Forests, World Water Day); and various stakeholders meetings. The number of people reached through awareness and outreach is higher when we factor people reached through radio and TV broadcast.</p> <p>Overall, in the second year the project directly reached 4,216 (2,563M, 1,653F) households made up of 21,131 (9,950M, 11,181F) people and 21 children (15 boys, 6 girls). This includes livelihoods support and training, trainings in livelihoods support without direct investment, awareness and outreach and tree growing (see Summary in Annex 147)</p> <p>By EOP Improved management of Yala Swamp will indirectly benefit the 250,000 people who live within the swamp's 5km buffer zone and who are dependent on swamp ecosystem services including food (fish), water, fuel, fodder, thatching material, herbal medicine, papyrus for handicrafts industry, purification of water, flood regulation, climate regulation, promotion of cultural heritage/religious values, creation of ecotourism opportunities etc. This is as per the Ecosystem Services Assessment carried out in 2015 with funding from Darwin Initiative project 21-015 (see a link to the report http://www.birdlife.org/sites/default/files/attachments/yalaecosystemerviceassessmentreport -20 july 2015 submitted to prepared 1.pdf)</p> <p>The land use plan has ownership of the county governments and high level political support at the national level. MCAs have continued to commit support for the LUP and are eager to adopt it as policy (see Annex 71 pg. 4 and Annex 72 pg.5). Communities support the LUP and have held meetings with County Executives for Lands urging them to fast track its adoption and implementation.</p>
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3.4 Monitoring of assumptions

We continue to monitor risks and assumptions. The assumption that it will be possible to progressively work within government restrictions to curb the transmission on COVID-19 to deliver project actions that require meetings or gatherings (as per the revised logframe) is already manifesting across Kenya and the world. We have strategies on activity delivery to accommodate government directives.

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

The impact in our original application form was: Balanced, sustainable management regimes are established for large wetlands throughout Kenya, supported by all relevant stakeholders and ensuring that the needs of both biodiversity and people are met indefinitely

The project is supporting **expansion of protected areas network in Kenya** through set up of a 8,404ha ICCA, with community and political support. **Prevention of species extinctions**-the ICCA promotes conservation of Papyrus endemic birds, Critically Endangered fish *Oreochromis esculentis* and *O. variabilis*; formation of the Yala swamp ICCA management committee that is inclusive of multi users promotes traditional practices of indigenous communities for the conservation of biodiversity; restoration of habitats within the swamp and riparian zones is on-going to promote protection of biodiversity and of ecosystem services (water, food, firewood, medicine etc).

The project is **demonstrating to county and national level decision makers and communities that conservation and development is possible through sustainable land management practices**. Through the implementation of various sustainable livelihoods, improvement of the wellbeing of Yala Swamp communities is on course. **2912 (1841M, 1071F) households made up of 14,560 (6843M, 7717F) people and 21 children (15 boys, 6 girls) were reached with awareness messages** on balancing conservation and development through implementation of the LUP by setting up the ICCA.

The project is on track in supporting **605 (342M, 263) households** made up of **3,025 (1,424M, 1,601F) people directly in sustainable production** of high value vegetables and cereals, fish, honey, chicken, high value papyrus and palm fronds products. 30 (26M, 4F) wildlife guides were trained in basics of tour guiding and bird identification by professional guides from Nature Kenya. This brings **total direct beneficiaries of income generating activities to 3,055 (1,450 M, 1,605F)**. **783 households sold vegetables, cereals, fish, honey, chicken, papyrus/palm leaves products, tree seedlings and tour guiding, worth Ksh. [REDACTED] and consumed products worth [REDACTED]** **Y2 income earnings almost doubled from Y1 earnings [REDACTED]** indicating progress in spite of heavy floods that submerged crops and fish ponds, swept away hives and Covid 19 restrictions on travel that adversely affected tourism among other sectors of the economy.

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

Goal 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere

Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

As per the livelihood selection criteria for livelihoods beneficiaries developed in Y1, poor and vulnerable households are actively engaged as community producers. Through sustainable livelihood interventions over the last 12 months, a total of 783 households sold vegetables, cereals, fish, honey, chicken, papyrus/palm leaves products, tree seedlings and tour guiding, worth Ksh. [REDACTED] and consumed products worth [REDACTED]). Production of fish, vegetables, cereals, chicken and honey contributes to improved food security while income from sale of farm produce, papyrus/palm fronds products, tree seedlings and tour guiding contributes to improved income at household level thus ending poverty. Consumption of 61.2kg of chicken and 382kg of fish-high quality proteins and 9042 kilos of high value vegetables

and cereals—is contributing to nutritional improvement at household level. Cumulatively, 119 crop farming households (39M; 80F) translating to 595 (280M; 315F) people were trained in climate smart and conservation farming, and chicken keeping. A demonstration site was established at Kanyibok village to model CSA and CA techniques thus promoting sustainable agricultural production.

Goal 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

The project supported training of 502 (296M, 206F) community groups-farmers, artisan weavers, wildlife guides, BMUs, WRUAs in various areas as ToTs (see Annexes 23-32, 85-90). The ToTs were assigned duties to build the capacity of Yala Swamp user groups in governance and ICCA management. This promotes lifelong learning opportunities for all.

Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

All Nature Kenya project implementation work conforms to the one third gender rule as per the Kenya constitutional requirements. The selection criteria for livelihoods developed in Y1 included gender representation. Community sensitization meetings about the land use plan ICCA and VNRLUCs were scheduled in the late afternoon hours to allow for the participation of women (2247 people reached 1402M, 845F). 124 female and 171 males form the leadership of 49 VNRLUCs. In 7 villages where the elected leadership of VNRLUCs did not meet the one third gender rule, 15 (5M,10F) people were co-opted into the committees. The project continues to support women in chicken rearing to offset the deficit created for female beneficiaries in wildlife guiding which is traditionally a male dominated field. Traditionally more women engage in chicken rearing compared to men. The ToT training in chicken keeping was designed to be on-site with flexi hours to ensure full participation of female ToTs; as a result 29 (5M, 24F) ToTs were trained (see Annex 25). Women formed 46% of direct beneficiaries of livelihoods activities and 40% of all project beneficiaries.

Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

Within the reporting period, the project planted 63,946 (63.95ha) indigenous tree seedlings and established woodlots with 60,197 (60.2ha) with exotic tree seedlings. 66.7ha of planted papyrus is already absorbing carbon. To support communities to adapt to climate change the project has initiated fish farming to provide alternative source of protein for households while easing pressure on wild populations. Production of improved indigenous chicken varieties contributes to reduction of greenhouse gases emissions. Production of high value fast maturing and drought resistant crops constitutes ecosystem based adaptation to climate change. Other livelihood enterprises (beekeeping, value addition on papyrus, ecotourism) provide additional incomes to households and enhancing resilience for communities. Some of the papyrus and palm frond products produced by weavers are baskets that keep food warm, eliminating the need for lighting a fire to warm food later, significantly reducing consumption of fuel wood thus conserving trees.

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

The project is supporting expansion of national protected areas network through set up of 8,404ha ICCA. The ICCA is promoting conservation of large areas of the Yala swamp, protecting biodiversity, and preventing the extinction of threatened species. Establishment of woodlots (60.2ha); restoration of degraded areas within the ICCA (papyrus planting-66.7ha, indigenous tree planting-63.95ha) are significant actions towards reducing degradation of natural habitats, protection of riparian areas, while absorbing carbon. The balanced approach advocated in the LUP ensures the integration of ecosystem and biodiversity values into national and local planning, thus sustainability in development. Adoption and implementation of LUP directly contributes to sustainable land management.

Goal 17: Partnerships for the goals

Nature Kenya partnered with RSPB, local communities, County Governments of Siaya and Busia and national government agencies to deliver the project. The multi-stakeholder approach

adopted in the development and implementation of the LUP, setting up of Yala ICCA, formation of the PIC promotes effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships, building on the experience and resourcing strategies of partnerships.

5. Project support to the Conventions, Treaties or Agreements

Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD): The project is contributing to the achievement of a number of CBD objectives including;

6b – integrating conservation and sustainable use -advocating for the adoption/implementation of the LUP ensures development overall is sustainable and compatible with biodiversity protection, sustainable livelihood options-sustainable farming, climate smart production, fish farming and production of high value papyrus products.

7b/7c/7d – Identifying/monitoring: set up of 8,404ha the Yala Swamp ICCA for biodiversity protection is on track.

8a/8e/8j – The project is promoting in-situ conservation of globally threatened and other biodiversity within the ICCA including papyrus endemic birds, critically endangered fish *Oreochromis esculentis* and *O. variabilis*, nationally endangered sitatunga antelope.

10b – Sustainable use: the project is promoting beekeeping, eco-tourism, chicken, sustainable farming (fish, crops), climate smart production, and sustainable papyrus harvesting.

13a – Public education/awareness: global events/community sensitization was done within the project area reaching 2894 people (1828M, 1066) and 21 school children (156boys, 6girls)

18 – Cooperation. Through the project, partnerships between civil society, national and county governments, local communities and private sector were strengthened.

The project is also contributing to the attainment of several Aichi Biodiversity Targets, including 2 (LUP ensures the integration of ecosystem and biodiversity values into national and local planning), 11 (increasing terrestrial and inland water protected areas by gazetting the ICCA-8404ha and **progressing listing for Yala Swamp both as a Ramsar site and Biosphere Reserve**).¹² (prevention of species extinctions – ICCA is promoting conservation of critically endangered *Oreochromis esculentis* and *O. variabilis*), 14 (restoration of ecosystems for water and livelihoods- 66.7ha through papyrus planting, 63.95ha indigenous and 60.2ha exotic tree planting), 15 (promoting ecosystem resilience to climate change-papyrus and tree planting, production of high value fast maturing and drought resistant crops),¹⁸ (promoting traditional practices of indigenous communities for the conservation of biodiversity-through Yala ICCA management plan and ICCA committee).

Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS): The Yala Delta, project site, is believed to support the near-threatened Great Snipe (*Gallinago media*), has been recorded at L. Kanyaboli in the past. This is a migratory member of the family *Scolopidae*, and is included in Appendix 2 of the CMS. Yala Swamp is a critical feeding ground for them as other areas become converted to agriculture.

Nature Kenya significantly contributes to the implementation of the CBD in Kenya, and is usually included in Government Delegations during Conferences of the Parties meetings. Within the reporting period, Nature Kenya participated in national preparatory meetings for the 24th meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA 24); 3rd meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation (SBI 3) and provided input to the Kenya Sixth National report to the Convention on Biological Diversity. Nature Kenya is also included in the CBD National Reporting Committee for Kenya, and has been tasked by the CBD secondary focal point to lead on reporting on mainstreaming biodiversity into production sectors of the economy. Additionally, it has been tasked by NEMA to lead on reporting on biodiversity monitoring and indicators. Nature Kenya is therefore ideally positioned to share the findings and lessons from this project with the national CBD programme and also during CBD COPs.

6. Project support to poverty alleviation

The project is expected to directly benefit at least 3,055 poor people from livelihood interventions and 250,000 people indirectly from sustainable management of Yala swamp. Through sustainable livelihood interventions over the last 12 months, 783 households sold vegetables,

cereals, fish, honey, chicken, papyrus/palm leaves products, tree seedlings and tour guiding, worth Ksh. [REDACTED] and consumed products worth Ksh. [REDACTED]. Consumption of high quality proteins (443kg fish and chicken) and high value vegetables and cereals—9042 kilos of is contributing to nutritional improvement at household level. Climate smart agriculture, conservation farming, production of chicken, honey, papyrus/palm fronds products, tour guiding and indeed all income generating will promote food security either directly through food availability for households, or generation of additional income for households to purchase food items.

See also Section 4 above-SDG 1

7. Consideration of gender equality issues

See Section 4 above-SDG 5, (see also Annex 159).

8. Monitoring and evaluation

As demonstrated in Section 3 of the report, activities and outputs contribute to the project outcome. Indicators are measured through continuous tracking of activities to ensure that each action is contributing to set targets in the manner envisaged in the project proposal. Nature Kenya keeps track of all activities and field staff submit weekly and monthly updates with records for all activities including data captured from the monitoring tools for IGAs e.g. number of fish ponds stocked, type of fingerlings, kilos of fish harvested per pond by group, amount consumed by households, quantities sold and earnings; types, numbers of papyrus products produced and sold, earnings; numbers of seedlings/ha planted with trees and papyrus; numbers of visitors for tour guides and earnings; meetings/events held and disaggregated participants data etc (see sample weekly and monthly reports in Annex 126 and 148). Field staff also submit monthly scorecards capturing data for the whole month on IGAs, awareness creation, spices and sites, policy and advocacy (see Annex 149). Nature Kenya Programme Support unit tracks project activity delivery and expenditure and provides quarterly feedback to managers (Annex 150)

See section 3 of the report on progress towards output and outcome indicators

9. Lessons learnt

Partnerships with governments at national and county level enhance project outcomes:

The strategy of using a multiagency team with the Ministry of Interior and Coordination of National Government to convene meetings is increasingly paying off. The Deputy County Commissioners in Siaya and Busia were instrumental in convening and presiding over meetings in Usonga and Kadenge-sensitive areas where communities have been sceptical about matters concerning Yala swamp with the entry of Lake Agro Limited. The result is that within 4 months, 59 villages were reached with awareness on LUP and ICCA. The communities are becoming more and more receptive of the LUP/ICCA model and villages that had not initially been targeted for formation of VNRLUCs demanding to be included so as to fully participate in ICCA management. This happened in 7 villages with demand still growing.

Communities and local leaders became more receptive towards ICCA and LUP awareness because of the joint civil society and government team that was involved. More villages were also reached faster, by the joint team because smaller teams were formed to visit several villages concurrently.

Technical government agencies provided free extension services to tree planting and income generating activities thus saving the project money. Linkages with the lowest on-the-ground government officers in field operations constitute sustainability for continuity of project initiatives after project completion.

With enhanced capacity, YESSG has gained ground as conservation champions recognized by County governments of Busia, Siaya and other stakeholders

Based on enhanced capacity, the County governments of Busia, Siaya and other stakeholders have confidence with YESSG and are increasingly working with YESSG in delivery of activities and consult with them on matters environment affecting communities within the counties. In July 2020, ground information backed up with biodiversity monitoring records provided by YESSG informed NEMA and the County Government of Siaya decision to stop a proposed commercial sand mining venture by Kylin Works Limited along River Yala. In September and December 2020, the County government of Siaya invited 4 trained tour guides to provide input during the development of the Siaya County Tourism Policy. KFS partnered with YESSG and local administration in mobilization of riparian land owners during rehabilitation of Got Regea and Rawalo hills within the catchment area of R. Yala. As a result a total of 10,000 indigenous seedlings were planted between July-November 2020 with over 80% survival. In January 2021 when YESSG submitted a proposal to the UNDP-GEF Small Grants Programme to mobilize resources to support conservation of the Yala swamp ICCA, the County governments of Busia and Siaya, KWS and KFS wrote letters committing to support YESSG as partners (see Annexes 151-154). In February 2021, the Assistant County Commissioner (ACC) for Bunyala Sub County in Busia county recommended the devolved YESSG cluster in Busia to Save the Children-a leading International NGO that contacted his office looking for a community based group dealing with environment issues to work with them in one of their programmes. YESSG is in contact with the NGO to roll out the programme-delayed due to Covid 19 restrictions on travel. On 12th March 2021, the YESSG Secretary through invitation by the Siaya County Directorate of Co-operatives represented community groups during a consultative session in the County Assembly of Siaya on the Siaya Co-operative Development Fund Bill 2019 (Annex 155). In March 2021, based on demonstrated skills in sustainable crop production the County Government of Siaya in collaboration with Lake Victoria Basin Commission (LVBC) requested Kanyibok Village Youth Group-an affiliate YESSG group to submit a proposal for funding to scale up climate smart production within the established demo site in Kanyibok village. The proposal (worth Ksh. [REDACTED]) is in the final stages for consideration for funding (Annex 156 and 157). In March 2021, YESSG leadership upon a request from the Siaya County Chief Officer for Tourism successfully convened community sensitization meetings within Got Ramogi to deliberate on involvement of the community in promoting tourism at Got Ramogi hill.

Continuous monitoring and evaluation is key in identifying and addressing challenges for livelihoods initiatives

Given the many beneficiaries of livelihoods activities, their geographical spread and diversity of livelihoods interventions supported by the project, monitoring could become almost impossible. The project supported YESSG to develop monitoring tools to collect data on quantities of crop harvests, chicken rearing, beekeeping, fish farming, feeds production, papyrus product development and tour guiding (see Annexes 97-104). For each of the income generating activities we trained 10 YESSG ToTs on how to use the monitoring tools.

The ToT monitors then identified people to be trained to assist them with data collection at the household level, such that each monitor was responsible for collecting data from a maximum of five households, to track progress in production, consumption, sales, remittance to conservation kitty etc and share reports on weekly & monthly basis (see Annex 33 and 34). The ToTs submit reports to Nature Kenya field staff for collation and onward reporting and tracking. This system became especially useful during COVID-19 lockdown when even Nature Kenya site staff were unable to visit the villages. The tools also capture information on challenges encountered for follow up and appropriate remedial actions enhancing chances of productivity of the enterprises.

For instance, during monitoring we noticed that there was an alarming loss of chicken to a viral disease outbreak and a batch of chicks had stunted growth. The farmers deliberated and agreed to isolate the healthy chicken and dispose them off before the 4months maturity period to avert further losses. The farmers further involved a County Veterinary Officer to examine a sample of the stunted chicks to establish the reason for the stunted growth. Investigations revealed that the parent stock of the chicks supplied were either from a fourth or fifth generation of chicken thus less productivity. With the information, the chicken business committee is now keen on doing thorough background checks on the chick supplier sources before procurement to avert similar risks.

Monetary contribution of beneficiary communities into livelihood enterprises is important in fostering community ownership of initiatives and sustainability e.g. chicken production at the poultry unit. The strategy to require chicken beneficiaries to acquire chicks at a cost was a strong one. The chicken farmers through the Chicken Business Committee agreed to plough back the money in the enterprise as part of community contribution to purchase the second batch of chicks and employing a casual farm hand to support the host farmer in taking care of the chicks round the clock during the first two months. The venture performed very well during the first cycle of production. During the second cycle of production when the farmers encountered challenges in production including diseases outbreak, they decided to cull and sell off chicken before the 4months maturity period to avert further losses. We believe early ownership by the beneficiaries played a major role in the initial success and developing coping mechanisms when faced with challenges because they were safeguarding 'their investment' as opposed to 'Nature Kenya's investment.' Gradual investment of farmers in the enterprise from the start constitutes sustainability beyond the project cycle.

Adaptive management is key to success

COVID-19 brought about a lot of challenges. Yet the project was able to proceed and did not need to make requests for no-cost extension and attendant budgetary realignments. We developed a protocol (Annex 158) to guide the project team in implementation of activities while safeguarding staff, beneficiaries and partners from COVID-19. Thus, we chose to continue doing what could be done. LUP/ICCA/VNRLUCs and environmental awareness continued through radio broadcast; YESSG supplied farmers with inputs to continue production, among others. Because project activities happen in the villages, and with a devolved YESSG, communities were able to carry on with habitat restoration, monitoring, and production even during a national COVID-19 induced lockdown.

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

We received the following feedback from the Annual Report Review:

Comment: *Include information in the Final Feasibility Study Report for Establishment of a Wholesale Product Market for Yala Delta Products to further support achievement of output 4.*

Comment: *Provide a clear process of assessing needs of potential producers of Yala Delta products in relation to production, value addition, bulking and marketing of these products and a strategy of strengthening the producers through associations and cooperatives. Include the assessment and capacity development programmes to address the needs in the draft Business Plans for Nature Based Enterprises dated 18th March 2020.*

Response: Feasibility studies report on establishment of a wholesale market hub for delta products and business plans developed in Y1 were revised to include a marketing strategy for engagement of private sector. The strategy entails conducting a market research, profiling consumers and competitors, analyzing stakeholder roles, agreeing on a marketing approach among others. The reports will be presented to stakeholders for validation in Y3. During the leadership training on 16th-18th September 2020, a rapid assessment was conducted for community producers to inform capacity needs strengthening on production, value addition, bulking and marketing of products with possible solutions for each identified need. Optimization models for the various livelihood initiatives were consultatively developed (see Annex 82). See Section 3.1 of this report Activity 4.1 and 4.5; Section 3.2 Output 4

Comment: *Clarify who the members of the Project Implementation Committee (PIC) are and whether they are holding their bi-annual meetings as per Activity 5.1 See comment in Section 4.1 of this report.*

Response: The PIC comprises 34 members from local communities (YESSG, YPAC, Water Resource Users Associations (WRUA) and Beach Management Units (BMU)); County Executives from Siaya & Busia; National government agencies including the Ministry of Interior & Coordination of National Government; Research/Institutions of higher learning; the Private sector and civil society organizations (see Annex 118). The PIC held its inaugural meeting on 8th October 2020 (see Annex 120) and are scheduled to meet in May 2021.

Comment: *Fast track some of the activities to ensure they are completed on time or provide realistic timelines when they should be completed as per comments in Section 4.1 of this report. Review the project workplan, logframe and assumptions in view of the challenges associated with COVID-19. See comment in Section 4.2 and 14 of this report.*

Response: Activities were largely delivered as planned with adaptive management in Y2. We have strategies on activity delivery to accommodate government directives. However, should need arise, especially with Covid-19 dynamics, we will make formal requests to adjust and accommodate the changes accordingly.

Comment: *Provide clear resource mobilisation strategies in the draft management plan and the ICCA Business Case providing for Sustainable management of Yala Delta ICCA and ensure that there the two documents are cross referenced / linked. See comment in Section 4.2.*

Comment: *Explore ways of financing part of the ICCA Management Plan budget through county government and other agency budgets when the ICCA management plan and the ICCA Business Case are expected to be finalised (especially for the first year implementation). See Section 4.2.*

Response: The draft ICCA business case was finalized and harmonized with the ICCA management plan (see pages 89 of management plan (Annex 8) and pages 7-10 of the Finalized business case (Annex 7)). On 17th November 2020, a technical consultative meeting was held with the county governments of Siaya and Busia. During the meeting, the 2 counties agreed on strategies for embedding the resource mobilization pillar of the ICCA management plan in the county planning frameworks.

Comment: *Provide clear strategies to sustain activities for key government institutions in particular the county departments of lands, physical planning, survey and housing; the departments of water, environment and natural resources (in the two counties); interested private sector entities in addition to YESSG. See comment in section 11.*

Response: The GIS Specialist within the IMTC agreed to share shape files and other GIS products with the counties and support the County Physical Planning Departments with interpretation of maps in the Yala swamp SEA and LUP (See pg. 35 of Annex 72). Commitment to adoption of the LUP and SEA as policy documents will enable the county governments of Siaya and Busia to allocate budgets for their implementation. Streamlining the LUP and ICCA management plan into county planning frameworks; development of a marketing strategy for private sector engagement all constitutes sustainability strategies.

Comment: *Provide brief details of measures the project is taking in relation to health and safety of project staff and beneficiaries in relation to COVID-19. See comment in Section 14 of this report.*

Response: We have a Protocol in place to guide the project team to implement activities while safeguarding staff, beneficiaries and partners from COVID-19 (see Annex 158). Government health protocols on observing social distance, use of masks, wash of hands, sanitizing, vaccination etc are taken into account during project implementation.

Comment: *Review the logframe in light of the comments received at funding.*

Response: See the Revised Logframe in Annex 2 of this report.

11. Other comments on progress not covered elsewhere

The first case of CoVid-19 in Kenya was reported in mid-March 2020. Immediately life changed; social distancing, wearing of facial masks, ban on community gatherings, and imposed lockdowns. From April 2020, field activities slowed down but conservation agriculture, fish farming, climate smart agriculture, tree and papyrus planting, awareness creation through radio and construction of market outlet for papyrus products and poultry unit continued. While it has been possible to progressively work within government restrictions during COVID-19 to deliver project actions that require meetings or gatherings e.g. workshops, meetings, seminars, etc. have been affected by low turn out because people are still exercising caution. CoVid-19 partial lockdown and current curfew restriction is running until May 2021. However, with 2 staff in the field, work continues.

12. Sustainability and legacy

Our sustainability strategy has not changed. The Yala ICCA will expand the protected areas network in Kenya with the support of all stakeholders. Adoption of the LUP and SEA as policy documents will enable the county governments of Siaya and Busia to allocate budgets for their implementation.

YESSG constitute the project legacy (SSG) for its members are drawn from the community and they are heavily involved in the implementation of the project. Capacitated YESSG is now ably representing Yala swamp communities in decision making fora at the county level with remarkable results. Support to YESSG is on course to enable them effectively engage community producers and governments in sustainable financing of ICCA management. YESSG is already effectively engaged with communities in restoration, ICCA governance, resource mobilization and production. YESSG is increasingly engaged with county governments with recognition as an equal partner in conservation of the Yala swamp. For instance, information-including biodiversity monitoring records provided by YESSG informed NEMA and the County Government of Siaya's decision to stop a proposed commercial sand mining venture by Kylin Works Limited along River Yala. Partnerships formed with governments at the national and county level constitute security for continuity of project initiatives during and after project completion.

Commitment to adoption of the LUP and SEA as policy documents will enable the county governments of Siaya and Busia to allocate budgets for their implementation. Streamlining the LUP and ICCA management plan into county planning frameworks; development of a marketing strategy for private sector engagement all constitutes sustainability strategies.

13. Darwin identity

The Darwin Initiative logo has been used in all publicity materials e.g. posters (see Annex 63), calendars, training materials and reports presented to stakeholders. The sign board for products centre in Siaya town (see Annex 77). Nature Kenya newsletter Nature Net https://drive.google.com/file/d/1owzjRoFb_aW1K5VZqtSV0ZmxTk7GISMf/view?usp=sharing and Kenya Birding Magazine (Annex 134) all bear the Darwin logo.

Nature Kenya is active on Twitter, Instagram and YouTube. Nature Kenya is following the Darwin Initiative on Twitter and Instagram and has subscribed to their YouTube channel.

- Twitter - https://twitter.com/Nature_Kenya
- Instagram - https://www.instagram.com/nature_kenya/
- YouTube - <https://www.youtube.com/user/NatureKenya1>

Awareness has been created in all meetings on the Darwin Initiative's funding.

14. Safeguarding

Nature Kenya guidelines for administrative, accounting and financial management contains sections on safeguarding. These include Conflict of Interest Policy; Whistleblower Policy; Anti-Bribery; Anti-money Laundering; Anti-slavery and human trafficking; Safeguarding; Child labour and Gender Policy (Annex 159).

15. Project expenditure

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

Project spend (indicative) since last annual report	2020/21 Grant (£)	2020/21 Total Darwin Costs (£)	Variance %	Comments (please explain significant variances)
Staff costs (see below)				
Consultancy costs				
Overhead Costs				
Travel and subsistence				
Operating Costs				
Capital items (see below)				
Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E)				
Others (see below)				
TOTAL				

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

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2020 - March 2021	Actions required/planned for next period
<p>Impact</p> <p>Balanced, sustainable management regimes are established for large wetlands throughout Kenya, supported by all relevant stakeholders and ensuring that the needs of both biodiversity and people are met indefinitely</p>		<p>1,000 copies each of LUP and SEA were published with endorsement of two counties and high level political support, and 162 copies each of LUP and SEA distributed to stakeholders in Y2. Two county governments, national government agencies and 62 villages have continued to fully support the setting up of an 8,404ha ICCA with a finalized management plan and a trained management committee formed. 58 out of 62 VNRLUCs were formed to provide a vehicle for community involvement in ICCA governance and implementation of management actions on the ground. 3,055 people received direct support to engage in sustainable production, 783 households sold various products and services earning Ksh. [REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED] Habitat restoration is on-going with 66.7ha within the ICCA already restored through direct papyrus planting; 63.95ha of riparian zone in the lower River Yala restored through indigenous tree planting and 60.2ha of woodlots established with exotic tree seedlings. Biodiversity is being monitored by capacitated communities as part of ICCA justification and data submitted to National Museums of Kenya for inclusion into annual Key Biodiversity Areas Status and Trends Reports, YESSG is engaged with county and national decision makers with</p>	<p>Fast track and secure LUP adoption as policy</p> <p>Formalize registration of the ICCA management committee either as a Community Wildlife Association or a Community Conservancy</p> <p>Train village natural resource and land use committees</p> <p>Support ICCA management committee and county governments in implementation of the ICCA management plan</p> <p>Continue restoration of papyrus wetland and lower R. Yala to reach project targets</p> <p>Consolidate community production, bulking and marketing</p> <p>Link communities to local and external markets</p> <p>Prepare formal gazettement of ICCA and listing as a Ramsar site</p> <p>Create awareness on Yala Swamp and share lessons</p> <p>Carry out end-of-project surveys on biodiversity (water quality, key bird and fish species)</p> <p>Carry out end-of-project surveys on household wellbeing, diet and socioeconomic status in communities around the CCA</p>

		<p>recognition as an equal partner for the conservation of Yala Swamp. Partnerships formed with governments at the national and county level constitute security for continuity of project initiatives during and after project completion. Lessons are being shared widely. Commitment to adoption of the LUP and SEA as policy documents will enable the county governments of Siaya and Busia to allocate budgets for their implementation. Streamlining the LUP and ICCA management plan into county planning frameworks; development of a marketing strategy for private sector engagement all constitutes sustainability strategies.</p>	
<p>Outcome</p> <p>The future of Kenya's globally important Yala Delta is secured for the long term, benefiting both the rich biodiversity of this site and 250,000 people, and replication elsewhere is encouraged</p>	<p>0.1. By the end of the project (EOP) 8,404 ha of papyrus swamp have been protected through gazettement of a Community Conservation Area (CCA); 200 ha of this swamp have undergone natural regeneration; 100 ha have been actively restored; and 300 ha of riparian habitats upstream of the CCA have been protected through implementation of the Land Use Plan (LUP) for the delta</p> <p>0.2. By EOP Encounter rate per Km of papyrus endemics including Papyrus Yellow Warbler, Carruther's Cisticola and Papyrus Canary, have not declined below 0.21, 4.78, 0.13</p>	<p>1,000 copies each of LUP and SEA were published with endorsement of two counties and high level political support, and 162 copies each of LUP and SEA were distributed to stakeholders in Y2. Communities support the LUP and have held meetings with County Executives for Lands urging them to fast track its adoption and implementation.</p> <p>Two county governments, national government agencies and 62 villages have continued to fully support the setting up of an 8,404ha ICCA with a finalized management plan, and a trained management committee and 58 out of 62 VNRLUCs were formed. 2 counties agreed on strategies for embedding the resource mobilization pillar of the ICCA management plan in the county planning frameworks. GIS maps for wetland habitats including restores areas within the ICCA were produced. 66.7ha of papyrus swamp;</p>	<p>Key actions planned for next period</p> <p>Fast track and secure LUP adoption as policy</p> <p>Formalize registration of the ICCA management committee either as a Community Wildlife Association or a Community Conservancy</p> <p>Train village natural resource and land use committees</p> <p>Support ICCA management committee and county governments in implementation of the ICCA management plan</p> <p>Continue restoration of papyrus wetland and lower R. Yala to reach project targets</p> <p>Consolidate community production, bulking and marketing</p> <p>Link communities to local and external markets</p>

	<p>and 2.94 respectively; Sitatunga and Critically Endangered Oreochromis esculentis and O. variabilis have stopped declining below 6 and 3 Catch Per Unit Effort respectively in the CCA protected by the project, which covers 40% of the Yala Delta.</p> <p>0.3. The quantity of nitrates, phosphates and sediments in water flowing out of Yala Delta into L. Victoria falls measurably below 1.5 mg/l, 0.019 mg/l and 0.049/l respectively, due to improved filtration by better protected papyrus swamp.</p> <p>0.4. By EOP a total of at least 3,055 very poor people are benefiting directly from the livelihood interventions detailed under Output 4, and some 250,000 other people are benefiting indirectly from the improved management of the Yala Delta</p> <p>0.5. By EOP, the governments of Busia and Siaya counties have committed to creating permanent new budget lines to support the implementation of the LUP in the long term</p> <p>0.6. By EOP, lessons learned from the project have informed regional plans created by the Lake Victoria Basin Commission, and are demonstrably being applied in at least one other large wetland in Kenya</p>	<p>63.95ha of riparian zone along R.Yala restored through direct planting and further 60.2ha of woodlots established with exotic tree seedlings.</p> <p>Routine biodiversity monitoring was conducted within the ICCA as part of ICCA justification. 3,055 people received direct support to engage in sustainable production. Communities earned Ksh [REDACTED] from income generating activities and consumed products worth [REDACTED] By EOP 250,000 other people will benefit indirectly from the improved management of the Yala Delta.</p> <p>2912 (1841M, 1071F) households made up of 14,560 (6843M, 7717F) people and 21 children (15 boys, 6 girls) were reached with awareness messages on LUP/SEA, ICCA and biodiversity values of the Yala Swamp. Awareness was done through village meetings; global environmental awareness days and various stakeholders meetings. The number of people reached through awareness and outreach is higher when we factor people reached through radio and TV broadcast.</p> <p>Overall, in the second year the project directly reached 4,216 (2,563M, 1,653F) households made up of 21,131 (9,950M, 11,181F) people and 21 children (15 boys, 6 girls). This includes livelihoods support and training, trainings in livelihoods support without direct investment, awareness and outreach and tree growing.</p>	<p>Prepare formal gazettement of ICCA and listing as a Ramsar site</p> <p>Create awareness on Yala Swamp and share lessons</p> <p>Carry out end-of-project surveys on biodiversity (water quality, key bird and fish species)</p> <p>Carry out end-of-project surveys on household wellbeing, diet and socioeconomic status in communities around the CCA</p>
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<p>Output 1.</p> <p>The 8,404-ha Community Conservation Area (CCA) within the Yala Delta is protected effectively and in perpetuity through formal gazettement and development of a management plan and associated governance bodies and regulations</p>	<p>1.1. The CCA (established under Darwin project 21-015) is added to the official list of protected areas maintained by the Kenyan government by EOP</p> <p>1.2. An integrated management plan for the CCA is developed in close consultation with local communities by the end of Year 1 (EOY1), taking account of both conservation and resource use needs</p> <p>1.3. A multi-stakeholder Management Committee is set up for the CCA by EOY1, together with village-level Natural Resource & Land Use Committees and a Water Resource User Association</p> <p>1.4. Regulations are developed by EOY2 to guide access to water and papyrus and ensure the protection of the CCA</p>	<p>Two county governments, national government agencies and 62 villages have continued to fully support the setting up of an 8,404ha ICCA.</p> <p>Yala ICCA management plan was finalized and validated with wide stakeholders consultation and support.</p> <p>A 17 member Yala swamp ICCA management committee was trained on legal framework of ICCAs in Kenya. 58 out of 62 VNRLUCs were formed to support ICCA governance and implementation of management actions on the ground.</p> <p>Multi-agency community sensitization meetings were held in 59 villages on Yala swamp ICCA and the LUP</p> <p>Draft guidelines on local resource use (fisheries, water and papyrus access) developed in Y1 were validated to guide sustainable use of resources within the ICCA</p> <p>See section 3 of the report for details</p>	
<p>Activity 1.1 Carry out community mobilization in villages around and within the swamp to agree on CCA</p>		<p>Multi-agency community sensitization meetings held in 59 villages; 2247 (1402M, 845F) people reached through chief's barazas. (Annex 1). Between 29th May 2020 – 21st February 2021 a total of 37 one-hour LUP/ICCA live broadcast awareness talks conducted on vernacular radio station Bulala FM, in Budalang'i, Busia County. (Annex 2).</p>	<p>Community sensitization meetings in villages to popularize the ICCA model</p>
<p>Activity 1.2 Produce GIS map of CCA showing land use, land cover and extent</p>		<p>GIS maps of wetland habitats including restored areas within the ICCA were produced in Y2 (Annex 15).</p>	
<p>Activity 1.3 Prepare CCA management plan in consultation with stakeholders</p>		<p>Yala ICCA management plan finalized and validated with wide stakeholders consultation and support (Annex 6 and 8).</p>	<p>Kick start implementation of the ICCA management plan</p>
<p>Activity 1.4 Form multi-stakeholder CCA management committee</p>		<p>A reconstituted 17 member Yala swamp ICCA management committee</p>	

	trained on legal framework of ICCAs in Kenya.	
Activity 1.5 Register CCA management committee as a Community Wildlife Association, providing the name of the CCA, a constitution and a management plan and thus formalising the CCA	Consultations initiated with ICCA members and government stakeholders to reach a consensus to register the management committee either as a Community Wildlife Association or a Community Conservancy. (Annex 5, 6 and 9)	Formalize registration of the ICCA management committee either as a Community Wildlife Association or a Community Conservancy
Activity 1.6 Prepare justification for formal protection of the CCA and carry out stakeholder consultations and awareness	Key biodiversity species being monitored by the project forms part of ICCA justification which is included in the ICCA management plan (See pp32-33 in Annex 7). Stakeholder consultations and awareness is on-going for formal protection of the ICCA.(see 1.5 above)	Same as Activity 1.5 above
Activity 1.7 Prepare and publish formal CCA protection notice	On track for execution after completion of processes in 1.5 and 1.6 above.	Same as Activity 1.5 and 1.6 above
Activity 1.8 Support communities to form village natural resource and land use committees (VNRLUCs)	On track. A total of 58 out of 62 VNRLUCs formed made up of 295 (171M,124F) people and 15 (5M,10F) co-opted members; TOR for VNRLUCs (Annex 43) adopted to form part of the local resource use guidelines for the ICCA.	Form VNRLUCs in the remaining 2 villages Train village natural resource and land use committees
Activity 1.9 Develop and implement regulations on water and papyrus access	Draft Regulations on water and papyrus access developed in Y1 (Annex 45) validated as part of the local resource use guidelines for the ICCA. (see Annex 9)	Implement regulations
Activity 1.10 Restore 300 ha of degraded swamp habitat (100 ha through direct planting of papyrus and 200 ha through natural regeneration) and 300 ha of riparian habitat in the lower R. Yala (100 ha through direct planting and 200 ha through natural regeneration)	66.7ha of papyrus swamp; 63.95ha of riparian zone along R.Yala restored through direct planting and further 60.2ha of woodlots established with exotic tree seedlings. (Annex 16,17,18, 20 and 21)	Continue restoration of papyrus wetland and lower R. Yala to reach project targets

<p>Activity 1.11 In order to assess the developmental impacts of specific livelihood interventions under Output 4), carry out baseline and end-of-project surveys on household wellbeing, diet and socioeconomic status in communities around the CCA</p>	<p>On track. Baseline socio-economic surveys in communities around the ICCA conducted in Y1</p>	<p>Carry out end-of-project surveys on household wellbeing, diet and socioeconomic status in communities around the CCA</p>
<p>Activity 1.12 In order to assess the environmental impacts of the project, carry out baseline, annual and end-of-project surveys on: water quality parameters including transparency, temperature, pH, conductivity and nutrient load (phosphates, nitrates and total dissolved solids); key bird species including East African 'papyrus endemics' such as Papyrus Yellow Warbler, Carruthers' Cisticola, White-winged Swamp-Warbler and Papyrus Canary; Sitatunga; and key fish species, especially endemic cichlids in Lake Kanyaboli and other satellite lakes</p>	<p>On track. Baseline biodiversity assessments on water quality, key bird and fish species conducted in Y1, detailed monitoring of key bird species (Annex 38) conducted within the ICCA</p>	<p>Carry out end-of-project surveys on biodiversity (water quality, key bird and fish species)</p>
<p>Output 2. (Insert agreed Output)</p> <p>The key 'user groups' in the delta are enabled to jointly manage the CCA through the provision of training and on-going support</p>	<p>(Insert agreed Output level indicators)</p> <p>2.1. The capacity of 40 members of the Yala Ecosystem Site Support Group (YESSG) (60% male; 40% female) to provide training on CCA management to 200 crop farmers (50% male; 50% female), 100 livestock herders and 150 (60% male; 40% female) fishers, and to represent these groups in county decision-making processes, is built by EOY1</p> <p>2.2. Training and representation is provided by YESSG thereafter, with support from Nature Kenya as needed</p> <p>2.3. The capacity of 60 members of the multi-stakeholder Management Committee (60% male; 40% female) to oversee management of the CCA is built by EOY2</p> <p>2.4. All three user groups are making major contributions to the sustainable management of the CCA by EOP, coordinated by the Management Committee</p> <p>2.5 By EOP community production cooperatives are contributing 10% of all</p>	<p>(Report against the indicators on progress towards achieving the Output)</p> <p>Capacitated YESSG is now ably representing Yala swamp communities in decision making fora at the county level-urging the county governments of Siaya and Busia to fast track the process of adoption of LUP. (Annexes 35-39, 46-59)</p> <p>A total of 358 (189M, 169F) YESSG members were trained as ToTs in organizational capacity assessment (OCA), chicken keeping, basics in formulation of fish feeds, use of monitoring tools to track livelihoods interventions, leadership, governance, policy and advocacy, biodiversity monitoring, basics in tour guiding & bird identification, papyrus product development, climate smart agriculture and conservation farming. (Annexes 23-32; 85, 88-90) Further, 16 (12M, 4F) members of the ICCA management committee were trained in legal frameworks for ICCAs in Kenya (Annex 9). The ToTs will build the capacity of Yala Swamp user groups in governance and ICCA management (see page 79 of Annex 90). Crop farmers, livestock herders, fishermen, wildlife guides and other user groups who constitute YESSG form the ICCA governance structure in partnership with county and national government agencies.</p> <p>YESSG developed guidelines for community contributions towards sustainable financing of the ICCA management actions, from proceeds of livelihoods activities funded through the project (see Annex 60). Through a benefit sharing strategy, 10% of all proceeds from livelihood enterprises goes to a conservation kitty to support simple but critical conservation actions including ICCA management, biodiversity monitoring, awareness and advocacy. Within the reporting period, livelihoods beneficiaries remitted Ksh. [REDACTED] to the conservation kitty. YESSG contributed Ksh. [REDACTED] from the conservation kitty towards supporting awareness, publicity (Annex 63) and advocacy activities (see budgets in Annex 61 and 62)</p>

	<p>proceeds from sales of produce towards CCA management</p> <p>2.6 By EOY1, feasibility studies on using ecosystem services to generate income for CCA management are complete, and the best approach to realising income in this way is agreed</p> <p>2.7 Informed by these feasibility studies, a CCA business case that includes a sustainable financing plan has been developed, applied and promoted to the private sector and county governments by EOY2</p>	<p>The draft ICCA business case was finalized and harmonized with the ICCA management plan (see pages 89 of management plan and pages 7-10 of the draft business case). This is based on feasibility studies on using ecosystem services to generate income for ICCA management. It provides guidelines on sustainable financing plan with income from community enterprises, county government's budget lines and support from the private sector (see Annex 60). The ICCA business case will be presented to stakeholders in Y3 to agree on the best approach to realise income.</p> <p>See detailed reporting in section 3 of the report</p>	
Activity 2.1. Prepare CCA management framework with a governance structure	On track through activities 1.3-1.9 above		
Activity 2.2. Build capacity of the YESSG to provide training on CCA management (including biodiversity monitoring and representation in county decision making)	Capacitated YESSG- 358 (189M, 169F) trained ToTs is now ably representing Yala swamp communities in decision making fora at the county level and leading on advocacy initiatives. (See details in in section 3 of the report)		Support YESSG to build the capacity of Yala Swamp user groups in governance and ICCA management
Activity 2.3 Support YESSG to carry out organizational capacity assessment of WRUAs, Beach management units (BMUs), farmer groups, and papyrus product weavers groups	50(31M,19F) YESSG ToTs conducted OCA for 128 (95M, 33F) members of 5 WRUAs and 17 BMUs as part of the capacity building of these user groups in ICCA management. (Annex 23)		Develop capacity building plans for the ICCA user groups informed by the OCA reports
Activity 2.4 Support YESSG to train WRUAs, BMUs, farmer/livestock cooperatives, and papyrus products weavers in leadership, governance, group management and advocacy	32 members of YESSG (13M, 19F) trained as ToTs in conservation leadership and governance. (Annex 28)		Support YESSG to train WRUAs, BMUs, farmer/livestock cooperatives, and weavers in leadership, governance, group management and advocacy.
Activity 2.5 YESSG and WRUAs develop land and water register within the CCA detailing all land use activities that involve water abstraction	Desktop policy analysis conducted to inform the preparation of a roadmap for the development of a land and water register for the delta (see Anne 40).YESSG and WRUAs are represented in the ICCA management committee and were involved during the review of land and water sector		Support YESSG and WRUAs develop a land and water register within the ICCA detailing all land use activities that involve water abstraction

	policy and legal framework (see Annex 9 as part of the initial steps in preparation of the land and water register within the ICCA	
Activity 2.6 WRUAs review, update and implement sub-catchment management plans	Consultative meetings held with officers from WRA (Annex 41) and a roadmap developed to guide the review of sub catchment management plans (Annex 42).	Hold meetings to constitute a subcommittee to support WRA team in the review process.
Activity 2.7 BMUs prepare and implement fisheries management guidelines for the CCA	Draft Fisheries management guidelines for the ICCA developed in Y1 (Annex 44) validated as part of the local resource use guidelines for the ICCA. (See Annex 9)	Implement Fisheries management guidelines
Activity 2.8 Train multi-stakeholder CCA management committee on legal provisions for CCAs and CCA management	16 (12M,4F) members of the ICCA management committee trained in legal frameworks for ICCAs in Kenya. (See Annex 9)	
Activity 2.9 Support YESSG to organize communities in the CCA into management sub-committees and produce local resource use guidelines and work with County staff to agree responsibilities/resources for CCA management.	On 17 th November 2020, County technical staff clarified and harmonized roles and responsibilities of the ICCA governance structure and agreed on strategies for embedding the resource mobilization pillar of the ICCA management plan in the county planning frameworks. Draft guidelines on local resource use (water, papyrus, fisheries) were validated (See activity 1.9 and 2.7 above) YESSG is already mobilizing resources for CCA to support conservation of Yala swamp ICCA (Annex 51).	Support YESSG to organize communities in the ICCA into management sub-committees and implement local resource use guidelines
Activity 2.10 Support YESSG to represent community interests in county planning, budgeting and other decision making that affects their livelihoods	Capacitated YESSG is leading on advocacy initiatives (See details in Section 3 of this report)	Continue supporting YESSG advocacy
Activity 2.11 Carry out feasibility studies on using ecosystem services to generate income for CCA management and agree on the best approach to realise income	The draft ICCA business case was finalized and harmonized with the ICCA management plan. This is based on feasibility studies on using ecosystem services to generate income for ICCA	Present the ICCA business case to stakeholders to agree on the best approach to realise income.

		management. It provides guidelines on sustainable financing plan with income from community enterprises; county government's budget lines and support from the private sector (see Annex 7).	
Activity 2.12 Prepare a CCA business case that includes a sustainable financing plan and promote it to private sector and county governments		See Activity 2.11 above	
Activity 2.13 Develop and implement guidelines on financing of CCA management with income from community businesses		Draft guidelines for community contributions towards Sustainable Financing ICCA Management (Annex 60) validated and under implementation.	Continue with implementation of the agreed benefit sharing strategy and ensure producer groups make remittances as required to support ICCA management.
<p>Output 3.</p> <p>The Land Use Plan (LUP) for the entire delta is adopted as official policy by the governments of Busia and Siaya counties, and capacity is established within these governments to implement the plan effectively</p>	<p>3.1. The LUP (developed under Darwin project 21-015) is adopted as policy by EOY1</p> <p>3.2. The County Planning Departments (CPDs) are supported to create a detailed, up-to-date map of the delta by EOY2, using satellite imaging with ground-truthing</p> <p>3.3. The CPDs are supported to create and populate a register recording all land- and water-use activities in the delta by EOY2</p> <p>3.4. A cross-county Yala Sustainable Development Board is established by EOY1 to oversee land and water use in the delta, and regulations and procedures are developed to ensure that these resources are utilised sustainably and equitably</p> <p>3.5. County governors and assemblies are supported throughout the project to advocate for beneficial changes in national policy</p>	<p>1,000 copies each of LUP and SEA were published in Y1 with the endorsement of two counties and high level political support, and 162 copies each of LUP and SEA distributed to stakeholders in Y2 (Annex 75). County Assemblies of Busia and Siaya support adoption of LUP and SEA as policy documents. Modalities of establishing a cross-county management structure for Yala swamp was flagged up as part of the discussions during the IMTC briefing meetings with the two counties. (see Annex 71). This will be discussed further in subsequent joint meetings between County governments of Siaya and Busia.</p> <p>GIS maps were produced in Y1 showing various aspects including land use and land cover in a balanced scenario, agricultural potential areas, human settlements, sensitive and vulnerable areas etc GIS maps of wetland habitats including restored areas within the ICCA (Annex 15) were produced in Y2 with ground truthing done by YESSG. The GIS Specialist within IMTC agreed to share shape files and other GIS products with the counties and support the CPDs with interpretation of maps in the Yala swamp SEA and LUP. These maps will provide a basis for CPDs to create a detailed and updated map of the delta in year 3.</p> <p>CPDs together with the ICCA management committee will be supported to generate a register of all land and water use activities in the delta in year 3.</p> <p>See detailed reporting in section 3 of the report</p>	
Activity 3.1 Hold meetings of the Inter-Ministerial Technical Committee on Deltas (IMTC) to agree an advocacy strategy and prepare presentations on key elements of the LUP		Done in Y1	
Activity 3.2 Hold initial briefing meetings with the county executives and other technical staff to make them aware of the LUP and SEA		Initial briefing meetings held in Y1	

Activity 3.3 Hold workshops with the county technical teams (one workshop per county) to educate them about the contents and importance of the LUP and thus secure their support	Workshops with the county technical teams held, members sensitized on importance of the LUP	Support the county technical teams in the interpretation of LUP
Activity 3.4 Support the county technical teams to prepare briefings for their governors to enable them to endorse the LUP	Endorsement of LUP Done in Y1	
Activity 3.5 Hold initial meetings with key county assembly members to make them aware of the LUP	Same as 3.3 above	
Activity 3.6 Hold initial meetings with the chairs of the counties' land and environment house committees to make them aware of the LUP	Same as 3.3 above	
Activity 3.7 In liaison with the county assembly clerks, organise workshops to educate assembly members about the contents and importance of the LUP (one workshop per county)	Same as 3.3 above	
Activity 3.8 Support county assembly committees on land to prepare motions on the adoption of the LUP for tabling in their assembly	IMTC supported the County Executives for Lands in Siaya & Busia counties to prepare policy briefs and cabinet memos in readiness for submission of the LUP and SEA to the respective county assemblies for adoption (see Annex 61-63).	
Activity 3.9 Support county executives and assemblies to advocate to national government and upstream counties on maintaining ecosystem services of the delta	Planned for project year 3	Support county executives and assemblies to advocate to national government and upstream counties on maintaining ecosystem services of the
Activity 3.10 Support county planning departments to create land and water register for the Yala Delta	On track to be done in Y3 in line with Activity 2.5 above	Support county planning departments to create land and water register for the Yala Delta
Activity 3.11 Support YPAC to advocate to members of county assembly to adopt LUP as policy	YPAC and YESSG members reached 2 Members of the County Assembly of Usonga Ward, Siaya and Bunyala South Ward, Busia during community level awareness meetings on the LUP(see Annex 1)	Support YPAC to continue lobbying county assembly of Siaya and Busia to adopt LUP as policy
Activity 3.12 Support county planning departments to prepare up-to-date GIS maps of the Delta	GIS maps produced in Y1 showing various aspects including land use, land use and land cover in a balanced scenario; agricultural potential areas; sensitive and vulnerable areas etc will provide a basis for CPDs to create a	Support CPDs to create a detailed and updated map of the delta

		detailed and updated map of the delta in year 3.	
Activity 3.13 Establish Yala Delta Sustainable Development Board and embed it into county operations		Planned for project year 3	Establish Yala Delta Sustainable Development Board and embed it into county operations
Output 4. The poorest and most vulnerable people living in and around the Yala Delta are empowered to further enhance their livelihoods in ways that support the long-term conservation of the delta's natural resources	<p>4.1. By EOY1 a wholesale market has been established at a suitable site to act as a 'hub' for the sale of delta products to large external purchasers</p> <p>4.2a. By EOY1 200 existing crop farming households made up of 1,000 people (direct beneficiaries being approximately 50% female, 50% male) have been helped to form cooperatives and given training and support in wholesale marketing</p> <p>4.2b. By EOP these crop farmers are selling at least 50% of their produce to large external purchasers through the market hub</p> <p>4.2c. By EOP the incomes of these households has increased by an average of 30%</p> <p>4.3a. By EOY1 150 households made up of 750 people have been provided with fishponds and associated training and support (with the <u>direct</u> beneficiaries of training etc being approximately 40% female and 60% male)</p> <p>4.3b. By EOY2 participating fish farmers have been supported to form cooperatives for fish production and marketing</p> <p>4.3c. By EOP participating fish farmers are selling fish and fish products to</p>	<p>Feasibility studies report on establishment of a wholesale market hub for delta products and business plans developed in Y1 were revised based on input from on-going engagement with YESSG (Annex 76 and 81). The revised reports include a marketing strategy for engagement of private sector. The reports will be presented to stakeholders for validation in Y3. The stakeholders will agree on establishment of the market hub, bulking centres, market outlets, branding, value addition, external buyers and governance of the market hub among other things.</p> <p>In line with the recommendations of the Feasibility studies report, the project supported the establishment of an operational bulking centre/outlet for papyrus products within the Kenya Forest Service (KFS) offices compound in Siaya town. The centre doubles up as a display/ market outlet for other nature based products. The recent harvest of honey from beekeepers was bulked, packaged and sold at the centre. The project also established operational poultry unit at Rawalo village, Siaya county for rearing chicks before supply to farmers. The unit serves multipurpose functions as a community training center, bulking and marketing center for chicken farmers.</p> <p>Project established partnerships at the national level, with the Climate Change Coordination Unit in the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Cooperatives (CCU-MOALFC) (Annexes 85-87). Through this partnership in collaboration with County Executives for agriculture carried out one week hands-on training of 19 (16M 3F) County Agricultural Extension Officers (Annex 90). Each trained extension officer was supported to train 10 beneficiary farmers on field practices in CSA/CA as Trainers of Trainers (ToT). On 5th-21st October 2020 trained Agricultural Extension Officers carried out hands on training of 90 (34M 56F) ToT farmers on CSA/CA (Annex 32). In the current production cycle, the ToT farmers are being supported to train 10 farmers each and as a result all the 250 project beneficiaries on CSA will be trained. 200 (131M, 69F) crop farming households made up of 1,000 (470M, 530F) people produced 25,385kg of high value vegetables & cereals under conservation agriculture. A total of 5,040kg of the produce worth [REDACTED] was consumed within households and 20,345kg sold for Ksh. [REDACTED] in market centres local hotels and schools in Siaya and Busia (Annex 106, 107). 32 (6M, 26F) households sold sorghum and soya beans to East African Breweries Limited.</p>	

	<p>local people and at least one large-scale buyer and household incomes have increased by an average of 30%</p> <p>4.4a. By EOY1 100 households made up of 500 people have been provided with beehives and associated training and support (direct beneficiaries 50% female and 50% male)</p> <p>4.4b. By EOP the income of these households has increased by an average of 25%</p> <p>4.5a. By EOY1 50 households made up of 250 people have been trained and supported to initiate chicken-rearing as a business (direct beneficiaries 75% female and 25% male)</p> <p>4.5b. By EOP the income of these households has increased by an average of 30%</p> <p>4.6a. By EOY1 55 households made up of 275 people that are already producing papyrus products such as baskets have been trained and supported to form a marketing cooperative (direct beneficiaries 40% female and 60% male)</p> <p>4.6b. By EOP these households are selling their products through the market hub and their incomes have increased by an average of 25%</p> <p>4.7a. By EOY1 50 households made up of 250 people have been supported to develop businesses based on the sustainable, climate-smart production of high-value vegetable crops (direct beneficiaries 50% female and 50% male)</p>	<p>50 (25M, 25F) crop farming households made up of 250 (118M, 132F) people produced a total of 19,381kg high value horticultural crops including kales, capsicum, coriander & indigenous vegetables using climate smart agriculture techniques. A total of 4,002kg of the produce worth [REDACTED] was consumed within households and 15,379kg sold for [REDACTED] in market centres and local hotels and restaurants in Siaya.</p> <p>150 (100M, 50F) households made up of 750 (353M, 397F) people were supported to restock 17 fish ponds (Annex 92). 12 ponds were stocked with tilapia (<i>Oreochromis niloticus</i>) and 5 ponds stocked with catfish (<i>Clarias gariepinus</i>). 10 (all male) fish farmers received hands on training from the County Fisheries Department & Belvis Hatchery on basics in formulation of fish feeds. The hands on demonstration training covered identification of commonly used locally available & quality ingredients for formulating fish feed, mixing ratios, pelletizing (production of floating pellets), proper storage of ingredients and feeds, and record keeping. 10 out of 17 ponds have already yielded 4505 kilos of fish (Annex 109). 382 kilos worth Ksh.133,700 (£ 1,013) were eaten by beneficiary households while 4,133 kilos were sold for Ksh. 1,373,900 (£ 10,408) to local hotels and fish mongers at Usenge fish market.</p> <p>100 (53M, 47F) households made up of 500 people (235M, 265F) were supported to set up three apiaries with a total of 100 beehives. Within the reporting period, 35 beehives yielded 138.45kg of honey. 43.25kg worth Ksh. 34,600 (£ 262) was consumed by beneficiary households while the remaining 95.2kg was sold for for Ksh. 76,120 (£ 504) at the product centre in Siaya town and households within Siaya and Busia counties. (See Annex 93).</p> <p>Women from 50 households made up of 250 (118M, 132F) people were supported to establish a poultry production unit. 29 (5M, 24F) chicken farmers received hands on training from the County Livestock Department. The hands on demonstration training covered factors that hinder successful production; good poultry production practices; chick management; good breeding and stock selection; vaccines and vaccination; disease prevention and control measures; feeds, feeding and egg handling; management of chicken equipment; common bio-security measures; and general farm management for good poultry production. Within the reporting period, 298 chicken (536.4kg) were bulked and sold to community event caterers for Ksh. [REDACTED], while 51 chicken (61.2kg) worth Ksh [REDACTED] were consumed within households. (see Annex 108).</p> <p>55 households made up of 275 (130M, 145F) people were supported to produce high value papyrus and palm leaves products. 11(7M, 4F) weavers were trained as ToTs in smooth edge finishing, cushion fixing, glass fitting. Within the reporting period, benefiting households produced 1657 assorted products, sold 1011 assorted high value papyrus and palm frond products</p>
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	<p>4.7b. By EOP the income of these households has increased by an average of 25%</p> <p>4.8. By EOP 30 people (50% male and 50% female) have been trained to be wildlife guides and their annual income has increased by an average of 25%</p> <p>4.9a. By EOY1 meetings have been held with the private sector to discuss their engagement</p> <p>4.9b By EOP at least one private sector player is actively engaged in each of the production chains (farming, fish, beekeeping, poultry and papyrus products)</p>	<p>worth Ksh. [REDACTED] at a market centre-Mubwayo, in Busia, and the product centre in Siaya Town. (see Annex 111).</p> <p>38 (27M, 11F) wildlife guides were trained in basics of tour guiding and bird identification by professional guides from Nature Kenya. 11 out of the 30 guides earned a combined income of [REDACTED] from guiding 30 tourists visiting the Yala Swamp and lower River Yala.</p> <p>Monitoring tools to collect data on quantities on crop farming, chicken keeping, beekeeping, fish farming, feeds production, papyrus product development and tour guiding were developed (Annexes 97-104). 53 (28M 25F) YESSG members were trained in the use of the IGA monitoring tools (see Annex 27) to track progress in production, consumption, sales, remittance to conservation kitty etc and share reports on weekly & monthly basis. The tools also capture information on challenges encountered for follow up and appropriate remedial actions (see Annex 33).</p> <p>During the feasibility study we found out that some YESSG members are committee members at the existing wholesale fresh farm produce markets in Siaya, Yala and Usenge towns. This is an opportunity that we are using to support farmers to market their produce.</p> <p>The fish farmers have an existing registered umbrella group (Yala Swamp Ecosystem Fish Farmers Conservation Group) made up of 12 different CBOs. The umbrella group currently supports farmers in fish production through TOT mentorship. This will be formalized into a fish farmer’s cooperative.</p> <p>In project year 1, a number of consumers were identified to be engaged as potential buyers for community products. They range from large companies like the East African Breweries Limited (EABL) to smaller businesses such as local hotels and learning institutions. Initial contacts have been established with the buyers (see activity 4.4) and a good proportion of the producers are already engaged in business with the buyers through contract agreements and tenders (Annex 79). Other meetings with private sector will be set up in project year 3 to discuss further engagement.</p>
<p>Activity 4.1 Carry out feasibility studies on establishment of a wholesale market hub for delta products including identification of key stakeholders, roles and responsibilities and a suitable location</p>		<p>Feasibility studies report and business plans report revised (Annex 76 and 81). to include a marketing strategy for engagement of private sector. The feasibility studies reports will be in Y3.</p> <p>Present reports to stakeholders for validation</p>
<p>Activity 4.2 Based on feasibility study carry out stakeholders consultations on establishment of market hub</p>		<p>Initial stakeholders consultations done in Y1. Meetings scheduled for stakeholders to agree on establishment of the market hub, bulking centres, market outlets, branding, value</p> <p>Same as 4.1 above</p>

	addition, external buyers and governance of the market hub among other things.	
Activity 4.3 Establish hub in line with findings from feasibility study and stakeholder consultation	The project supported the establishment of an operational bulking centre/outlet for papyrus products in Siaya town (Annex 77). The centre doubles up as a display/ market outlet for other nature based products. The project also established an operational poultry unit at Rawalo village, Siaya county for rearing chicks before supply to farmers (Annex 78). The unit also serves as a bulking and marketing center for chicken farmers.	
Activity 4.4 Identify and engage external buyers of delta products	<p>A good proportion of the producers are already engaged in business with the buyers through contract agreements and tenders (Annex 79). They include EABL through contracts for growing sorghum and soya beans varieties used in brewing beer; local schools through tenders for the supply of vegetables; local hotels and fish mongers at Usenge fish market for sell of fish; Pacho Farms Limited in Siaya for optimization of feeds production machine; Western Honey Flows Limited for sell of honey; Chicken Basket Limited in Kisumu for sell of chicken and eggs; Kisumu Innovation Centre (KICK) for marketing of papyrus and palm leaves products and Lake Victoria Tourism Association for promotion of ecotourism.</p> <p>See details in Section 3 of this report</p>	Set up meetings with private sector will to discuss further engagement/formalize engagements

Activity 4.5 Develop and implement marketing strategies for delta products targeting bulk buyers	Community producers are implementing some of the marketing strategies proposed in the revised Business Plans including production strategies for chicken (Annex 92), crops (Annex 95), papyrus product development (Annex 96) etc. and optimization models for the various livelihood initiatives (Annex 82) as well as social media marketing	
Activity 4.6 Hold meetings with private sector (for each of the products) to discuss their engagement	See activity 4.4 above	
Activity 4.7 Consultatively develop and publicize a Yala Delta products brand	A roadmap is in place for the delta products brand starting with papyrus products brand (see Annex 83)	Consultatively develop and publicize a Yala Delta products brand
Activity 4.8 Identify households to be provided with training in sustainable farming and carry out a baseline survey of diet and income in these households	Done in project Y1	
Activity 4.9 Prepare business plans and deliver training/mentoring in conservation farming	Business plans developed for conservation farming; training conducted (Annexes 85-90) See details in Section 3 of this report	Consolidate crop production, bulking and marketing
Activity 4.10 Support farmers to form cooperatives for production, bulking and marketing	An assessment on farmers cooperatives was carried out during the feasibility studies. Farmers have existing common interest groups in addition to business committees for production, bulking and marketing. These will be formalized into cooperatives in project Y3 (see annex 81).	Support farmers to form cooperatives for production, bulking and marketing
Activity 4.11 Establish links between crop farmers and external buyers through the market hub	Crop farmers are already engaged directly with East African Breweries Limited (EABL) through contracts (See activity 4.4 above)	Implement marketing strategy for engagement of private sector
Activity 4.12 Identify households to be provided with fishponds, and carry out a baseline study of diet and income in these households	Done in Project Y1	
Activity 4.13 Prepare business plans and deliver training/mentoring in fish farming	Business plans developed for fish production and marketing. 10 (all male) fish farmers received hands on training	Provide training/mentoring in fish farming

	from the County Fisheries Department & Belvis Hatchery on basics in formulation of fish feeds. (Annex 26).	
Activity 4.14 Support fish farmers to form cooperatives for production, bulking and marketing	Fish farmers have an existing registered umbrella group (Yala Swamp Ecosystem Fish Farmers Conservation Group) made up of 12 different CBOs. The umbrella group supports farmers in fish production through TOT mentorship and marketing, this will be formalized into cooperatives (see annex 81)	Support fish farmers to form cooperatives for production, bulking and marketing
Activity 4.15 Establish links between fish farmers and external buyers through the market hub	See activity 4.4 above	
Activity 4.16 Identify households to be provided with beehives and carry out baseline survey of diet and income	Done in Project Y1	
Activity 4.17 Prepare business plans and deliver training/mentoring in beekeeping	Done in Project Y1	
Activity 4.18 Support beekeepers to form a beekeepers association for production, bulking, packaging, branding and marketing	Beekeepers have existing common interest groups for production, bulking and marketing this will be formalized into associations (see annex 81)	Support beekeepers to form a beekeepers association for production, bulking, packaging, branding and marketing
Activity 4.19 Establish links between crop farmers and external buyers through the market hub	See activity 4.4 above	
Activity 4.20 Identify households/women to be provided with support chicken production and marketing and carry out baseline survey of diet and income	Done in Project Y1	
Activity 4.21 Prepare business plan and carry out training/mentoring in chicken production and marketing	Business plans were developed for chicken production and marketing (see Annex 81) 29 (4M, 24F) chicken farmers received hands on training from the County Livestock Department in chicken keeping. (see Annex 25).	Provide training/mentoring in chicken production and marketing
Activity 4.22 Establish links between chicken farmers and external buyers through the market hub	See activity 4.4 above	
Activity 4.23 Identify households to be provided with training in production of high value papyrus products and carry out baseline survey of diet and income	Done in Project Y1	
Activity 4.24 Prepare business plan and deliver training/mentoring in creation of high value papyrus products	Business plans developed for production and marketing of high value	Provide training/mentoring in creation of high value papyrus products

	papyrus products (see Annex 81). A papyrus products catalogue is in publishing to support marketing of products (Annex 83). 11(7M, 4F) weavers were trained as ToTs in smooth edge, cushion fixing, glass fitting (see Annex 31).	
Activity 4.25 Support papyrus products weavers to form cooperatives for production, bulking, branding and marketing	Weavers have existing common interest groups for production, bulking and marketing, this will be formalized into associations (see annex 81).	Support papyrus products weavers to form cooperatives for production, bulking, branding and marketing
Activity 4.26 Establish links between papyrus products weavers and external buyers through the market hub	See activity 4.4 above	
Activity 4.27 Identify households/women to be provided with training on climate smart agriculture and production and marketing of highly nutritious, fast maturing high-value crops and carry out baseline survey of diet and income	17 (4M, 13F) members of Kanyibok Youth Group (part of the 50 (25M, 25F) farmers households identified and supported in climate smart production) were further supported to establish a demonstration site in Kanyibok village to model sustainable production combining both CSA and CA techniques (Annex 91).	Provide training on climate smart agriculture and production and marketing of highly nutritious, fast maturing high-value crops
Activity 4.28 Prepare business plans and deliver training/mentoring on climate smart agriculture	Business plans were developed for climate smart production and marketing (see Annex 81).	Same as Activity 4.28 above
Activity 4.29 Establish links between climate smart farmers and external buyers through the market hub	See details in Section 3 of this report	
Activity 4.30 Identify households to be trained in wildlife guiding and ecotourism and carry out baseline survey of diet and income	See activity 4.4 above	
Activity 4.31 Prepare business plans and train/mentor guides in wildlife guiding and visitor etiquette	Business plans were developed for ecotourism/tour guiding; 38 (27M, 11F) wildlife guides were trained in basics of tour guiding and bird identification by professional guides from Nature Kenya. (see Annex 30).	Provide training/mentoring for guides in wildlife guiding and visitor etiquette
Activity 4.32 Prepare ecotourism products booklet for marketing Yala Swamp to external markets	An existing draft description for tourist attractions for Yala swamp will be developed into an ecotourism booklet for marketing Yala Swamp in Y3.	Develop an ecotourism products booklet for marketing Yala Swamp to external markets

<p>Activity 4.33 Carry out end-of-project studies of all beneficiary households to match the baseline studies described above</p>	<p>Planned for project year 3</p>	<p>Carry out end-of-project surveys on household wellbeing, diet and socioeconomic status in communities around the ICCA</p>
<p>Output 5. Application of lessons learned from the project at other large wetland sites in Kenya and beyond is encouraged through communication actions reaching all key stakeholders</p>	<p>5.1. Project outcomes are presented at meetings and conferences attended by relevant policy-makers, such as those associated with World Environment Day</p> <p>5.2. County governments throughout Kenya are lobbied to support the creation and management of additional CCAs</p> <p>5.3. The Kenya Wildlife Service is lobbied to provide wildlife management support in other CCAs, including that in the Tana Delta on the Kenyan coast</p> <p>5.4. Awareness of wetlands and the need to manage them sustainably is raised among non-specialist audiences through a range of broader dissemination activities</p> <p>5.5. Technical articles about the project are written and disseminated widely through Nature Kenya and RSPB communication channels and at events such as CBD meetings</p>	<p>The project outcome and outputs were presented to County executives and Members of County Assembly for Siaya and Busia County and PIC members (see Annexes 70 and 119).</p> <p>The county governments are in support of the LUP and its implementation. During events held to mark International Day of Forests on 21st March 2021 at Luthehe Village, Siaya County, the County Executive for Water, Environment & Natural Resources) in his speech publicized the sustainability model adopted by the LUP as a concept that can be replicated in the management of other wetlands within and beyond Siaya county to safeguard natural resources that support livelihoods (see pg. 3 Annex 127).</p> <p>Set up of the Yala ICCA is modelled after the Tana Delta process where ICCA set up is almost complete. ICCA are also being set up in Dakatcha Woodland Key Biodiversity Area.</p> <p>KWS is committed to provide wildlife management in Yala swamp the same way they have done in the Tana Delta through trainings on legal provisions for CCAs in Kenya and co-chairing of the ICCA Committee with County governments of Tana River and Lamu.</p> <p>Dissemination activities are on-going through radio broadcasts, Television features, calendars, policy briefs and publications (Nature Kenya monthly newsletter, Darwin Newsletter, Kenya Birding Magazine). See Annexes 64-66, 130-137</p> <p>A lesson learned booklet documenting the lessons from our work in Yala Swamp is in draft for publishing (see Annex 138) for dissemination to conservation practitioners, students, and decision makers.</p> <p>YESSG, County governments of Siaya and Busia, NEMA, KFS led awareness creation through: World Environment Day, World Migratory Bird Day, World Wetlands Day, World Wildlife Day International Day of Forests World Water Day (Annex 122-128).</p> <p>The contents of the LUP and SEA were disseminated through policy briefs and cabinet memos.</p> <p>1000 copies each of LUP and SEA were printed with 162 copies each of LUP and SEA distributed to national government agencies, county governments of Siaya and Busia and local communities in Y2.</p>

<p>Activity 5.1 Hold biannual meetings of the Project Implementation Committee to evaluate progress and guide implementation</p>	<p>The Project Implementation Committee (PIC) was formed (Annex 115) comprising 34 members (Annex 118). Project progress was presented to the PIC members (Annex 116 and 119). TOR for the PIC and the project work plan for Year 2 were adopted (see Annex 118 and 117). The PIC meets twice a year and provides guidance, overall strategic policy and management direction to the Project.</p>	<p>Hold PIC meeting in May 2021</p>
<p>Activity 5.2 Compile findings and recommendations from the project at the end of each project year and disseminate widely</p>	<p>Project findings and recommendations were disseminated during the PIC meeting in activity 5.1 above. Project briefs and updates were also disseminated through stakeholders consultative meetings and trainings (see Annexes 5,6,9).</p>	<p>Disseminate project findings and recommendations widely</p>
<p>Activity 5.3 Present project findings to the Inter-ministerial Committee, the Delta's Development Board, the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, NEMA and other key bodies through face-to-face meetings and other appropriate channels</p>	<p>Presentation of projects will be advanced in Y3 targeting IMTC ,Delta Development Board among other stakeholders through Virtual meetings among other channels.</p>	<p>Present project findings to the Inter-ministerial Committee, the Delta's Development Board, the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, NEMA and other key bodies through face-to-face meetings and other appropriate channels</p>
<p>Activity 5.4 Create awareness on the values of Yala Delta through WWD, WMBD, WED and other events</p>	<p>Awareness creation is on-going collaboratively led by YESSG, County governments, KFS through global events (WED, WWD, World Wildlife Day, International Day of Forests, World Water Day, WMBD) reaching 453 (278M, 175F) adults and 15 (9 boys, 6 girls) school children (Annexes 122– 128).</p>	<p>Create awareness on Yala Swamp through events</p>
<p>Activity 5.5 Make presentations to county governments, the National Assembly, Council of Governors and other fora on the CCA model</p>	<p>IMTC members briefed County executives and Members of County Assembly of Siaya and Busia on project outcome and outputs during the meetings held on 8th and 9th March 2021.</p>	<p>Make presentations to county governments, the National Assembly, Council of Governors and other fora on the CCA model</p>

<p>Activity 5.6 Make presentations to National Liaison Committee, Kenya Wetlands Forum and other national fora on project activities, results and outcomes</p>	<p>Nature Kenya provides updates on project activities through membership on the national Multi stakeholder platform on Climate Smart Agriculture https://csa-msp.kilimo.go.ke/nature-kenya/</p>	
<p>Activity 5.7 Support KWS to make presentations to a broad range of stakeholders on the CCA model</p>	<p>Planned for project year 3</p>	
<p>Activity 5.8 Carry out broader dissemination activities aimed at non-specialist audiences</p>	<p>Dissemination activities are on-going through radio broadcasts (See Annex 2), Television features, lesson learned booklet (Annex 138), calendars (Annex 137), policy briefs (see Annex 64-66), publications (Nature Kenya monthly newsletter, Darwin Newsletter, Kenya Birding Magazine-Annexes 130-136).</p>	
<p>Activity 5.9 Advocate to KWS to provide wildlife management support to the Yala Swamp CCA</p>	<p>Planned for project year 3</p>	<p>Advocate to KWS to provide wildlife management support to the Yala Swamp CCA</p>
<p>Activity 5.10 Write articles and disseminate widely via Nature Kenya communication channels and CBD meetings and other events.</p>	<p>Articles published in Nature Kenya monthly newsletter, Darwin Newsletter, and Kenya Birding Magazine (see Annexes 130-136).</p>	
<p>Activity 5.11 Advocate to KWS and county governments to list the Yala Delta as a Ramsar site</p>	<p>A joint team from Nature Kenya, County government of Siaya, KFS and KWS lobbied for Yala swamp to be considered for listing as a potential Biosphere Reserves site. A field visit to the Yala swamp complex by the Man and Biosphere Committee and the secretariat is scheduled to verify and validate the suitability of the proposed site as to meet the requirements for nomination as a potential Biosphere Reserves in the next nomination process. (See Annex 139).</p> <p>We anticipate that once the site has been earmarked for nomination, a consultative process will commence with relevant stakeholders.</p>	<p>Continue lobbying and advocacy for recognition of Yala swamp both as a Ramsar site and Biosphere Reserve</p>

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

Project Summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of Verification	Important Assumptions
<p>Impact: (Max 30 words)</p> <p>Balanced, sustainable management regimes are established for large wetlands throughout Kenya, supported by all relevant stakeholders and ensuring that the needs of both biodiversity and people are met indefinitely</p>			
<p>Outcome: (Max 30 words)</p> <p>The future of Kenya's globally important Yala Delta is secured for the long term, benefiting both the rich biodiversity of this site and 250,000 people, and replication elsewhere is encouraged</p>	<p>0.1. By the end of the project (EOP) 8,404 ha of papyrus swamp have been protected through gazettement of a Community Conservation Area (CCA); 200 ha of this swamp have undergone natural regeneration; 100 ha have been actively restored; and 300 ha of riparian habitats upstream of the CCA have been protected through implementation of the Land Use Plan (LUP) for the delta</p> <p>0.2. By EOP Encounter Rate per Km of papyrus endemics including Papyrus Yellow Warbler, Carruther's Cisticola and Papyrus Canary, have not declined below 0.21, 4.78, 0.13 and 2.94 respectively; Sitatunga and Critically Endangered <i>Oreochromis esculentis</i> and <i>O. variabilis</i> have stopped declining below 6 and 3 Catch Per Unit Effort respectively in the CCA protected by the project, which covers 40% of the Yala Delta.</p>	<p>0.1. Report on the CCA, including maps and dated photographs</p> <p>0.2. Reports from 'before and after' surveys of target species</p>	<p>Kenya remains politically stable throughout and beyond the project period</p> <p>County and national governments remain supportive of a balanced and sustainable approach to delta management</p>

	<p>0.3. The quantity of nitrates, phosphates and sediments in water flowing out of Yala Delta into L. Victoria falls measurably below 1.5 mg/l, 0.019 mg/l and 0.049/l respectively, due to improved filtration by better protected papyrus swamp.</p> <p>0.4. By EOP a total of at least 3,055 very poor people are benefiting directly from the livelihood interventions detailed under Output 4, and some 250,000 people who live within the swamp's 5-km buffer zone and who are dependent on swamp ecosystem services are benefiting indirectly from the improved management of the Yala Delta.</p> <p>0.5. By EOP, the governments of Busia and Siaya counties have committed to creating permanent new budget lines to support the implementation of the LUP in the long term</p> <p>0.6. By EOP, lessons learned from the project have informed regional plans created by the Lake Victoria Basin Commission, and are demonstrably being applied in at least one other large wetland in Kenya</p>	<p>0.3. Reports from 'before and after' assessments of water quality</p> <p>0.4. Baseline and EOP household surveys and progress reports</p> <p>0.5. County budgets; reports of county funding being received for CCA activities and/or written public declarations; minutes of meetings with county representatives</p> <p>0.6. Policy and plan documents</p>	
<p>Outputs:</p> <p>1. The 8,404-ha Community Conservation Area (CCA) within the Yala Delta is protected effectively and in</p>	<p>1.1. The CCA (established under Darwin project 21-015) is added to the official list of protected areas</p>	<p>1.1. Protected area gazette</p>	<p>No significant shift of policy or attitude occurs during the project in county or central government</p>

<p>perpetuity through formal gazettelement and development of a management plan and associated governance bodies and regulations</p>	<p>maintained by the Kenyan government by EOP</p> <p>1.2. An integrated management plan for the CCA is developed in close consultation with local communities by the end of Year 1 (EOY1), taking account of both conservation and resource use needs</p> <p>1.3. A multi-stakeholder Management Committee is set up for the CCA by EOY1, together with village-level Natural Resource & Land Use Committees and a Water Resource User Association</p> <p>1.4. Regulations are developed by EOY2 to guide access to water and papyrus and ensure the protection of the CCA</p>	<p>1.2. Management plan</p> <p>1.3. Records of establishment for these governance bodies, plus minutes from subsequent meetings</p> <p>1.4. Regulations</p>	<p>(This assumption is likely to hold as Kenya's constitution requires sustainable land management and recognizes that a healthy and clean environment is a basic human right)</p> <p>It will be possible to progressively work within government restrictions to curb the transmission on COVID-19 to deliver project actions that require meetings or gatherings.</p> <p>(This assumption is already manifesting across Kenya and the world. We have strategies on activity delivery to accommodate government directives.</p>
<p>2. The key 'user groups' in the delta are enabled to jointly manage the CCA through the provision of training and ongoing support</p>	<p>2.1. The capacity of 40 members of the Yala Ecosystem Site Support Group (YESSG) (60% male; 40% female) to provide training on CCA management to 200 crop farmers (50% male; 50% female), 100 livestock herders and 150 (60% male; 40% female) fishers, and to represent these groups in county decision-making processes, is built by EOY1</p> <p>2.2. Training and representation is provided by YESSG thereafter, with support from Nature Kenya as needed</p> <p>2.3. The capacity of 60 members of the multi-stakeholder Management Committee (60% male; 40% female) to oversee management of the CCA is built by EOY2</p>	<p>2.1. Records of capacity-building activities aimed at YESSG</p> <p>2.2. Records of training and representation activities carried out by YESSG</p> <p>2.3. Records of capacity-building activities aimed at the Management Committee</p> <p>2.4. Reports prepared by Nature Kenya on the management of the CCA;</p>	<p>Communities and County Governments are willing to engage in CCA management</p> <p>(We are confident that these stakeholders will engage in management of the CCA, and that they will not object to its gazettelement, as they were heavily involved in its formulation within the land use planning process.)</p>

	<p>2.4. All three user groups are making major contributions to the sustainable management of the CCA by EOP, coordinated by the Management Committee</p> <p>2.5 By EOP community production cooperatives are contributing 10% of all proceeds from sales of produce towards CCA management</p> <p>2.6 By EOY1, feasibility studies on using ecosystem services to generate income for CCA management are complete, and the best approach to realising income in this way is agreed</p> <p>2.7 Informed by these feasibility studies, a CCA business case that includes a sustainable financing plan has been developed, applied and promoted to the private sector and county governments by EOY2</p>	<p>minutes from Management Committee meetings</p> <p>2.5 Records of community contribution towards CCA management</p> <p>2.6 Copies of stakeholder-agreed proposals to generate revenue from ecosystem services – e.g. through carbon credit sales and ecotourism</p> <p>2.7 Business case and meeting reports</p>	
<p>3. The Land Use Plan (LUP) for the entire delta is adopted as official policy by the governments of Busia and Siaya counties, and capacity is established within these governments to implement the plan effectively</p>	<p>3.1. The LUP (developed under Darwin project 21-015) is adopted as policy by EOY1</p> <p>3.2. The County Planning Departments (CPDs) are supported to create a detailed, up-to-date map of the delta by EOY2, using satellite imaging with ground-truthing</p> <p>3.3. The CPDs are supported to create and populate a register recording all land- and water-use activities in the delta by EOY2</p> <p>3.4. A cross-county Yala Sustainable Development Board is established by EOY1 to oversee land and water use in the delta, and regulations and</p>	<p>3.1. Policy documents</p> <p>3.2. Map</p> <p>3.3. Register</p> <p>3.4. Record of establishment of this board; minutes from subsequent meetings; regulations; procedure documentation</p>	<p>Members of County Assemblies (MCAs) are willing to embed the LUP in county governance structures and processes</p> <p>We believe this assumption will hold true because the LUP has already been approved in principle by the County Governors.</p>

	<p>procedures are developed to ensure that these resources are utilised sustainably and equitably</p> <p>3.5. County governors and assemblies are supported throughout the project to advocate for beneficial changes in national policy</p>	<p>3.5. Written records of advocacy activities</p>	
<p>4. The poorest and most vulnerable people living in and around the Yala Delta are empowered to further enhance their livelihoods in ways that support the long-term conservation of the delta's natural resources</p>	<p>4.1. By EOY1 a wholesale market has been established at a suitable site to act as a 'hub' for the sale of delta products to large external purchasers</p> <p>4.2a. By EOY1 200 existing crop farming households made up of 1,000 people (direct beneficiaries being approximately 50% female, 50% male) have been helped to form cooperatives and given training and support in wholesale marketing</p> <p>4.2b. By EOP these crop farmers are selling at least 50% of their produce to large external purchasers through the market hub</p> <p>4.2c. By EOP the incomes of these households has increased by an average of 30%</p> <p>4.3a. By EOY1 150 households made up of 750 people have been provided with fishponds and associated training and support (with the <u>direct</u> beneficiaries of training etc being approximately 40% female and 60% male)</p> <p>4.3b. By EOY2 participating fish farmers have been supported to form cooperatives for fish production and marketing</p>	<p>4.1. Report on market establishment, including maps and photographs</p> <p>4.2a. Cooperative records, including list of people involved; reports on training events etc</p> <p>4.2b. Report from farmer questionnaire/survey</p> <p>4.3a. Report on fishpond provision, including list of people/households reached, photographs, records of training events, etc</p> <p>4.3b. Cooperative records, including list of people involved</p> <p>4.3c. Report from fish farmer questionnaire/survey</p> <p>4.4a. Report on beehive provision, including list of people/households</p>	<p>Communities take up business development</p> <p>We are confident that communities will engage in the business opportunities offered, as it is government policy to promote local enterprise and we have already set up successful pilots under Darwin project 21-015.</p> <p>Private sector will be willing to engage</p> <p>We believe this assumption will hold true because the community cooperatives will be supported to produce good quality products in viable quantities (through bulking produce from several producers)</p>

	<p>4.3c. By EOP participating fish farmers are selling fish and fish products to local people and at least one large-scale buyer and household incomes have increased by an average of 30%</p> <p>4.4a. By EOY1 100 households made up of 500 people have been provided with beehives and associated training and support (direct beneficiaries 50% female and 50% male)</p> <p>4.4b. By EOP the income of these households has increased by an average of 25%</p> <p>4.5a. By EOY1 50 households made up of 250 people have been trained and supported to initiate chicken-rearing as a business (direct beneficiaries 75% female and 25% male)</p> <p>4.5b. By EOP the income of these households has increased by an average of 30%</p> <p>4.6a. By EOY1 55 households made up of 275 people that are already producing papyrus products such as baskets have been trained and supported to form a marketing cooperative (direct beneficiaries 40% female and 60% male)</p> <p>4.6b. By EOP these households are selling their products through the market hub and their incomes have increased by an average of 25%</p> <p>4.7a. By EOY1 50 households made up of 250 people have been supported to develop businesses based on the sustainable, climate-smart production of high-value vegetable crops (direct</p>	<p>reached, photographs, records of training events, etc</p> <p>4.4b. Report from beekeeper questionnaire/survey</p> <p>4.5a. Report on chicken rearing, including list of people/households reached, photographs, records of training events, etc</p> <p>4.5b. Report from chicken-rearer questionnaire/survey</p> <p>4.6a. Cooperative records, including lists of people/households involved</p> <p>4.6b. Report from papyrus artisan questionnaire/survey</p> <p>4.7a. Report on vegetable production, including list of people/households reached, photographs, records of training events, etc</p> <p>4.7b. Report from vegetable grower questionnaire/survey</p>	
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	<p>beneficiaries 50% female and 50% male)</p> <p>4.7b. By EOP the income of these households has increased by an average of 25%</p> <p>4.8. By EOP 30 people (50% male and 50% female) have been trained to be wildlife guides and their annual income has increased by an average of 25%</p> <p>4.9a. By EOY1 meetings have been held with the private sector to discuss their engagement</p> <p>4.9b By EOP at least one private sector player is actively engaged in each of the production chains (farming, fish, beekeeping, poultry and papyrus products)</p>	<p>4.8. Report on guide training, including list of people reached, etc; report from guide questionnaire/survey</p> <p>4.9a. Reports from meetings with the private sector</p> <p>4.9b. Report on quantities of community produce sold to private sector</p>	
<p>5. Application of lessons learned from the project at other large wetland sites in Kenya and beyond is encouraged through communication actions reaching all key stakeholders</p>	<p>5.1. Project outcomes are presented at meetings and conferences attended by relevant policy-makers, such as those associated with World Environment Day</p> <p>5.2. County governments throughout Kenya are lobbied to support the creation and management of additional CCAs</p> <p>5.3. The Kenya Wildlife Service is lobbied to provide wildlife management support in other CCAs, including that in the Tana Delta on the Kenyan coast</p> <p>5.4. Awareness of wetlands and the need to manage them sustainably is raised among non-specialist audiences through a range of broader dissemination activities</p> <p>5.5. Technical articles about the project are written and disseminated widely</p>	<p>5.1. Print-outs of presentations; meeting minutes and conference proceedings</p> <p>5.2. Records of lobbying activities and responses by county governments</p> <p>5.3. Records of lobbying activities and KWS responses</p> <p>5.4. Records of dissemination activities - e.g. articles in newspapers and magazines, radio broadcasts, talks to schoolchildren and other members of the public, etc</p> <p>5.5. Articles</p>	

	through Nature Kenya and RSPB communication channels and at events such as CBD meetings		
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Annex 3: Standard Measures

Table 1 Project Standard Output Measures

Code No.	Description	Gender of people (if relevant)	Nationality of people (if relevant)	Year 1 Total	Year 2 Total	Year 3 Total	Total to date	Total planned during the project
Established codes								
6A	No of people trained in tree nursery establishment, biodiversity monitoring, organizational capacity assessment, fish farming, beekeeping, business planning & entrepreneurship, bird identification, leadership & governance, questionnaire administration; Use of monitoring tools to track livelihoods interventions; leadership, governance, policy and advocacy; Ttraining of County government Agricultural Extension Officers in CSA/CA; Training of the ICCA Management Committee	261 Male, 119 Female 229 Male, 114 Female	Kenyans Kenyans	380	343		723	535
7	ToR for VNRLUCs, TOR for ICCA Management Committee ToR for Project Implementation committee Training Manual for Climate Smart Agriculture and Conservation Agriculture Training Guidelines for Extension Providers on Climate Smart Agriculture and Conservation Agriculture			2	3		5	4
9	Yala ICCA management plan			1			1	4

10	Birds Checklists for Yala swamp			1			1	3
14A	Number of conferences/seminars/workshops organised to present/disseminate findings (Briefing meeting with County Executives, Briefing meeting with Inter-county Steering Committee on Yala LUP, Briefing meeting with YPAC, Stakeholders consultative meeting to develop Yala ICCA management plan; Technical briefing meeting with Project Implementation Committee; Stakeholders consultative meeting to validate Yala ICCA management plan; Technical Consultative Meeting on Yala swamp ICCA Management Plan; Briefing meetings with Members of the County Assembly of Siaya and Busia, on Yala swamp SEA/LUP)		Kenyans	4	5		9	11
14B	Number of conferences/seminars/workshops attended at which findings from Darwin project work was presented/disseminated. (Presentation during the Siaya County Tourism Stakeholders Meeting, held on 23 rd October 2019; during the Clean Water Conference-Lake Basin Region, on 6-9 th November 2019, Nature Kenya's Project Leader highlighted project work as one of the panellists on the theme "Environmental Conservation as a catalyst for water resource generation" Presentation during Siaya County Climate Change Stakeholders		Kenyans	2	1		3	6

	Meeting, held on 16 th March 2021)							
20	Estimated value (£'s) of physical assets to be handed over to host country(ies) 9 pieces of binoculars and 4 pieces of GPS for YESSG, and 3 laptops			£ [REDACTED]			[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
23	Value of resources raised from RSPB (i.e., in addition to Darwin funding) for project work			£ [REDACTED]			[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

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)
Bulking Centre set to Revolutionise Papyrus Product Business in Yala*	Newsletter	Emily Mateche April 2020	Female	Kenyan	Nature Kenya, Nairobi	Nature Kenya
The legacy of the Osprey-YESSG Benefits from Bird watching Training*	Newsletter	Emily Mateche May 2020	Female	Kenyan	Nature Kenya, Nairobi	Nature Kenya
Birding Beyond Yala Swamp*	Magazine	Emily Mateche Issue No. 14	Female	Kenyan	Nature Kenya, Nairobi	Nature Kenya
Yala Bird Ambassadors*	Magazine	Emily Mateche Issue No. 14	Female	Kenyan	Nature Kenya, Nairobi	Nature Kenya
Fish farming initiative easing pressure on wild fish stocks in Lake Victoria*	Newsletter	Emily Mateche & Serah Munguti June 2020	Female	Kenyan	Darwin Initiative	
Supporting Vital Conservation Efforts in Yala Swamp amidst the Covid-19 Pandemic*	Newsletter	Emily Mateche & Serah Munguti September 2020	Female	Kenyan	Darwin Initiative	
Indigenous Community Conserved Areas Set to	Newsletter	Emily Mateche	Female	Kenyan	Nature Kenya, Nairobi	

Safeguard Critical Ecosystems and Livelihoods in Yala Swamp*		February 2021				
Saving Yala*	Magazine in publishing	Emily Mateche Issue No. 15	Female	Kenyan	Nature Kenya, Nairobi	Nature Kenya
Yala Lessons learned booklet 2014-2020*	Manuscript for publishing Booklet	Nature Kenya 2021	Female	Kenyan	Nature Kenya, Nairobi	Nature Kenya

Checklist for submission

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