

Darwin Initiative Main: Annual Report

To be completed with reference to the “Project Reporting Information Note”:
(<https://www.darwininitiative.org.uk/resources-for-projects/information-notes-learning-notes-briefing-papers-and-reviews/>).

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

Submission Deadline: 30th April 2023

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Darwin Initiative Project Information

Project reference	27-006
Project title	Developing an incentive-based model for community-led marine conservation in Comoros
Country/ies	The Comoros
Lead Partner	Blue Ventures Conservation
Project partner(s)	Dahari, Mohéli National Park, The National and Regional Fisheries Directorate
Darwin Initiative grant value	£342,142
Start/end dates of project	1st October 2020 - 30th September 2023
Reporting period (e.g. Apr 2022 – Mar 2023) and number (e.g. Annual Report 1, 2, 3)	1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023 Annual Report 3
Project Leader name	Dr Alasdair Harris
Project website/blog/social media	https://blueventures.org/
Report author(s) and date	Fanny Wright and Effy Vessaz, 30th April 2023

1. Project summary

The Comoro archipelago sits at the centre of the Northern Mozambique Channel, an ecoregion with the second highest marine biodiversity globally. This marine biodiversity is critical to the Comorian people: 20% are fishers and over 70% of the rural population rely on fish for protein (Obura, 2012). The young, rapidly increasing population in the Comoros depends on dwindling fish stocks and farming for food security and income.

The project is based on Anjouan, the poorest and most populous island. Population growth has increased pressure on agricultural land and traditional extensive farming methods harm soil fertility, resulting in low yields. Soil erosion also leads to the silting of coral reefs, affecting marine biodiversity.

Drawing on the successes of Madagascar’s growing locally managed marine area (LMMA) movement, the Mohéli Marine Park, and Blue Ventures (BV) and partner Dahari’s work to date in the Comoros, the project will develop a community-led marine conservation model for the Comoros that improves fishers’ livelihoods and conserves reef biodiversity, laying the groundwork for its wider replication.

The project aims to improve the livelihoods of 1,500 small-scale fishers in the Comoros whilst reducing pressure on fisheries and enabling effective management of 350 hectares (ha) of coral reefs, conserving marine biodiversity. A replicable, locally-led marine management model developed with ten communities on the island of Anjouan will incentivise adaptive fisheries management in three different coastal areas (see Figure 1). Additional activities will add value to catches and increase agricultural production, diversifying and improving livelihoods. Best practices will be shared with the government and partners, supporting replication nationwide.

BV has been working in Zone 1 (Vassy) since 2016 with three local fishers' associations spanning four villages: the fisherwomen association Maecha Bora, the fishermen's association Malezi Mema in Vassy, Dzindri and Salamani, and the fisherwomen's association Fikira Ndjema in Imere. We initiated activities in Zone 2 (Moya) in early 2021, now supporting 7 fishers' associations in three communities; Moya, Kowe and Maweni. We started scoping activities and initial discussions in Zone 3 (Dar Salama) in May 2022.

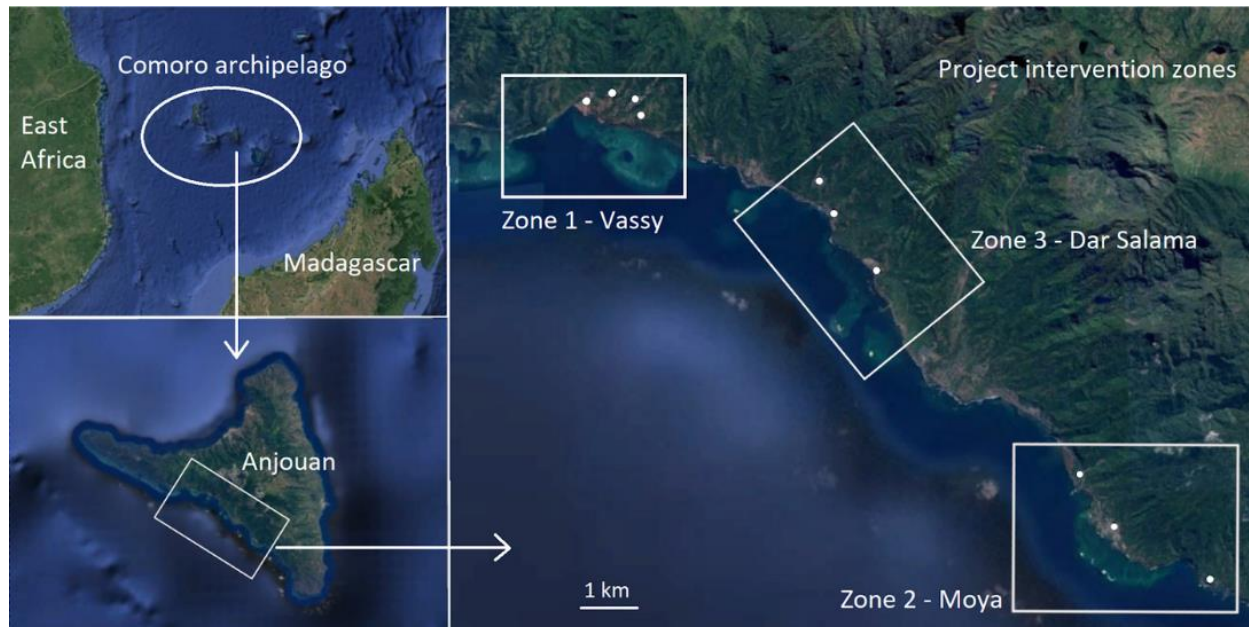


Figure 1: Project location. White dots inside the rectangles on the right show the different communities included in each zone.

2. Project stakeholders/ partners

Dahari is the implementing partner of the project, with close collaboration with two BV staff members in-country to provide technical support. Following the departure of Dahari's Project Manager in October 2020, a second BV staff member, Fanchon Wright, was hired in July 2021 to provide dedicated support to Dahari in managing their marine programme.

Overall, all project activities are developed and implemented with input from both organisations. For example, catch monitoring is supported by BV's expertise in Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) systems. In turn, BV also benefits from Dahari's achievements, for example, specific approaches to awareness-raising and capacity-building developed by Dahari, such as collaborating with theatre groups and using role plays or games to develop leadership skills, are then shared internally for inspiration and guidance across BV's work globally.

Collaborations with other partners on the project are ongoing and include Moheli National Park, Shissiwani National Park on Anjouan, Fisheries Directorate and Fishers Trade Union. The other partnerships that were initiated during the second year of the project, with the NGO AIDE and the National Research Institute for Agriculture, Fisheries and Environment (INRAPE), have continued to develop and an official partnership agreement was signed between Dahari and INRAPE in December 2022.

We have kept regular telephone communications with the Fisheries Directorate and Fishers' Trade Unions' representatives, as well as Shisiwani National Park (Zone 1). These communications now include the FAO-funded regional project REEFFISH (2021-2023) which

had delegated activities related to fisheries management to Dahari in Moya. The REEFFISH project has initiated value addition training mid-2022 for 30 fisherwomen in Moya, which was also part of our project targets with Darwin. Since their project is ending in June 2023, we will continue to provide support to the people trained and possibly train others in Moya once this first group is autonomous.

Following the national workshop on temporary closures organised in February 2022, in collaboration with above mentioned partners, there was collective agreement between partner institutions to reopen temporary closures around the same time in February 2023, following 3-4 month closures across the three islands. Results were then informally shared between partners.

Over this last year, further workshops were organised with partners to strengthen a reef monitoring network and start drafting the first national report on reef monitoring expected to be published around June 2023. Another national workshop was conducted at the end of March 2023 to initiate collaborative development of a toolkit on community-led marine management in the Comoros (Supporting document 1 - Workshop report on initiating marine management toolkit).

3. Project progress

3.1 Progress in carrying out project Activities

Output 1. Locally-led fisheries management measures piloted in two new coastal areas (Dar Salama and Moya) and continued by communities in the coastal area of Vassy on Anjouan (ten communities in total), preserving marine resources and providing livelihood benefits.

Activities in the coastal area of Vassy (hereafter Zone 1) and in the second coastal area of Moya (hereafter Zone 2) are ongoing. Activities in the third coastal area, Dar Salama (hereafter Zone 3) started in June 2022 (during this reporting period).

Six theatre sessions have been conducted in August in the communities to raise awareness about fisheries management measures and sustainable fishing techniques with a total of 558 participants (Activity 1.1.1). In May and June, 11 women participated in a series of workshops to create an awareness raising theatre performance which then toured the Zone 2 villages in August (Activity 1.4.1).

Training in the use of the wooden spear, to replace the destructive metal rebar commonly used to catch octopus and break corals, has been provided for 83 fishers across the first and second coastal areas (Activity 1.1.2). In both Zone 1 and Zone 2, on-going informal awareness-raising is continuous at landing sites to ensure uptake of the wooden spear instead of the metal rebar (Activity 1.3).

Six focus groups have taken place in Zone 3 to discuss challenges with fisheries resources and start discussing potential management solutions (Activity 1.2.2). In Zone 2, a workplan was developed after several meetings with key stakeholders to put in place a temporary closure from October to February 2023 (Activity 1.2.4) (Supporting document 2 - Rules temporary closure Zone 2 and Document 3 - Flyer to raise awareness about the temporary closure). Regular meetings have since taken place to follow-up with the closure implementation and surveillance activities (Activity 1.2.5).

Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices (KAP) and livelihoods baseline surveys have been completed in Zone 3 (Activity 1.4.2 – Supporting document 4 – Report of baseline results – KAP and livelihood surveys).

Output 2. Ten communities from three coastal areas of Anjouan have access to data and improved knowledge for identifying key biodiversity hotspots and guiding adaptive management of local marine resources.

46 new technicians (96% female (F)) have been trained across Zones 1 and 2 on fisheries monitoring during the reporting period, with a total of 98 technicians (89%F) trained since the start of the project (Activity 2.1). Fisheries monitoring is conducted over 12 sites in both zones, and we expect monitoring in Zone 3 to be in place by the end of April 2023. Reef monitoring continues across 12 sites in Zones 1 and 2 (Activity 2.2.1) with baseline data collected for three sites and expanding the depth profile to 16m once we started scuba diving in November. Reef monitoring is now due to start in the October - November sampling period for Zone 3, following participatory identification of key biodiversity hotspots planned for June (Activity 2.2.2).

In Zone 2, a further 30 association members were trained in data analysis (Activity 2.3.3) comprising 15 males (M) from the cooperative in Moya and 15F from the women's association in Kowe.

A total of 810 community members (49%F) participated in 14 community feedback sessions (Activity 2.3.4) across Zones 1 and 2. Six feedback sessions were held in May - June focusing on the results of the reef gleaning monitoring in Zone 1, presented by five women from the association Maecha Bora previously trained to present this data (Activity 2.3.2 & 2.3.4). Additionally, reef monitoring data from Zone 1 was presented to the communities in December reaching 260 participants. In Zone 2, three sessions were held to present the results of the fishery reopening, following the October - February closure (Supporting Document 5 - Presentation of reopening results). Four association members (M) were trained, one of which presented.

Annual General Meetings (AGMs) were held for all associations in February - March in which a review of activities, finances and a brief overview of relevant catch monitoring results were presented to advise future management (Activity 2.4).

Output 3. The livelihoods of 400 fishers (200 women) from ten communities are improved through the adoption of value-addition activities for marine products and/or complementary sustainable agriculture activities.

Progress has been made this year in developing the smoking and drying business with the association Maecha Bora in Zone 1, including optimising the production process and developing the marketing strategy. The uncertainties in the business model around securing fresh produce and scaling up sales have now been largely resolved (details in 3.2 output 3).

Following two product transformation trainings at the end of Year 2, a third training was held in June to review processes with 11F (Supporting Document 6 - Flyer to support training in smoking technique). 15 members completed a training on analysing profit and loss in November 2022, and the issues surrounding availability of raw materials have been improved through development of stronger partnerships with local fishers (Activity 3.2.1 and 3.2.2). The association had a stand at the Dahari agriculture fair in April 2022 and March 2023, in addition to a dedicated marketing event held in October 2022 to raise awareness and market their products (Supporting document 7 - [TV report from national news channel](#)), which resulted in 49kg of products sold in one day worth 430 GBP which is equivalent to half of the total income since the initiative started in April 2022. A recipe booklet included contact details of Maecha Bora, which buyers have been using since to make direct orders to the association. Following the event, a further 30.5kg of dried octopus was sold from October to December, demonstrating increased demand.

Starting activities in Zone 2 has been delayed (previously noted), though 28F have been trained in product transformation via the FAO REEFFISH project.

During the consultant visit towards the end of Year 2, reduction of spoilage at sea was also identified as an area for improvement. 15 male fishers from Zone 1 completed a training series to address this issue in December 22 (Activity 3.2.1, Supporting document 8 - Flyer to support training in loss reduction at sea). Reduction of waste has also been supported through the acquisition of a solar freezer imported in March 2023, which will also generate revenue for the

men's association through hiring freezer space for association members and other fishers to store their catch.

Agricultural activities have continued in Zone 1 with 360 community members trained (including 234 fishers) over this reporting period (Activity 3.3.1). Agricultural activities have started this year in Zone 2 and 211 fishers have received training in vegetable gardening, crop rotation and association of different cultures, and multiplication of banana trees. With the launch of activities in Zone 2, we have reviewed our strategy to specifically target fishers, in part to increase incentivisation towards conservation activities. Dahari technicians continue to provide support to farming groups through regular (weekly) site visits (Activity 3.3.2).

Output 4. The first LMMA in the Comoros is established in one coastal area, with the foundations laid for additional LMMAs in two further areas, as a result of governance structures that are created and supported to design, implement and enforce adaptive fisheries management.

Strengthening of associations continues with all associations in Zone 1 and Zone 2 having completed their formal leadership and association management training (Activity 4.1.2). Additional training needs were addressed during this period, for example, basic literacy training was completed in October 2022 (80F) in collaboration with local NGO Naipenda for associations and community members in Zone 2 to start to build their administrative skills. Three public speaking workshop sessions were provided (45 fishers (75% F) from both Zones 1 and 2) facilitated by a theatre troupe to increase confidence and encourage women to participate and speak up in meetings. The results of this can already be seen in the quality of presentations at the AGMs in February and March, with a total of 377 members participating (56% F). Dahari maintains continuous support and presence in the communities and regular meetings are held to assist with implementing management measures, association management and troubleshooting problems (Activity 4.1.3).

A learning exchange visit was held in March 2023 in which eight fishers from Zones 1 and 2 visited three LMMAs (Beach Management Units, BMUs) in south Kenya (Activity 4.2.2, Supporting document 9 - [Video from the learning exchange](#)). Work is currently underway to present learnings back to their associations and wider communities, which will be followed by focus groups to identify what aspects can be adapted to trial in the local contexts as first steps towards LMMA development (Activity 4.4.1). Materials are currently being developed to facilitate training (Activity 4.2.1), including translation of a video about LMMAs. Workshops to discuss establishment of an LMMA and define governance criteria is proposed to start in the next quarters in Zone 2, following completion of above activities.

Support for enforcement and penalisation of infractions of management measures continues to be developed for Zones 1 and 2 (Activity 4.3). Improvements have been made by introducing a calendar for patrols, as well as a draft document outlining engagements and payment for surveillance activities in the permanent no-take zone in Zone 1. In total, 17 infractions were recorded across both zones, two penalized in Zone 1 and 11 in waiting for local authorities to take action in Zone 2 (discussed further in Section 3.2).

Output 5. A network of fishing communities and implementing partners in the Comoros shares best practices in local fisheries management and community conservation.

Engagement with project partners has continued during year 3, through meetings and informal conversations, notably on reef monitoring methodologies and supporting good governance in Zones 1 and 2 (Activity 5.1.1 and 5.1.3).

Two partner training sessions on reef monitoring data entry and analysis took place between Dahari, AIDE, Moheli National Park and INRAPE in December 2022 and March 2023 (total four workshop days) (Activity 5.1.4). A collective national report of reef monitoring results is planned to be published by end of project (EOP).

A national workshop was organised at the end of March to define best practices in community-based fisheries management, including nine participants from six different partners across three islands (Activity 5.1.2). This workshop allowed to initiate development of a national toolkit on community-led management in the Comoros (Activity 5.4, Supporting document 1 -

Workshop report on initiating marine management toolkit). Next steps will be compiling stories through interviews and focus groups with fishers to include in the toolkit.

After six exchange visits took place in Year 1 and 2, no other exchange visits took place during this reporting period (except for the Kenya learning exchange in March 2023, Activity 4.2.2) (Activity 5.2).

Alongside regular social media posts and two articles in national newspapers ([Al Fajr](#) (June 2022) and [Al-Watwan](#) (September 2022)), three blogs were published during this reporting period, two from Blue Ventures on [fish smoking and drying](#) (June 2022) and on the [Kenya exchange visit](#) (March 2023), and one from partner Dahari on [the use of the wooden spear](#) (Activity 5.3.1).

In early March, a workshop gathering 18 fishers from Zones 1 and 2 on Anjouan was organised to initiate the development of a collective film in collaboration with fishers to showcase lessons learned from community-led fisheries management (Activity 5.3.2). The participants agreed on the main topics to show during the movie, including the benefits of no-take zones, the challenges associated with good governance in temporary closures, the importance of awareness-raising and the inclusion of all stakeholders. The next steps will be to develop the storyboard with them and start recording in the next quarter.

3.2 Progress towards project Outputs

Output 1. Locally-led fisheries management measures piloted in two new coastal areas (Dar Salama and Moya) and continued by communities in the coastal area of Vassy on Anjouan (ten communities in total), preserving marine resources and providing livelihood benefits.

The ratification of a temporary closure agreement and successful implementation of the first temporary closure in Zone 2 was a massive achievement and culmination of extensive efforts in resolving the tensions previously outlined in the year 2 report. Representatives of additional stakeholder groups were integrated into the management commission and association members have become more active in awareness raising activities. No temporary closures were put in place for Zone 1 during this period (see output 4, and section 8). Management measures will start in Zone 3 after governance structures are established (projected after EOP, as agreed in the approved change request).

Training and uptake on the use of the more sustainable wooden spear, mwiri, is progressing well (85% overall in Zone 1 compared to 40% overall at start of project, and 70% in Zone 2 compared to approx 60% at start of activities (2021)). Fishers in Zone 2, previously trained by fishers from Zone 1, are now taking on leading roles in training their fellow association members. More long-term measures on destructive techniques will be integrated into regulations when developing broader multi-year management plans (output 4).

Output 2. Ten communities from three coastal areas of Anjouan have access to data and improved knowledge for identifying key biodiversity hotspots and guiding adaptive management of local marine resources.

Fisheries monitoring (boat catches and reef gleaning) continues to be fully operational in Zones 1 and 2 with 46 monitoring technicians trained during this period. Dashboards are nearing completion for monitoring data and we need to reflect how this tool can be used effectively with communities. Monitoring sites have been identified in Zone 3, and training in monitoring techniques is currently underway at the time of writing (mid April) to start catch monitoring afterwards.

30 association members from Zone 2 were trained in data presentation and interpretation (55 since start of project), with five fishers presenting during feedback sessions. The use of data for adaptive management tends to be focused on the results of temporary closures. Analysis of historic results has aided selection of optimum closure periods. We are currently evaluating how we can support a larger number of community members to understand data, and therefore have a greater impact on engagement during feedback sessions and community discussions.

Output 3. The livelihoods of 400 fishers (200 women) from ten communities are improved through the adoption of value-addition activities for marine products and/or complementary sustainable agriculture activities.

Training to support value addition activities included a refresher on product transformation and business training for 24 fisherwomen in total. These activities were important for the development of the business groups to enhance the quality of their products and better manage the stock required to meet their objectives. A training with 15 fishermen on reducing the loss of fish at sea, benefits both the boat fishers and the women's group since they can fetch a higher price for better quality products. In total 117 fishers were trained in value-addition activities.

Much of the support provided this year was towards 'behind the scenes' activities, such as solving supply chain issues. Sourcing sufficient octopus to ensure volume and continuity of stock for sale has been an issue in the past. This is now largely resolved through agreements with suppliers (fishers and divers) on both Anjouan's east and west coast to mitigate disruptions from changing weather conditions.

Following the farmers market and tasting events, sales have increased significantly during this reporting period. Progress has been made in expanding the sales strategy through distribution of fliers, and the successful trial of vending points in town. This has translated to regular bespoke orders and formalisation of the relationship with vendors. In addition, a pilot project of sales to neighbouring Mayotte has started indicating good initial results.

Agricultural support continues to be strong with 571 community members completing training (445 fishers) in both zones. Activities have started in Zone 2 and have exclusively benefited fishers, rather than open to all community members as previously seen in Zone 1. We will continue with this strategy to ensure that there is a strong link between support to livelihood improvement and engagement in marine management activities.

Output 4. The first LMMA in the Comoros is established in one coastal area, with the foundations laid for additional LMMAs in two further areas, as a result of governance structures that are created and supported to design, implement and enforce adaptive fisheries management.

Progress is being made towards implementation of the first LMMA in the Comoros with further milestones reached this year. All associations in Zones 1 and 2 have completed their initial training in leadership and we can move towards more targeted support and development of long term objectives.

In Zone 1, the challenges outlined in the Year 2 half year report are continuing. Having previously implemented four temporary closures, we had anticipated using existing agreements as the basis for developing multi-year agreements, as a first step to creating regulations for LMMAs. A temporary closure put in place in June 2022 created challenging situations for governance, and while progress has been made in rebuilding relationships, we must wait for the situation to be fully resolved before we can progress (see section 8 for more details). For Zone 2, the foundation work completed this year (development of a representative management committee, closure agreement and successful implementation) suggest that progress will continue towards this objective as expected.

Prosecution of infractions against management initiatives remains challenging in Zone 1 and 2, largely due to poor engagement from local authorities. We are holding meetings to address this.

The fisher exchange visit to Kenya was successful in inspiring key association members with a model of LMMA and strong governance. The next steps are to convert those lessons to the local context, with community feedback sessions taking place in April in Zones 1 and 2.

Output 5. A network of fishing communities and implementing partners in the Comoros shares best practices in local fisheries management and community conservation.

Engagement with partners has continued over the reporting period with regular meetings and phone exchanges with partners on Anjouan, Grande Comore and Moheli. One national workshop and two training sessions including representatives from six different partners

allowed to exchange best practices on community-led fisheries management and reef monitoring data management and analysis, to support development of management measures.

Two different workshops were organised to initiate the creation of a toolkit on best practices for community based fisheries management in the Comoros, as well as the development of a collective movie with fishers from seven communities to raise their voices about locally-led management and inspire other communities, including authorities, to recognise and implement marine management.

3.3 Progress towards the project Outcome

Ten communities are now supported towards actively implementing (Zones 1 and 2) or developing (Zone 3) fisheries management, with the project benefiting an estimated 1500 fishers (final target). Eight associations (399 members) are being supported to strengthen their governance skills and capacity to lead on implementation of management in Zones 1 and 2, with currently 320 ha of reef under management. As support to Zone 3 communities having just started, we expect an estimated 388 ha of reefs under management by end of project (target 350 ha). Reef monitoring is well established in Zones 1 and 2, and projected to start in Zone 3 before EOP, to inform on biomass of key reef biodiversity indicators in our final report.

Milestones towards community-based management have been achieved. In Zone 2 the temporary closure agreement and implementation of the first temporary closure was a huge achievement. Discussions and objective setting during AGM of some Zone 2 associations indicate a desire to develop no-take zones, initiate spatial planning for different user groups and create a multi-year agreement towards establishing a LMMA in that area.

In total, 918 fishers were supported in livelihood activities (drying/smoking and agriculture) since the start of the project. EOP surveys, starting in June, will allow to quantify impact of livelihood activities and management on fishers.

Our implementing partner Dahari is leading in engaging and sharing knowledge on best practices in community-led marine management and monitoring through seven exchange visits, two national workshops and four training sessions since the start of the project. These events have involved seven partners and 17 fishing communities at the national level (target 20 communities and 5 partners), developing the learning network.

3.4 Monitoring of assumptions

Assumption 1: Newly-engaged communities work together to implement collective marine management actions.

Comments: Assumption still valid. In Zone 2, albeit challenges in the previous year, communities are now working well together under a collective commission with improved governance. In Zone 3, communities express interest in working together to develop marine management.

Assumption 2: Livelihood improvements are not negated by natural disasters or other events out of project control.

Comments: Assumption still valid. There haven't been any natural disasters, or other events out of project control in the past year.

Assumption 3: Other donor-funded marine management projects respond to outreach and collaboration efforts.

Comments: Assumption still valid. Communication efforts around activities have continued to ensure a positive collaboration amongst existing projects, especially during bi-monthly meetings and ensuring government support.

Assumption 4: Targeted reefs do not suffer heavily from extreme heating or other climatic events.

Comments: Assumption still valid. Reef monitoring allows assessment of impact from climatic events. There were no extreme heating or climatic events in the reporting period in the project area.

Assumption 5: Unsustainable and illegal fishing practices do not increase thus negating the benefits of local management initiatives.

Comments: Assumption still valid (see indicator 1.3): based on catch monitoring results in Zone 1, 85% of reef gleaners are abstaining from destructive fishing techniques, and are using a sustainable wooden spear instead of the destructive metal rebar to catch octopus compared to 40% at the start of the project in October 2020 and 64% at the end of year 1. In Zone 2, 70% of fishers are habitually abstaining from destructive techniques, and 95% during reopening events.

Assumption 6: Community members involved in monitoring engage in interpreting and presenting monitoring data for fellow community members.

Comments: Assumption still valid. Across Zones 1 and 2, 30 association members have been trained in understanding and presenting catch monitoring results over the last year, and six fishers have presented monitoring results to their peers.

Assumption 7: No significant destruction of crops by natural disasters.

Comments: Assumption still valid. There have not been any natural disasters impacting crops this reporting period.

Assumption 8: Sufficient local leadership and cohesion exists within the target communities for local management to be developed successfully and respected.

Comments: Assumption still valid. In Zone 1 there have been governance challenges, however, we are currently supporting discussions with all stakeholders to develop an inclusive and representative committee for marine management in the area. In Zone 2, challenges have been solved with a representative and functioning committee in place.

Assumption 9: Partners see the benefits of sharing experiences.

Comments: Assumption still valid. Partners are informally exchanging regularly, especially following the national workshop on temporary closures in 2022, coming to collective agreement on timings for closure re-openings. Collaboration on reef monitoring analysis has built capacity across partners, towards a first national report in 2023.

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

The project is strongly aligned with the Programme of Work on Marine and Coastal Biodiversity by promoting full participation of communities in the establishment and maintenance of marine protected areas in line with decision VII/28 on protected areas.

The project's activities have so far made progress towards a positive impact on biodiversity and poverty alleviation. We have been working with fishers to manage biodiversity with the goal of reducing poverty and protecting preferential access rights, establishing one further temporary fishery closure in one coastal area and developing strong governance institutions, learning from past challenges. The temporary closure has positively impacted fishers' livelihoods by increasing their usual catch, see Supporting document 5 - Presentation of reopening results).

The positive results and impact of drying and smoking fish and octopus include an increase in fishers' revenue, food security and development of business capacities, whilst being targeted at association members responsible for fisheries management (as an incentive to fisheries management). During the tasting event organised in October 2022, 49kg of products were sold in one day worth 430 GBP, which is equivalent to half of the total income since the initiative started in April 2022. Following the event, a further 30.5kg of dried octopus was sold from October to December, demonstrating increased demand. Fisherwomen involved have also anecdotally mentioned being very satisfied with the activity, as it improves their food security when fresh fish is not readily available due to bad weather, for example.

By reinforcing the effective management of marine resources through community management and by taking practical actions to rebuild fish populations and protect key habitats, in particular coral reefs, the project is on its way to help protect critical ecosystems and ensure local, low-income communities are able to benefit sustainably from biodiversity; helping Comoros achieve CBD Aichi Biodiversity **Targets 6** (sustainable fishing), **10** (minimising climate change impacts), **11** (effective conservation of biodiversity and ecosystem services) and **14** (safeguarding health, livelihoods and well-being).

The project responds directly to targets identified in the Comoros' National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan submitted to the CBD in 2016. The approach and objectives contribute to all five of the key targets: reduce the causes of biodiversity loss through integration into productive sectors; reduce direct pressures and encourage sustainable use; conserve ecosystems and species; and reinforce implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity building.

4. Project support to the Conventions, Treaties or Agreements

The project is contributing towards the three main objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) (ratified by Comoros in 1994) as planned, in particular Articles 8 (In-situ Conservation), 10 (Sustainable Use of Components of Biological Diversity) and 14 (Impact Assessment and Minimizing Adverse Impacts). We are working towards Articles 8 and 10 through development of fisheries management measures, including those that reduce use of destructive fishing techniques, and implementing a no-take zone to preserve coral reefs in the long-term. We are working towards Article 14 through catch and reef monitoring programmes in both Zones 1 and 2, and are planning to start these in Zone 3 in the coming quarter. Results from monitoring will be used to assess the state of marine resources, allow for adapting and informing management measures in locations where they are most needed (e.g. by identifying key biodiversity areas), and evaluate the effect of management initiatives to ensure a positive impact on marine biodiversity.

These actions are highlighted as essential in the NDCs from Comoros, where actions for adaptation to climate change highlighted include increasing protected areas for sustainable management and resilience, and implementing monitoring and restoration of marine and coastal ecosystems to best advise management and adaptation actions.

Regular communications are maintained with the Comoros CBD focal point, Abdouchakour Mohamed, for instance by sharing all reports produced in collaboration with Dahari, including national workshop reports.

5. Project support to poverty reduction

The project is based in the most low-income and most populous island of the Comoros, with a rapidly increasing population that depends on dwindling fish stocks and farming for food security and income.

The project targets both reef gleaning and boat fisheries, aiming to improve the livelihoods of 1500 fishers. Reef gleaning is practised mainly by women who are entirely dependent on accessible, shallow coral reefs, which are vulnerable to climate change. They often use destructive fishing techniques such as poison or metal rebars to fish for octopus. Boat fishing is practised mainly by men, who often use destructive fishing techniques such as nets with small mesh size.

The project works towards poverty alleviation by supporting alternative livelihoods and encouraging families to diversify their income, such as so far training 102 fisherwomen in fish drying techniques and business development (26 during the reporting period). A marketing event was organised in October in the island main town, boosting their sales with 49 kg of product sold in one day worth 430 GBP, which is equivalent to half of the total income since the initiative started in April 2022. Following the event, a further 30.5kg of dried octopus was sold from October to December, demonstrating increased demand. We trained 768 fishers in agriculture techniques (445 during this reporting period), such as crop rotations and

associations of different cultures or strategies to prevent soil erosion, ultimately supporting yield improvement.

Specifically, by working with fishers to manage biodiversity with the goal of reducing poverty and protecting preferential access rights, the project fulfils general principle 4 of the Programme of Work. For instance, the implementation of temporary fisheries closures as in zone 2 increases octopus catches (see Supporting document 10 - Flyer of reopening results 2023 and 5 - Presentation of reopening results), providing short-term benefits and engaging fishers in the development of longer-term measures, such as a no-take zone with lasting impacts for biodiversity. Anecdotally, fishers have stated that since the implementation of the no-take zone, previously absent fish species have come back and catches are higher. (Supporting document 11 - Annual focus groups report). Community-based measures ensure these initiatives are legitimate locally and will be enforced. We are also supporting communities in zone 1 and 2 to work with local authorities towards a multi-year agreement on temporary closures, to anchor those initiatives in local law for the mid-term and thus empower local associations in managing their fisheries resources sustainably.

6. Gender equality and social inclusion

Please quantify the proportion of women on the Project Board ¹ .	45%
Please quantify the proportion of project partners that are led by women, or which have a senior leadership team consisting of at least 50% women ² .	Dahari's senior leadership team is 40% women, Moheli National Park 0%

Overall, women in the Comoros are traditionally absent from resource management discussions where collective decision-making is dominated by men. Their interests are underrepresented and they often lack confidence to participate in male-dominated meetings. The project aims to empower women to play a more equitable role in resource management.

Due to the prevalent patriarchal structure and male dominance in Comorian society, we are ensuring that women participate in several initiatives, thereby promoting gender equity and equality in value-addition activities and improved agricultural practices, community consultations and are prioritised for participatory fisheries and habitat monitoring activities (indicators 2.1, 3.3 and 3.3). Our trainings also target self-confidence and leadership, to empower women towards more participation in meetings and ownership in leading on management actions.

During this reporting period, notable achievements were:

- In Zones 1 and 2, we provided training in governance and management skills for 42 fisherwomen (all are members of local fishers' associations), including a theater training after being approached by the fisherwomen associations in Moya who asked for support in leading awareness raising activities. We organised a series of workshops with a local theatre troupe to strengthen their public speaking skills in May and June (indicators 1.1a, 2.3, 4.1).
- Following a successful training approach for the wooden spear, where we supported fisherwomen leaders to train their peers in the technique instead of an external specialist, therefore contributing to strengthening their confidence and developing

¹ A Project Board has overall authority for the project, is accountable for its success or failure, and supports the senior project manager to successfully deliver the project.

² Partners that have formal governance role in the project, and a formal relationship with the project that may involve staff costs and/or budget management responsibilities.

leadership skills, we replicated this approach in Zone 2. Leaders from Zone 1 exchanged with leaders in Zone 2 to discuss the training approach, and following this 67 fisherwomen were trained during the reporting period (indicators 1.1b, 1.3).

- The creation of the management commission in Zone 2, representing the fisherwomen association and other underrepresented fishers' groups, such as net fishers who are usually sidelined in discussions.
- The organisation of associations AGMs (56% women members, 211 women participating), including the participation of key local authorities and the Directors of Environment, Fisheries, and Gender to the Meeting of the fisherwomen association Maecha Bora (from Zone 1). This was an opportunity to showcase their work and be recognised and encouraged as women leaders by regional authorities.

7. Monitoring and evaluation

BV delivers projects using principles of adaptive management, as part of a cycle that moves from project design, implementation and monitoring, to reviewing results, and back to project design (adapting / revising strategy and plans). The outputs' and activities' contribution to the project outcome is detailed in a theory of change that we refer to at all stages in this cycle. Review happens at a range of frequencies, depending on the thoroughness of the review, with the broad strategy reviewed less frequently (usually every three years), and the day-to-day implementation of activities reviewed more frequently (at least monthly).

Project activities are implemented mostly by our partner Dahari, who we are working closely with to manage the project, including through M&E. Monthly meetings are organised with the field teams to review activities and discuss any challenges, and quarterly one-day sessions allow to reflect on achievements and challenges, as well as improvements and objectives for the next three months. In-country BV staff are connecting with Moheli National Park and overseeing communications between partners.

We use data from monitoring and evaluation activities (described below) to continually assess the rationale behind our theory of change, and the assumptions that underpin it, reviewing the relevance of the outputs and activities of the project. The indicators provided in the project proposal are outlined in the logframe.

Strengthening the capacity of Comorian community associations for marine and fisheries management is fundamental to achieving the project's objectives. This reporting period, 46 community members received training in fisheries monitoring, including the use of tried and tested smartphone-based fisheries monitoring and dashboarding systems.

As well as catch monitoring, which allows evaluation of outcome of temporary fishery closures, sharing result data with community members and discussions about how to improve management measures enable further development of management. 13 community feedback sessions took place during the reporting period to share catch and reef monitoring results. Notably, a report on reef monitoring results was published and shared with project partners (see Supporting document 12 - Report of reef monitoring results 2017-2021, the original French version available on Dahari [website](#)). Catch monitoring reports are in development. Future plans are to publish regular reports every two years in an effort to communicate about data more effectively.

Annual focus groups to evaluate project progress and any areas for improvement had been conducted during Year 2, and improvements to the project approach were made accordingly during this reporting period, including reviewing meetings and training conditions (small payment for participation, notice time) and developing new trainings (collaboration with a theater group and NGO Naipenda for literacy training). Annual focus groups took place for the second time in both Zones 1 and 2 with 25 participants in January 2023 (see supporting document 11, Annual focus groups report). The results were positive this year with participants again highlighting their appreciation of the various trainings to build their capacity to manage and lead associations, and some indicator values increasing, such as women's level of engagement in decision-making notably in Zone 2. Areas of improvement include linking the

use of data to management, and developing more coaching and training adapted to build capacity on those topics.

The project proposed to develop and conduct household surveys to assess improvements in livelihoods as well as KAP surveys to assess awareness and perceptions towards marine conservation (supporting documents shared with the first annual report). During this reporting period, we have completed the baseline for Zone 3 (399 individual surveys). A full report presenting baseline results can be found in Supporting document 4 – Report of baseline results – KAP and livelihoods survey). End of project surveys will start in June for the three zones to assess changes in livelihoods and perceptions.

8. Lessons learnt

The different socio-economic contexts between the three zones is complicated to manage with a broad unique strategy and we must be able to respond to different contexts, especially local governance dynamics, and changing situations in an adaptive way.

In the Year 2 report, we highlighted challenges in Zone 2, and the importance of understanding the local context and adapting the approach accordingly. Issues in Zone 2 were resolved during this reporting period through multiple reconciliation meetings, informal community discussions towards the development of a wider and more inclusive management commission including representatives from the different fishers groups, local authorities and projects active in the region.

In Zone 1, the challenges outlined in the Year 2 half year report are continuing. Having previously implemented four temporary closures, another temporary closure was due to be put in place in June 2022. However, during the first week of implementation, several fishers and other influential community figures opposed heavily to the temporary closure or any other management measure to be implemented. This challenging situation was accentuated by the lack of engagement or influence from local authorities, due in part to existing conflicts of interest. The lack of social cohesion in some villages also makes it more challenging to navigate towards a solution that can be acceptable to both sides.

Since then, we have initiated a number of meetings with the community members leading the opposition movement, and the management commission, a regional fishers trade union representative, and local authorities to rebuild that relationship and find a solution moving forward. Progress has been very slow, but we are now at a stage where we are discussing potential initiatives to invest in that would benefit the community as a whole, to garner more support community-wide for marine management. In parallel, we're discussing integrating more stakeholders in the zone management commission to be more representative. While this approach has worked for Zone 2, the ultimate objectives of the leading figures opposed to management in Zone 1 are still not yet clear and therefore difficult to address. This continued disruption has also highlighted the importance of addressing low-level disruption to mitigate opportunities for flash points. This is something that we are conscious of with the Zone 2 stakeholders and regularly meet informally to manage situations.

The complexity of the situation in Zone 1, and slow progress over the last year in Zone 2, has also taught us to proceed more cautiously. As approved in our last change request, we have decided to progress more slowly in Zone 3. We want to ensure we have an in-depth understanding of local dynamics, developing relationships with local stakeholders on strong foundations and not rushing management discussions. The initial focus groups and community feedback sessions to identify community needs have been completed, however, work on strengthening governance will start in the next few months, after further discussion with fisher groups and key local leaders and agreeing on the best strategy forward (either creating associations, or directly a zone commission for instance).

A second challenging area this year has been around surveillance. Though the contexts are slightly different, the core issue affecting both Zones 1 and 2 is the juxtaposition of the requirement of local authorities to be a part of the process, but a lack of engagement and action when infractions are recorded. We have improved the efficiency and authority of patrol teams through creating surveillance calendars and incorporating this into agreements. However, the

lack of effective framework and its enforcement for penalising infractions makes this difficult to navigate and so relies on maintaining good relationships with key authorities.

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

Issues raised in the AR2R:

1. Please address the issues raised in AR1R regarding the designation of key biodiversity hotspots using fisheries landing data:

Key biodiversity hotspots were identified during participatory mapping sessions with fishers (Activity 2.2.2). At the beginning of these participatory mapping sessions, results from rapid reef monitoring surveys were presented to support local knowledge towards designation of high pressure and high biodiversity areas. These areas, if not surveyed through the rapid assessments, were then evaluated via rapid surveys as a means of ground truthing the information. Some of the sites selected for reef monitoring were also chosen on the basis of fishing pressure from reef gleaners. Fisheries data was not used in the participatory workshops, or in the designation of biodiversity hotspots, as it would be difficult to use as a proxy for monitoring reef health since fishers often move between sites during one fishing trip and are often targeting certain species.

2. 'Submit data collected during participatory monitoring used to develop the participatory mapping':

Three rapid reef surveys were conducted prior to the participatory mapping event in Zone 2. For details, see Supporting document 13 - Data rapid surveys Zone 2 2021. The results from those surveys were used in the participatory mapping, alongside emphasising local knowledge and then ground truthing mapping results as explained above. The presentation used at the start of the participatory mapping session can be found in Supporting document 14 - Presentation of participatory mapping workshop Zone 2.

3. 'Submit MoV for the establishment of the community lead no-take zone' :

See Supporting document 15 - Zone 1 Reserve Agreement (in French), translation in Supporting document 16 - No take zone agreement translated.

10. Risk Management

No new risks have arisen in the last 12 months. The project doesn't have a risk register, however, we're monitoring closely any potential risks and taking measures to mitigate them, such as ensuring security of project material if there are political events and potential tensions.

11. Other comments on progress not covered elsewhere

We submitted a [change request](#) in December 2022, which was approved in the following months. Considering the governance challenges that took place in both Zones 1 and 2 during the previous year, and although we had started working Zone 3 and will continue to support capacity-building of associations in that area, to build strong governance foundations, including awareness-raising activities, we requested to remove pressure on deadlines regarding implementation of management measures.

In the logframe we shared, and in the change request document, we mentioned changes to the indicators (1.2 & 1.3) only, related to the implementation of management measures, such as the temporary closures and destructive fishing practices. We did not, however, highlight changes to two indicators related to delaying work towards management implementation in Zone 3: Indicator 2.2 and 4.2.

- 2.2b Participatory identification of key coral reef biodiversity hotspots in each coastal area in collaboration with fishers based on reef monitoring datasets by the end of year three. (to "by the end of project")

- 4.2 By end of project, 30 community management association members (half of whom are women) from each coastal area (90 in total) are trained on how to establish and govern an LMMA (e.g. description and benefits of LMMAs, consultative decision-making, teamwork, challenges). (to “from two coastal areas (60 in total)”).

We would like to amend the logframe to reflect those changes that were technically approved in the last change request, as highlighted in the [updated logframe with tracked changes](#).

12. Sustainability and legacy

This project is part of a long-term approach to build local support, capacity, and leadership for gender-equitable community-based marine management across the Comoros. After project end, we will continue developing the network in collaboration with our implementing partner Dahari and other partners through exchanges and regular meetings to ensure learning and sharing continues.

Through project activities, associations are continuing to increase their leadership and technical capacities, as exemplified by this year’s AGMs largely led by association leaders themselves. We are committed to continue supporting them to progress, and become rightful leaders in implementing and advocating for locally-led management, a long-term journey that will continue after project completion.

Dahari, in collaboration with BV, also started an advocacy programme in early 2022 to analyse the existing opportunities for the recognition of the rights of small-scale fishers and the securing of community management models in the legislative system of the Comoros. This project, funded by other donors, complements the development in the field of a local management model (LMMA) in collaboration with the communities, to secure in the long-term such an initiative in law.

13. Darwin Initiative identity

During the reporting period we have openly and transparently acknowledged the Darwin Initiative and the UK Government’s funding, including on the two Blue Ventures blogs published this reporting period. Logos have been used on reports shared with partners (see Supporting document 12 - Report of reef monitoring results 2017-2021), and on awareness-raising materials to inform community members about management measures or communicate results from temporary closures for example (See Supporting document 3 - Flyer to raise awareness about the temporary closure).

In the Comoros, there is limited understanding of the Darwin Initiative considering French-related colonial history and lack of English fluency. People have anecdotally commented on the Darwin logo (bird) to inquire about what it refers to.

14. Safeguarding

Has your Safeguarding Policy been updated in the past 12 months?	Yes
Have any concerns been investigated in the past 12 months	Yes
Does your project have a Safeguarding focal point?	Lisa Mouland – [REDACTED]
Has the focal point attended any formal training in the last 12 months?	Annual refreshers are provided internally for every staff by Blue Ventures’ Safeguarding Manager.
What proportion (and number) of project staff have received formal training on Safeguarding?	Health and Safety and Safeguarding (HSS) is

	<p>led globally by the HSS Manager and Officer who together coordinate a team of focal points in each region/country.</p> <p>They attend regular training provided by BOND and Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS) and then disseminate the same concepts internally.</p>
<p>Has there been any lessons learnt or challenges on Safeguarding in the past 12 months? Please ensure no sensitive data is included within responses.</p> <p>Reporting mechanisms need to be clear, with multiple channels and built together with the communities if we want to ensure they are effective and easily accessible. At the same time, we need to clarify the relationship between our organisation and partners in order to guarantee the highest level of duty of care.</p>	
<p>Does the project have any developments or activities planned around Safeguarding in the coming 12 months? If so please specify.</p> <p>Our implementing partner Dahari will be developing their own Safeguarding policy and procedures by end 2023, with our support, including a reporting system adapted to the local socio-economic context of the villages we work in in order to guarantee highest level of care.</p>	

15. Project expenditure

Table 1: Project expenditure during the reporting period (1 April 2022 – 31 March 2023)

Project spend (indicative) since last Annual Report	2022/23 Grant (£)	2022/23 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	125,749.00	113,171.22		

Table 2: Project mobilising of matched funding during the reporting period (1 April 2022 – 31 March 2023)

	Matched funding secured to date	Total matched funding expected by end of project
Matched funding leveraged by the partners to deliver the project.		
Total additional finance mobilised by new activities building on evidence, best practices and project (£)		

16. OPTIONAL: Outstanding achievements or progress of your project so far (300-400 words maximum). This section may be used for publicity purposes

Learning exchange to Kenya

In March 2023, eight fishers from Anjouan, Comoros, travelled to Kenya for a peer-learning visit, organised by Blue Ventures, Blue Ventures’ partner COMRED in Kenya, and Dahari from Comoros. The objectives were to exchange and learn from their peers in Kwale county about best practices in fisheries governance.

During seven days, we visited three different communities, each with their own unique successes and challenges. The similar cultural context in coastal Kenya made it easy for the Comorian fishers to adapt, understand their fellow fishers and be inspired by the exchanges.

This visit was essential to inspire the Comorian leaders towards instigating change back home. They were inspired by the initiatives put in place in Kenya, especially how well people collaborate together and with the government, which remains a big challenge in the Comoros.

Comorian fishers have highlighted several priorities they want to take back to their communities: strengthening the management commission in Zone 1, and find a solution to current governance challenges; create a no-take zone in Zone 2 towards implementing an LMMA. We are now supporting the exchange visit participants to conduct feedback sessions in their communities in Comoros, and to deliver on their objectives.

Maecha Bora’s Annual General Meeting


In 2018, fisherwomen from three villages of Anjouan gathered to create Maecha Bora, their association, following a learning exchange to Zanzibar. The first fisherwomen association in the Comoros, where women are usually absent from decision-making, their objectives are to preserve marine resources, and improve their livelihoods for future generations.


Since then, they’ve led on the implementation of four temporary closures, and trained over a hundred of their peers in the use of the wooden spear to catch octopus instead of the metal rebar.

In February 2023, they organised their AGM for the first time in the main town, Mutsamudu. It was a great opportunity for them to showcase their 2022 achievements. They were a little unsure to start with, especially considering the presence of regional authorities, including the Director of Gender and Environment, however, they did brilliantly in sharing their results with the audience. The Directors took the opportunity to congratulate and encourage them, further empowering them as impactful women leaders. We will continue supporting them in this journey, hoping they inspire other women to be at the forefront.

We agree for the Darwin Initiative Secretariat to publish the content of this section (please leave this line in to indicate your agreement to use any material you provide here).

I agree for the Biodiversity Challenge Funds Secretariat to publish the content of this section.

File Type (Image / Video / Graphic)	File Name or File Location	Caption, country and credit	Online accounts to be tagged (leave blank if none)	Consent of subjects received (delete as necessary)
Video	https://vimeo.com/813515427/fd7ee3af01	<p>Comorian fishers share learnings from an exchange visit to their peers in Kenya focusing on best practices in marine management and governance, March 2023.</p> <p>Country: Kenya</p> <p>Credit: Randall Mabwa, Blue Ventures</p>		Yes
Photo	 <p>Supporting document 17</p>	<p>Members of the fisherwomen association Maecha Bora during their AGM in Mutsamudu, Anjouan.</p> <p>Country: Comoros</p> <p>Credit: Dahari</p>		Yes
Video	https://vimeo.com/813515427/fd7ee3af01	<p>Comorian fishers share learnings from an exchange visit to their peers in Kenya</p>		Yes

		<p>focusing on best practices in marine management and governance, March 2023.</p> <p>Country: Kenya</p> <p>Credit: Randall Mabwa, Blue Ventures</p>		
Photo	 <p>Supporting document 17</p>	<p>Members of the fisherwomen association Maecha Bora during their AGM in Mutsamudu, Anjouan.</p> <p>Country: Comoros</p> <p>Credit: Dahari</p>		Yes
Video	<p>https://vimeo.com/813515427/fd7ee3af01</p>	<p>Comorian fishers share learnings from an exchange visit to their peers in Kenya focusing on best practices in marine management and governance, March 2023.</p> <p>Country: Kenya</p> <p>Credit: Randall Mabwa, Blue Ventures</p>		Yes

Annex 1: Report of progress and achievements against logframe for Financial Year 2022-2023

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2022 - March 2023	Actions required/planned for next period
<p>Impact</p> <p>Integrated local management of inshore coastal resources in the Comoros protects coral reef ecosystems whilst improving livelihoods for rural communities.</p>			
<p>Outcome</p> <p>An integrated, replicable model for community-based marine management is developed, improving the livelihoods of 1,500 fishers and enabling effective management of 350 hectares of coral reefs, conserving marine biodiversity.</p>	<p>0.1 By end of project, ten communities from three coastal areas (with an estimated 1,500 fishers) on Anjouan are actively developing or implementing local marine and fisheries management initiatives encompassing 350 ha of coral reefs, including the establishment of a locally managed marine area (LMMA) of at least 70 ha.</p> <p>0.2 By end of project, 75% of fishers report improvements in their livelihoods from fisheries management measures and/or value-addition/ agriculture activities, compared with project start.</p> <p>0.3 By end of project, at least 20 participating communities and 5 partners (established and new partnerships) are engaged in sharing knowledge and best practices for community-led marine</p>	<p>0.1 Ten coastal communities from 3 zones (Zone 1 - Vassy, Zone 2 - Moya, Zone 3 - Darsalama) (estimated 1500 fishers) are now supported towards marine and fisheries management, with work starting in Zone 3 (three communities) in mid 2022. Seven communities are now implementing fisheries management measures, reaching a potential of 320 ha under marine management for Zone 1 and 2 communities.</p> <p>0.2 Baseline livelihood surveys previously completed for the first two coastal areas, are now completed for the third coastal area (where work started during this reporting period).</p> <p>0.3 Sharing of experiences on community-led marine management has occurred via informal meetings and seven exchange visits so far, involving seven partners (Moheli National Park, Shisiwani National Park, Dahari, Fisheries Directorate (Regional and National), Fishers Trade Union, NGO AIDE and Mayotte Marine Park (via email exchange)). Seventeen fishing communities have been involved in exchanges and workshops so far, including seven this reporting period.</p> <p>0.4 Reef and catch (reef gleaning and boat catches) monitoring continues in Zones 1 and 2. Catch monitoring is due to start in Zone 3 in April 2023.</p>	<p>In Zones 1 and 2, we will continue to support existing governance structures towards management and establishment of an LMMA (more details below). In Zone 3, we will continue to identify and build relationships with key stakeholders (fisher groups and local authorities), in parallel with defining community needs in terms of governance (i.e. creation and support of new associations) and then marine management priorities.</p> <p>End of project (EOP) livelihood surveys will be launched in the three coastal areas in June to assess impact from fisheries management measures and/or value-addition/agriculture activities.</p> <p>We are continuing to strengthen relationships at the national level through collaborative projects (reef monitoring, community management toolkit). Another</p>

	<p>management in the wider Comoros.</p> <p>0.4 Key biodiversity indicators (abundance and biomass of reef fish; reef benthic composition) within the LMMA remain stable or improve by the end of the project, and are monitored within the two other areas, including the abundance and biomass of day fishery targeted reef species, e.g parrotfish (<i>Scarus</i> sp.), surgeonfish (<i>Acanthurus</i> and <i>Ctenochaetus</i> sp.), key grouper species blackfin and tomato grouper (<i>Epinephelus fasciatus</i> and <i>Cephalopholis sonnerati</i>)).</p>		<p>national workshop is planned before EOP to exchange on fisheries management amongst communities and partners across the Comoros.</p> <p>Catch and reef monitoring programmes to continue in Zone 1 and Zone 2, and will start in Zone 3. Baseline reef surveys in Zone 3 are planned in Q2 following identification of high biodiversity areas (Activity 2.2.2).</p>
<p>Output 1.</p> <p>Locally-led fisheries management measures piloted in two new coastal areas (Dar Salama and Moya) and continued by communities in the coastal area of Vassy on Anjouan (ten communities in total), preserving marine resources and providing livelihood benefits.</p>	<p>1.1a 2,000 community members (half of whom are women) across three coastal areas have attended awareness-raising sessions on sustainable fishing practices and marine conservation by end of project;</p> <p>1.1b 200 fishers (half of whom are women) have attended training on sustainable fishing techniques and management initiatives (e.g. temporary closures) by end of project.</p> <p>1.2 Short-term fisheries management initiatives (e.g. temporary closures), repeated in one coastal area, and co-designed, agreed and piloted in another coastal area by end of year two; repeated by two coastal areas by end of project.</p>	<p>Progress continues to be made towards Output 1 and we have been able to start activities in Zone 3, though management measures are not yet being implemented here. Progress in Zone 2 has been particularly impressive with the reconciliation of stakeholders, production of a temporary closure agreement and association members taking an active role in awareness raising activities. The first temporary closure was put in place from October 2022 - February 2023 in Zone 2.</p> <p>1.1a. Ongoing. 1,430 community members have been reached since the start of the project. Six awareness raising theatre plays were held in August 2022 and reached 558 participants (238 female (F), 43%). An awareness raising meeting was held in early October with 48 community members (20F) on the closure agreement in Zone 2.</p> <p>1.1b. Complete. 224 fishers have been trained in the use of the sustainable fishing gear mwiri (wooden spear) since the start of the project, to encourage fishers to stop using the destructive ntsontso (metal rebar). 97 fishers (100%F) from both zones were trained during this reporting period.</p> <p>1.2 Ongoing. In Zone 1, considering the ongoing challenges detailed in 1.2.5, temporary closures have not been repeated during the reporting period but efforts are ongoing to find a collective solution and be able to put in place short-term management measures by EOP. In Zone 2, one temporary octopus closure was put in place between October and February (Supporting document 2 - Rules temporary closure Zone 2).</p> <p>1.3 In Zone 1, 85% of fishers are habitually using the mwiri as opposed to ntsontso compared to 24% at the start of the project. In Zone 2, 70% fishers are using mwiri habitually compared to 50% at the start of project.</p>	

	<p>1.3 Foundations for long-term fisheries management strategies (e.g. gear restrictions) are in place with more than 50% of fishers (half of whom are women) abstaining from destructive fishing techniques in the first coastal area; and more than 25% in a second coastal area, by end of project.</p> <p>1.4a 50% of community members (half of whom are women) are aware of existing management measures by end of project;</p> <p>1.4b 80% of fishers (half of whom are women) report improvements in their livelihoods from fisheries management initiatives and/or sustainable fishing techniques by end of project.</p>	<p>1.4 Baseline surveys completed for the three zones (See supporting document 4 - Report of baseline results - KAP and livelihoods surveys). EOP surveys to start in June.</p>	
<p>Activity 1.1.1 Awareness-raising sessions to increase understanding of marine conservation, management measures and adoption of sustainable fishing techniques (e.g. movie nights, debates about threats to the reef, theatre plays on closures).</p>	<p>Ongoing.</p> <p>In August six showings of a theatre production were held to raise awareness on fisheries management measures and the use of mwiri as a sustainable fishing technique attended by 558 participants (283F) across two coastal areas.</p> <p>In early October, an awareness raising meeting was held in Moya to inform the community about the contents of the closure document (48 participants, 42%F) (see 1.4.1). This is in addition to workshops during its development.</p> <p>100 flyers showing results of the closure reopening were distributed after feedback events in the communities in Zone 2 (see Supporting document 10 - Flyer of reopening results 2023).</p>		<p>The next awareness-raising sessions are due to take place in all coastal areas in June and July, and we are currently developing topics and timings.</p> <p>We have started translating videos from English to Comorian and showing them as an introduction to community feedback sessions to raise awareness on wider marine management topics, for example, LMMAs and the octopus life cycle.</p>
<p>Activity 1.1.2 Training in sustainable fishing techniques and management initiatives for 200 fishers (half of whom are women) across three coastal areas.</p>	<p>Ongoing.</p> <p>16 fisherwomen from Zone 1 and 67 fisherwomen from Moya in Zone 2 were trained (six training sessions) in the use of mwiri (wooden spear) as an alternative to the more destructive</p>		<p>Further trainings in the use of the wooden spear are planned for fishers in two more Zone 2 villages (Maweni and Kowe).</p>

	ntsontso (metal rebar) for fishing. The rebar can sometimes destroy coral, while the mwiri can not.	
Activity 1.2.2 Community consultations to discuss fisheries management options, based on participatory monitoring data and participatory analysis results.	<p>Completed for all coastal areas.</p> <p>During the reporting period, six initial focus groups and feedback sessions in Zone 3 were conducted in June 2022 to understand the local fisheries context, main challenges and potential solutions linked to fisheries management (70 participants, 46%F). Main challenges highlighted were the impact of destructive techniques, such as small mesh-size net fishing, poison fishing, extraction of sand on the beaches and lack of waste management.</p>	In Zone 3, discussions around management will start once Activity 4.1.1 (stakeholder analysis and development of associations) has been completed.
Activity 1.2.3 Communities are supported to choose one fisheries management initiative to trial.	<p>Not yet started in Zone 3.</p> <p>Completed for Zone 1 (temporary closures put in place in year 1 and permanent no-take zone officialised in year 2).</p> <p>Completed for Zone 2 (temporary closures put in place in year 2).</p>	In Zone 3, discussions around management will start once Activity 4.1.1 (stakeholder analysis and development of associations) has been completed.
Activity 1.2.4 Work plan agreed upon with community and relevant authorities – including relevant associations and women’s groups – for management initiative implementation (e.g. location, duration, rules).	<p>Zone 1 - Completed in previous reporting period for temporary closures and no-take zone.</p> <p>Zone 2 - Previous closures in year 2 were implemented without both an official workplan and representative consultation. Following this, meetings were held to put in place a management commission including representatives from various fisher groups, the associations from the three villages and local authorities including the mayor (year 2). We supported the inclusive committee during this reporting period to develop a management agreement for the implementation of temporary closures valid for one year. This agreement was finalised in September 2022, prior to implementation of the temporary closure in October.</p>	<p>Zone 1 - We will continue to develop closure agreements reflective of a more inclusive commission and to include enlargement of the permanent no take zone.</p> <p>Zone 2. We will begin to develop a multi-year agreement for temporary closures, as well as begin to discuss creation of permanent reserves as a long-term management measure to preserve marine resources from fishing pressure.</p> <p>Zone 3. Work will start following the creation of associations, and outcomes of 1.2.3. possibly before EOP</p>
Activity 1.2.5 Monthly meetings to follow-up on implementation of management work plan and next steps advised by community feedback sessions (linked to 2.3.4).	<p>Ongoing.</p> <p>In Zone 1, the challenges outlined in the year 2 half year report are continuing. Having previously implemented four temporary closures, we had anticipated using existing agreements as the</p>	Zone 1 - Once governance issues are resolved, we will use the existing closure agreement as a basis to develop a multi-year

	<p>basis for developing multi-year agreements, as a first step to creating regulations for LMMAs. A temporary closure put in place in June 2022 created challenging situations for governance, with some fishers and other influential community figures opposing heavily to any management measure being implemented. Regular meetings continue with stakeholders and local authorities, including regional project partners, such as the Director of Fisheries and Fishers Trade Union, to align values, define objectives and find collective resolution to the ongoing conflict.</p> <p>In Zone 2 regular meetings continue to maintain relationships between stakeholder groups represented in the management commission, and follow-up on closure implementation from October to February, such as discussing infractions. Work is now focused on reviewing the results from the temporary closure that took place between October 2022 and February 2023, and how to improve implementation for future initiatives, for instance the surveillance, before developing multi-year work plans.</p>	<p>management agreement detailing annual temporary closures, spatial or temporal restrictions on specific gears, rules and regulations and surveillance of compliance with those rules.</p> <p>Zone 2 - We will work towards developing a multi-year agreement for temporary closures, alongside longer-term initiatives, such as permanent no-take zones.</p> <p>Zone 3 - Work will start following the creation of management associations, and outcomes of 1.2.3. possibly before EOP (according to change request approved on the 23rd February 2023).</p>
<p>Activity 1.3 Follow-up visits to provide support and further awareness raising to encourage uptake of sustainable fishing techniques (continuous in-field presence with local technicians).</p>	<p>Ongoing.</p> <p>In both Zones 1 and 2, informal awareness raising is continuous at landing sites, and through informal chats between catch monitors and fishers.</p> <p>Uptake of the mwiri method has been excellent. In Zone 1, 96% of fishers are using the mwiri during reopenings and 85% during fishing outside of closure reopenings. In Zone 2, 97% of fishers use the mwiri during reopenings and 70% in general.</p>	<p>In both zones, training will continue to be rolled out throughout the target communities. We are currently developing our campaign to reduce the use of mixed methods (mwiri and ntsontso).</p> <p>Training in the mwiri will start in Zone 3 before EOP, accompanied with follow-up support as in Zones 1 and 2 for uptake of the sustainable fishing techniques.</p>
<p>Activity 1.4.1 Support to local associations in mobilising communities and spreading information on management initiatives, in collaboration with local authorities (linked with 1.1.1 awareness-raising sessions).</p>	<p>In Zone 2, the fisherwomen's association from Moya approached Dahari to support them in leading awareness raising activities. In May and June, a group of 12 women participated in a series of workshops to create an awareness raising theatre performance which then toured the Zone 2 villages.</p> <p>Feedback and awareness raising on management measures is supported by informal community meetings, door to door discussions and distribution of flyers in all coastal areas. The</p>	<p>The objective of the training is to improve confidence, encourage association members to take more active roles in awareness raising activities, and participate more during public meetings. We are currently developing our awareness raising programme for the coming year, and will invite</p>

		Dahari field team is regularly supported in that work by association members.	members to take on more leadership responsibility.
Activity 1.4.2 Household livelihood and KAP surveys with targeted fishers before commencing activities in respective zones, and at the end of project (complemented with results of 3.4).		Previously completed for Zones 1 and 2. Completed for Zone 3 during the reporting period (Supporting document 4 - Report of baseline results - KAP and livelihoods surveys).	EOP surveys planned to start in June in the three coastal areas.
<p>Output 2.</p> <p>Ten communities from three coastal areas of Anjouan have access to data and improved knowledge for identifying key biodiversity hotspots and guiding adaptive management of local marine resources.</p>	<p>2.1 60 community members (half of whom are women) across three coastal areas are able to conduct fisheries monitoring activities by the end of year two.</p> <p>2.2a Participatory mobile-based catch and reef monitoring operational in three coastal areas by mid-year three;</p> <p>2.2b Participatory identification of key coral reef biodiversity hotspots in each coastal area in collaboration with fishers based on reef monitoring datasets by the end of year three.</p> <p>2.3a By the end of year three, 60 management association members (half of whom are women) across three coastal areas have been trained to present catch and reef monitoring data to the wider community, and to use the data to guide adaptive management;</p> <p>2.3b By end of project, 15 management association members across three coastal areas have</p>	<p>Catch monitoring and reef monitoring continue to be fully operational in both Zone 1 and Zone 2. Data interpretation training has started in Zone 2 and association members in both zones are supported to review their knowledge and present data back to their communities during information sessions.</p> <p>Zone 3 catch monitoring is currently being initiated. Identification of areas of high biodiversity and baseline surveys are scheduled to start in June - July.</p> <p>2.1 Complete. A total of 98 technicians have been trained in monitoring (89%F) since the start of the project. During this reporting period: 22 women from Zone 1; 22 women from Zone 2; and two men from Zone 2 on fisheries monitoring activities.</p> <p>2.2a. Mobile based monitoring continues in zones 1 and 2. Launch of monitoring activities will start in early April in Zone 3.</p> <p>2.2b. Previously completed for zones 1 and 2. This is planned for June for Zone 3.</p> <p>2.3a. Ongoing. 30 association members (50%F) were trained in data analysis skills for management during this reporting period. 55 community members (50%F) were trained since the start of the project.</p> <p>2.3b Ongoing. Four women from the association Maecha Bora in Zone 1 presented during feedback sessions on gleaning data in June. One fisher (M) presented during feedback sessions on reef monitoring. Nine community members have now presented data to their respective communities.</p> <p>2.4 Ongoing. Maecha Bora, the women's association in Zone 1 and one of the leaders in implementing temporary closures had reviewed catch data during their AGM, and are keen to continue to push for this measure. In Zone 2, associations in Moya focused on the results of the closure to evaluate the efficiency and inform improvements for subsequent initiatives.</p>	

	<p>presented catch/reef monitoring data to the wider community.</p> <p>2.4 One management association in each coastal area has started to implement an adaptive management system, informed by at least one review of participatory catch and reef monitoring data by end of project.</p>		
<p>Activity 2.1. Training for 60 community members in fisheries monitoring methods (half of whom are women).</p>	<p>Ongoing - target complete.</p> <p>46 new technicians have been trained on monitoring (96% F) for both reef gleaning and boat fisheries across two coastal areas. A total of 98 fishers have been trained since the start of the project.</p>	<p>Community catch monitoring technicians continue to rotate every six months.</p> <p>Zone 3 - currently (early April) in the process of recruiting and training four monitoring technicians.</p>	
<p>Activity 2.2.1 Participatory fisheries monitoring carried out by community members and reef monitoring operational in each community of interest across three coastal areas (by mid-year three).</p>	<p>Ongoing.</p> <p>In zones 1 and 2 fisheries monitoring continues to be operational for both reef gleaning and boat catch fisheries.</p> <p>In Zone 3 catch monitoring is currently (early April) in the process of being implemented.</p> <p>For both zones 1 and 2 reef monitoring activities continue two times per year according to the sample schedule. Six sites were monitored in each zone. During the last sampling season an additional three sites were extended, collecting baseline data on three sites in Zone 1 up to depths of 16m. Currently 6150m² of reef covered in each monitoring phase.</p>	<p>Catch monitoring is currently in the process of being implemented in Zone 3, and is expected to be in place by the end of April.</p> <p>Reef monitoring for Zone 3 is due to start following participatory identification of key areas in June (2.2.2).</p> <p>We are currently developing a strategy to involve more community members to become involved in conducting surveys on the reef flats.</p>	
<p>Activity 2.2.2 Participatory workshops to identify key biodiversity hotspots per coastal area in collaboration with fishers, supported by the reef monitoring datasets.</p>	<p>Previously completed for zones 1 and 2. Planned for Zone 3 towards the end of Q1/ early Q2.</p>	<p>Identification of key areas (and potential site scoping) will be scheduled towards the end of the next reef monitoring period in June/July.</p>	

<p>Activity 2.3.1 Trial different feedback formats and methods with the community to determine the best way to disseminate fisheries and reef data.</p>	<p>As part of the data interpretation training in Activity 2.3.3, participants are taught to interpret a number of different data visualisations. Through observing their progress and feedback we can identify which visualisations have more impact, for instance simple bar graphs are more effective.</p> <p>Data interpretation (2.3.2) has been successful in equipping community members to better understand the feedback sessions and ask questions. In addition, the increase in engagement when community members are present is notable. Presentations with simple bar graphs supported by clear graphics are most effective.</p>	<p>We will continue to distribute flyers, carry out feedback sessions, and provide training for greatest impact. (Supported by Activity 1.1.1 on awareness raising).</p>
<p>Activity 2.3.2 Training for 10 management association members in each coastal zone in simple analysis and presentation of catch (and reef) monitoring information back to their communities (half of whom are women).</p>	<p>We identified that training in presenting data is more effective prior to community feedback sessions. Typically four to five participants from each cohort of data analysis training (2.3.3) are selected to prepare. Six participants have presented in this reporting period (10 since start of the project).</p>	<p>We are currently reviewing the strategy to first target individuals that have the motivation and to become community leaders. Enhanced support prior to the feedback sessions, as well as the public speaking workshops (1.4.1), should improve the conversion rate for communities to present.</p>
<p>Activity 2.3.3 Training for 10 members of local management associations (half of whom are women) in each coastal zone in how to use data as a management decision-support tool (e.g. evaluating the impact of and adapting management measures).</p>	<p>Data analysis was completed in August for 15 men from the association in Moya and in November for 15 women from Kowe. A total of 55 community members have now been trained to analyse data.</p>	<p>Training will continue for the remaining three associations in Zone 2.</p> <p>We are developing the strategy to improve our reach (see 2.3.2), so that basic level data interpretation can be realised by the wider community.</p>
<p>Activity 2.3.4 Dissemination of results of participatory fisheries monitoring and reef monitoring through quarterly feedback sessions to communities via management associations representatives (once trained).</p>	<p>During this reporting period, a total of 13 feedback sessions were held with 810 participants (49%F).</p> <p>In May - June, six feedback sessions on reef gleaning were held in Zone 1 reaching 320 community members (53%F). Five community members presented at these sessions.</p> <p>Five feedback sessions were held on reef monitoring, reaching 260 people (45%F) in Zone 1.</p> <p>Three feedback sessions were held in March on the results of the reopening of the temporary octopus closure in Moya (October - February) for 230 participants (47%F). One</p>	<p>Community feedback sessions will continue quarterly throughout the year. The next feedback session will be on the boat catch monitoring data.</p>

		community member presented at these sessions (supporting document 5 - Presentation of reopening results).	
Activity 2.4 Support organisation of annual review by each management association to advise next actions.		AGM's have been completed for all associations operating in zones 1 and 2 in February and March. Members of the board were supported to present a summary of their activities, their financial situation and a resume of catch monitoring results where applicable.	We will support the associations in developing and carrying out their work plans for the coming year, and continue annual reviews in the future (after EOP).
<p>Output 3.</p> <p>The livelihoods of 400 fishers (200 women) from ten communities are improved through the adoption of value-addition activities for marine products and/or complementary sustainable agriculture activities</p>	<p>3.1a By mid-year two the end of year one, a study into catch value improvement and market opportunities is completed;</p> <p>3.1b Study results, with focus on applicable practical livelihood interventions that can leverage economic gains, are shared with the communities in all three coastal areas by mid-year two; by the end of project, this data will have been shared in all three areas.</p> <p>3.2a By mid-year three, 200 fishers (half of whom are women) across three coastal areas are trained in value-addition activities (e.g. post-harvesting transformations);</p> <p>3.2b By the end of project, 100 fishers (half of whom are women) across three coastal areas are conducting activities to increase income from their fisheries products.</p>	<p>Good progress has been made in value addition activities this year. A huge amount of support has been provided for Maecha Bora in organising their product transformation activities into three well functioning working groups, with sales and profits increasing over the reporting period through product promotion in farmers markets and a tasting event. Agriculture support has continued in Zone 1 and started in Zone 2.</p> <p>3.1a. Previously completed in September 2021.</p> <p>3.1b. Previously completed for Zone 1 (February 22). In Zone 2, the FAO REEFFISH project that we are working in collaboration with, has started activities with one association. We avoid duplication of effort here, but can refer to our results as needed.</p> <p>3.2a. Ongoing. In Zone 1, 117 participants were trained on value addition activities since the start of the project (54 during this period). During this period a refresher session was held in June on product transformation (11F). In November, 13 women from Maecha Bora received business training in how to analyse costs and profits. In December, 15 men completed a training on reduction of loss at sea in Zone 1. 28 women were trained in Zone 2 through the REEFISH project.</p> <p>3.2b. 29 fishers actively participated in drying/smoking activities across four groups in Zone 1.</p> <p>3.3a. 445 fishers (70%F) were trained in this reporting period on vegetable gardening across two coastal areas. In total, 933³ fishers have been trained since the start of the project.</p> <p>3.3b As above. Trained fishers are implementing agricultural activities to diversify their income source, and are actively supported by Dahari technicians team in the field.</p> <p>3.4. Not evaluated yet. We will begin evaluation prior to the end of the project</p>	

³ This number includes duplicates. We are working on correcting the data to extract the number of unique beneficiaries, and we can share that updated value once available by the end of May or in the next half year report.

	<p>3.3a By end of project, 400 fishers (half of whom are women) across three coastal areas are trained in market gardening and/or improved food crop production;</p> <p>3.3b By end of project, 300 fishers (half of whom are women) are conducting new agricultural activities to diversify their income source.</p> <p>3.4 By the end of the project, 75% of fishers involved in value-addition/agriculture activities (half of whom are women) report improvements in their livelihoods as a result.</p>		
<p>Activity 3.1.1 Baseline study into catch value-addition opportunities focusing on the context of the coastal zones of interest and taking into account existing and potential markets.</p>	<p>Previously completed in September 2021.</p>	<p>No further action.</p>	
<p>Activity 3.1.2 Participatory workshops to discuss the results of the study with communities including leaders, local management associations and women's groups and select practical interventions to trial to leverage economic gains.</p>	<p>Presentations and workshops were completed in February 2022 in Zone 1.</p> <p>Not conducted yet in Zone 2. The FAO REEFFISH project has initiated support to value addition activities in this area, we did not want to duplicate activities.</p>	<p>We will continue supporting fishers trained in Zone 2 by the FAO project.</p>	
<p>Activity 3.2.1 Training for 200 fishers (half of whom are women) across three coastal areas in selected value-addition activities.</p>	<p>Following the consultant visit in year 2, a refresher training was held for 11 women from Maecha Bora (Zone 1) to enhance their skills in smoking and drying techniques. In addition, training for 13 fisherwomen who are active in drying to analyse profit and loss was held in November. In December, 15 fishermen completed a training to reduce catch loss at sea (supporting document 8 - Flyer to support training in loss reduction at sea).</p> <p>Starting activities in Zone 2 has been delayed (previously noted), although 28F were trained in product transformation via another FAO project.</p>	<p>Expansion of training and support into Zone 2 is planned after the end of the FAO project.</p> <p>Durability of smoked fish products needs improving, and we will review causes and implement appropriate retraining.</p>	
<p>Activity 3.2.2 Technical support to communities to implement value-addition activities (e.g. follow-up after training, necessary material/gear).</p>	<p>The marketing strategy has focused on increasing awareness of products. The association Maecha Bora had a stand at the market fair in April 2022 and March 2023. There was also a</p>	<p>We will continue monthly meetings.</p>	

		<p>tasting event held in October 2022 where the products were incorporated into traditional dishes [REDACTED] Restaurateurs, hoteliers and resellers were invited to this open event. A trial period with two resellers in the main cities has also been successful.</p> <p>In addition, regular meetings (at least monthly) are held to discuss challenges, improvements and admin support.</p>	<p>We will continue to develop the marketing strategy, which includes production, raw fish suppliers, sale points and external markets.</p> <p>We will also support acquisition of materials to increase dried fish production.</p>
Activity 3.3.1 Training for 400 fishers (half of whom are women) across three coastal areas in market gardening and/or improved crop production (different trainings taking place across the year depending on the season).		<p>A total of 445 fishers (70%F) were trained in agricultural practices during this reporting period. In total, 360 community members (including 234 fishers) were trained in Zone 1 on vegetable growing, taking care of the seedlings, and association of culture to avoid pesticides, and banana tree planting. In Zone 2, in total 211 female fishers were trained in vegetable growing and how to grow starchy staples.</p>	<p>Support in agricultural practices will continue in zones 1 and 2.</p>
Activity 3.3.2 Technical support to communities to implement sustainable agriculture practices (e.g. follow-up after training, material/gear, seed bank development).		<p>Ongoing. Dahari technicians visit the farming groups regularly (weekly) in both zones to provide technical support where needed.</p>	<p>We will continue to provide technical support for both zones.</p>
Activity 3.4 Surveys at the start and end of project assessing progress against key livelihood indicators.		<p>Baseline livelihood surveys previously completed for zones 1 and 2.</p> <p>Baseline surveys completed for Zone 3 during reporting period (see 1.4.2).</p>	<p>EOP surveys due to start in June for the three zones.</p>
<p>Output 4.</p> <p>The first LMMA in the Comoros is established in one coastal area, with the foundations laid for additional LMMAs in two further areas, as a result of governance structures that are created and supported to design, implement and enforce adaptive fisheries management.</p>	<p>4.1 By end of year two, 60 community management association members (half of whom are women) are trained in technical management and governance skills required for the successful implementation of fisheries management measures (e.g. recording meetings, keeping surveillance logbooks, financial management, leadership/conflict resolution skills).</p> <p>4.2 By end of project, 30 community management association members (half of whom are women) from each coastal area (90 in total) are</p>	<p>Formal training in leadership and association management has been completed for all associations in zones 1 and 2 (30 people during this reporting period). Progress towards establishment of LMMAs in the Comoros is progressing well for Zone 2 since the establishment of a representative and motivated management commission and successful implementation of the first temporary closure in October. In Zone 1, a temporary closure was put in place in July, however, pushback from a fraction of the community resulted in the initiative being postponed (see Section 8, Lessons learnt for more details).</p> <p>4.1 In total, 74 association members have been trained in management and governance skills. Leadership training and association management training is now complete for Zone 2 associations. During this reporting period, 77 fishers (85%F) were trained in leadership and public speaking skills across zones 1 and 2.</p> <p>4.2 We are currently working through feedback from the learning exchange involving eight fishers from zones 1 and 2 focusing on LMMAs, developing objectives for the Comorian context and developing further training materials. In year 2, seven members of associations in Zone 1 took part in a workshop on LMMA and governance principles.</p> <p>4.3 In Zone 1, surveillance continues for the permanent reserve. Six infractions were recorded (two penalised), and improved tools are in place to plan and monitor the activity. In Zone 2, 11 infractions</p>	

	<p>trained on how to establish and govern an LMMA (e.g. description and benefits of LMMAs, consultative decision-making, teamwork, challenges).</p> <p>4.3 Management associations are enforcing management measures and penalising 75% of infractions by end of project.</p> <p>4.4 By end of project, a management plan outlining rules and regulations for one LMMA of at least 70 ha, informed by key biodiversity hotspots identified in 2.2b, is being implemented in one coastal area.</p>	<p>were recorded during the temporary closure period October - February. While improvements have been made to the surveillance programme, conversion to penalisation remains challenging.</p> <p>4.4 Activity not started yet. Planned to commence in the next quarter in Zone 2.</p>	
<p>Activity 4.1.1 Participatory SWOT analysis workshop of existing management associations or where there is no existing association workshop to assess/discuss creating a new management association</p>	<p>Completed for Zone 1 and Zone 2.</p> <p>In Zone 3, two focus groups have been completed for a stakeholder analysis of influence and power dynamics across different user groups and local authorities. One focus group is pending in one village.</p>		<p>Creation or enhancement of structures of existing associations are due to commence in the next quarter in Zone 3.</p> <p>Each village can have very different contexts. As such, we identified the need to perform a more detailed analysis of actors in each village to be better informed of leaders that we can target to move forward efficiently. This will be completed in the next quarter.</p>
<p>Activity 4.1.2 Training sessions for new/existing management association to strengthen technical management and governance skills including recording meetings, keeping surveillance logbooks, financial management.</p>	<p>Formal association training programme completed for Zone 2 associations, with 16 members of the fisherwomen association in Moya finishing their leadership training in May, and association management programmes completed by March for Maweni (14F, 2M). Men were integrated into this association during the year.</p> <p>Theatre workshops in June (18F in Moya Zone 2), December (15 F from Zone 1 associations) and in March (12M from the</p>		<p>Level 1 literary training starting in Vassy, particularly targeting male association members.</p> <p>We plan to continue public speaking skills training for association members to increase engagement and ownership of issues by association members.</p>

	Moya association) have been completed public speaking skills training.	Training will commence in Zone 3 once 4.1.1 is completed.
Activity 4.1.3 Monthly support visits to associations for capacity-building/tools in place.	Ongoing. Regular support is provided for associations in zones 1 and 2, through monitoring of finances, monitoring of activities, and troubleshooting problems. Eight associations from zones 1 and 2 were supported to hold their AGMs in February and March, with a total of 377 members participating (56%F). Group work was supported to define objectives for the coming year and the board election was also completed. Where appropriate, votes were taken for rule changes (e.g. terms of service of the board). In two assemblies, the Director of Environment and Fisheries were present to encourage fishers in continuing their activities.	Support will be targeted to meet objectives outlined during the AGMs and development of work plans. During the last round of AGMs, a number of associations voted for the board members to remain for a longer period. This will enable us to provide stronger support in building leadership and management competencies.
Activity 4.2.1 Training sessions for management association members on LMMA establishment and management including description and benefits of LMMAs, consultative decision-making, teamwork, challenges (half of participants are women).	This activity was designed to springboard off the Kenya learning exchange, which was just completed in March (Activity 4.2.2). We are currently developing learning materials, for example, translation of a video on LMMAs into local Comorian language to be used in workshops in the next quarter.	A more detailed training plan can be developed once the objectives from Activity 4.2.2 are more well defined, which is expected in Q2.
Activity 4.2.2 Learning exchange with another community managing an LMMA to witness management and discuss governance (national or international).	Eight fishers (50%F) completed a learning exchange in March visiting three communities managing LMMAs in south Kenya. Feedback of learnings to association members and wider community is underway. [REDACTED]	Next steps are to share the learnings exchange learnings and outcomes with the wider community using the video from the trip to ignite discussions. Focus groups will be held to develop objectives to trial and what they can extract from the Kenyan model to apply to the Comorian context.
Activity 4.3 Support management associations to enforce measures and penalise infractions (linked with 4.1.3 and 1.2.4 fisheries management measures), including book keeping, surveillance scheduling.	In Zone 1, surveillance is in operation continuously for the no-take zone. Improved tools have been implemented this year, including a surveillance calendar and a payment plan for participation. Six infractions recorded (two penalisations). In Zone 2, a surveillance committee was put in place as part of the closure agreement. 11 infractions were recorded during the temporary closure. There have been some challenges with prosecuting infringements due to poor engagement from local authorities.	This continues to be developed for both zone 1 and 2. In zone 1, we will continue to provide support and review effectiveness of the surveillance plan and associations. In Zone 2, meetings are underway to discuss improvements to convert infractions recorded into penalisations, as well as

		developing funding for surveillance.
Activity 4.4.1 Workshops with community and management associations to discuss the benefits of developing an LMMA (linked to 1.2.3 to 1.2.6, 4.2.1 and 4.2.2).	Not started yet.	A more detailed action plan will be developed once the objectives from Activity 4.2.2 is better defined, and 4.2.1 is complete.
Activity 4.4.2 Workshops to decide on governance criteria (e.g. rules and regulations), informed by key biodiversity hotspots identified in 2.2.2, and gain consensus for a local management plan.	Not formally started yet. This will largely be based on existing management agreements from temporary closures in both zones 1 and 2.	This will take place for Zone 2 in the coming quarter, including strengthening the existing management commission, discussing zonation other measures, such as the no-take zone.
Activity 4.4.3 Support management associations to implement and enforce management plan (LMMA).	Not started yet.	This will start once decision-making on governance criteria (4.4.2) has been concluded.
<p>Output 5.</p> <p>A network of fishing communities and implementing partners in the Comoros shares best practices in local fisheries management and community conservation.</p>	<p>5.1 Partner organisations are sharing best practices and lessons learned via partner meetings, annual workshops, and at least six reciprocal trainings by end of project.</p> <p>5.2 Six local and regional exchange visits (including training) for fishing communities across the Comoros (half of participants are women) on community-based marine management approaches by end of project.</p> <p>5.3 At least one article is published every 6 months to promote community-based fisheries management in the Comoros' media, and a film produced by end of project.</p> <p>5.4 Manual documenting best practices in community-based</p>	<p>5.1 Two national workshops and four training sessions have been carried out in total. Over this reporting period one workshop and two training sessions were carried out.</p> <p>5.2 In total, seven exchange visits have taken place (two in Y1, four in Y2, one in Y3 in Kenya).</p> <p>5.3 Three blogs were published this year (two by Blue Ventures and one by Dahari), two articles in national newspapers and two TV reports. Three blogs/articles were published during Y2. We have started to produce a film, beginning with an initial participatory workshop in March.</p> <p>5.4 Workshop to initiate toolkit development conducted in March.</p>

	marine management in the Comoros produced by end of project.		
Activity 5.1.1 Scoping for and engaging partners and fishing communities (also through partners) to participate in workshops, trainings and exchange visits.	Ongoing. Regular communications are maintained with project partners, as explained in section 2 of the report. Regular email exchanges with the Mayotte Marine Park continue, and we introduced them to INRAPE through our existing partnership, so they were able to develop a collaborative research project on lobster dynamics.	Engaging partners and communities will continue in the next quarters.	
5.1.2 Partner workshops every twelve months to share best practice and lessons learned in community-based fisheries management.	A national workshop was organised at the end of March to define best practices in community-based fisheries management and initiate development of a national toolkit (see 5.4). The workshop included nine participants from six different partners across the three islands.	A national workshop on temporary fishery closures is still pending, awaiting publication of research results into the octopus reproduction cycle, to advise best timings for temporary closures. We will support its organisation before EOP.	
5.1.3 Regular bi-monthly meetings with authorities and other key actors and partners to advocate for community-based management and share results.	As for previous years, regular meetings took place with the Regional Director of Fisheries on Anjouan, the Trade Union President and national park authorities to exchange on respective activities and discuss any challenges.	Meetings are planned to continue in the long-term.	
5.1.4 Training in methodologies and tools to support community-based management for partners (e.g. catch monitoring, participatory methods) at least every twelve months.	Two training sessions on reef monitoring data entry and analysis took place between Dahari, AIDE, Moheli National Park and INRAPE in December 2022 and March 2023 (over four workshop days). In March, we focused on starting the development of a national reef monitoring report.	The next national reef monitoring workshop is planned for July, to advance on the national report.	
5.2 Exchange visits between fishing communities locally on Anjouan and between islands with Mohéli and Grande Comore communities to share experiences on community-based management.	One exchange visit took place this reporting period (the Kenya learning exchange in March, Activity 4.2.2)	One exchange visit will take place for the Zone 3 communities to visit zones 1 and 2 associations, in order to support creation of associations, governance, and development of management objectives.	
5.3.1 Regular media outputs in Comoros, and on partner social media accounts and blogs.	Three blogs were published during this reporting period: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> on fish smoking and drying (Blue Ventures, June 2022) https://blog.blueventures.org/en/women-in-comoros- 	We are planning to release one more blog before end of project,	

	<p>smoke-fish-to-boost-income-and-community-development/</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • on the use of the wooden spear instead of the metal rebar (Dahari, January 2023) https://daharicomores.org/le-harpon-en-bois-pour-capturer-les-poulpes-et-proteger-les-coraux/ • on the Kenya exchange visit (Blue Ventures, March 2023) https://blog.blueventures.org/en/comoros-to-kenya-a-trip-to-learn-from-fellow-fishers-in-kenya/ <p>During Earth Day in June 2022, a beach clean up was organised in Zone 1 with local and regional partners, including the Director of Environment and the Shissiwani National Park, and local media:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Al Fajr newspaper • TV report from national news channel <p>Another news article was published in Al-Watwan to highlight Dahari’s achievements, including on the marine project.</p> <p>Our partner Dahari published 22 social media posts showcasing community-led management and other project-related activities during the reporting period.</p>	<p>as well as regular social media posts.</p>
<p>5.3.2 Film produced in collaboration with communities to share learnings in community-based fisheries management.</p>	<p>In early March, a workshop gathering 18 fishers from two coastal areas on Anjouan was organised to initiate the development of a collective film. The participants agreed on the main topics the film should include.</p>	<p>We will develop the film outline, confirm it with participants, and start filming with fishers. We are planning to complete the film by September 2023, and will hold a launch event.</p>
<p>5.4 Development and publication of a manual on experiences in community-based fisheries management in the Comoros developed in collaboration with partners.</p>	<p>One workshop held at the end of March with nine participants (from six institutions) to initiate discussions on collective development of a toolkit gathering best fishing practices across Comoros.</p>	<p>We will finalise the toolkit structure and gather information through interviews or workshops involving partners. We estimate that the toolkit will be published by the end of September.</p>

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

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
Impact: Integrated local management of inshore coastal resources in the Comoros protects coral reef ecosystems whilst improving livelihoods for rural communities			

<p>Outcome: An integrated, replicable model for community-based marine management is developed, improving the livelihoods of 1,500 fishers and enabling effective management of 350 hectares of coral reefs, conserving marine biodiversity.</p>	<p>0.1 By end of project, ten communities from three coastal areas (with an estimated 1,500 fishers) on Anjouan are actively developing or implementing local marine and fisheries management initiatives encompassing 350 ha of coral reefs, including the establishment of a locally managed marine area (LMMA) of at least 70 ha.</p> <p>0.2 By end of project, 75% of fishers report improvements in their livelihoods from fisheries management measures and/or value-addition/ agriculture activities, compared with project start.</p> <p>0.3 By end of project, at least 20 participating communities and 5 partners (established and new partnerships) are engaged in sharing knowledge and best practices for community-led marine management in the wider Comoros.</p> <p>0.4 Key biodiversity indicators (abundance and biomass of reef fish; reef benthic composition) within the LMMA remain stable or improve by the end of the project, and are monitored within the two other areas, including the abundance and biomass of day fishery targeted reef species, e.g parrotfish (<i>Scarus</i> sp.), surgeonfish (<i>Acanthurus</i> and <i>Ctenochaetus</i> sp.), key grouper species blackfin and tomato grouper (<i>Epinephelus fasciatus</i> and <i>Cephalopholis sonnerati</i>)).</p>	<p>0.1a Village association activity logs;</p> <p>0.1b Documents outlining community-determined governance (including rules, regulations, zoning maps) approved by local authorities.</p> <p>0.2a Surveys at the start and end of project capturing key livelihood indicators;</p> <p>0.2b KAP (Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices) surveys at the start and end of project;</p> <p>0.2c Participatory fisheries monitoring of catches before and after temporary fishery closures (CPUE and individual octopus weight);</p> <p>0.2d Annual qualitative focus groups with direct project participants to assess project progress.</p> <p>0.3 Fisher learning exchanges and training workshop reports.</p> <p>0.4 Bi-annual reef monitoring surveys (including key fish trophic group biomass (kg/ha) and benthic diversity (% cover of key benthic groups)).</p>	<p>Newly-engaged communities work together to implement collective marine management actions.</p> <p>Livelihood improvements are not negated by natural disasters or other events out of project control.</p> <p>Other donor-funded marine management projects respond to outreach and collaboration efforts.</p> <p>Targeted reefs do not suffer heavily from extreme heating or other climatic events.</p>
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<p>Output 1. Locally-led fisheries management measures piloted in two new coastal areas (Dar Salama and Moya) and continued by communities in the coastal area of Vassy on Anjouan (ten communities in total), preserving marine resources and providing livelihood benefits</p>	<p>1.1a 2,000 community members (half of whom are women) across three coastal areas have attended awareness-raising sessions on sustainable fishing practices and marine conservation by end of project;</p> <p>1.1b 200 fishers (half of whom are women) have attended training on sustainable fishing techniques and management initiatives (e.g. temporary closures) by end of project.</p> <p>1.2 Short-term fisheries management initiatives (e.g. temporary closures), repeated in one coastal area, and co-designed, agreed and piloted in another coastal area by the end of year one; repeated by two coastal areas by end of project.</p> <p>1.3 Foundations for long-term fisheries management strategies (e.g. gear restrictions) are in place with more than 50% of fishers (half of whom are women) abstaining from destructive fishing techniques in the first coastal area; and more than 25% in a second other coastal area, by end of project.</p> <p>1.4a 50% of community members (half of whom are women) are aware of existing management measures by end of project;</p> <p>1.4b 80% of fishers (half of whom are women) report improvements in their livelihoods from fisheries management initiatives and/or sustainable fishing techniques by end of project.</p>	<p>1.1a Attendance records and reports for awareness-raising activities;</p> <p>1.1b Training records (attendance by gender) and photos.</p> <p>1.2a Minutes and documents from community meetings on management decisions;</p> <p>1.2b Participatory maps of fishing sites/closure zones and/or details of management measures;</p> <p>1.2c Minutes and documents from consultations with relevant authorities for management decision approval</p> <p>1.3 Participatory catch monitoring results (which includes information on methods used) showing uptake of sustainable fishing techniques.</p> <p>1.4a KAP surveys at the start and end of the project.</p> <p>1.4b Surveys at the start and end of project capturing key livelihood indicators.</p>	<p>Unsustainable and illegal fishing practices do not increase thus negating the benefits of local management initiatives.</p>
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<p>Output 2. Ten communities from three coastal areas of Anjouan have access to data and improved knowledge for identifying key biodiversity hotspots and guiding adaptive management of local marine resources.</p>	<p>2.1 60 community members (half of whom are women) across three coastal areas are able to conduct fisheries monitoring activities by the end of year two.</p> <p>2.2a Participatory mobile-based catch and reef monitoring operational in three coastal areas by mid-year two;</p> <p>2.2b Participatory identification of key coral reef biodiversity hotspots in each coastal area in collaboration with fishers based on reef monitoring datasets by the end of year two</p> <p>2.3a By the end of year two, 60 management association members (half of whom are women) across three coastal areas have been trained to present catch and reef monitoring data to the wider community, and to use the data to guide adaptive management;</p> <p>2.3b By end of project, 15 management association members across three coastal areas have presented catch/reef monitoring data to the wider community.</p> <p>2.4 One management association in each coastal area has started to implement an adaptive management system, informed by at least one review of participatory catch and reef monitoring data by end of project.</p>	<p>2.1a Training records/attendance by gender, photos;</p> <p>2.1b Number of people (and % of women) collecting fisheries data</p> <p>2.2a Catch and reef biodiversity monitoring datasets;</p> <p>2.2b Maps created from reef monitoring datasets and participatory consultations.</p> <p>2.3a Training records/attendance by gender, photos</p> <p>2.3b Simple data dashboards; records of outreach sessions sharing data (e.g. photos, notes, materials).</p> <p>2.4 Meetings minutes and records of management changes</p>	<p>Community members involved in monitoring engage in interpreting and presenting monitoring data for fellow community members.</p>
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<p>Output 3. The livelihoods of 400 fishers (200 women) from ten communities are improved through the adoption of value-addition activities for marine products and/or complementary sustainable agriculture activities.</p>	<p>3.1a By the end of year one, a study into catch value improvement and market opportunities is completed;</p> <p>3.1b Study results, with focus on applicable practical livelihood interventions that can leverage economic gains, are shared with the communities in one coastal area by the end of year one; by the end of project, this data will have been shared in all three areas.</p> <p>3.2a By the end of year two, 200 fishers (half of whom are women) across three coastal areas are trained in value-addition activities (e.g. post-harvesting transformations);</p> <p>3.2b By the end of project, 100 fishers (half of whom are women) across three coastal areas are conducting activities to increase income from their fisheries products.</p> <p>3.3a By end of project, 400 fishers (half of whom are women) across three coastal areas are trained in market gardening and/or improved food crop production;</p> <p>3.3b By end of project, 300 fishers (half of whom are women) are conducting new agricultural activities to diversify their income source</p> <p>3.4 By end of project, 75% of fishers involved in value-addition/agriculture activities (half of whom are women) report improvements in their livelihoods as a result</p>	<p>3.1a Study report;</p> <p>3.1b Meeting records from community consultations on market/value-addition option</p> <p>3.2a Records of trainings delivered;</p> <p>3.2b Participatory records (photos) of actions implemented; number of people participating in value-addition activities</p> <p>3.3a Database of fisher participation in agricultural training;</p> <p>3.3b Database of fishers conducting agricultural activities</p> <p>3.4a Surveys at start and end of project capturing key livelihood indicators;</p> <p>3.4b Record of price/kg of fisheries products post value-addition activities</p>	<p>No significant destruction of crops by natural disasters.</p>
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<p>Output 4. The first LMMA in the Comoros is established in one coastal area, with the foundations laid for additional LMMAs in two further areas, as a result of governance structures that are created and supported to design, implement and enforce adaptive fisheries management</p>	<p>4.1 By end of year two, 60 community management association members (half of whom are women) are trained in technical management and governance skills required for the successful implementation of fisheries management measures (e.g. recording meetings, keeping surveillance logbooks, financial management, leadership/conflict resolution skills).</p> <p>4.2 By end of project, 30 community management association members (half of whom are women) from each coastal area (90 in total) are trained on how to establish and govern an LMMA (e.g. description and benefits of LMMAs, consultative decision-making, teamwork, challenges).</p> <p>4.3 Management associations are enforcing management measures and penalising 75% of infractions by end of project.</p> <p>4.4 By end of project, a management plan outlining rules and regulations for one LMMA of at least 70 ha, informed by key biodiversity hotspots identified in 2.2b, is being implemented in one coastal area.</p>	<p>4.1a Minutes and documents from community/association meetings;</p> <p>4.1b Training records/attendance by gender, photos;</p> <p>4.1c Reports of monthly checks for a year after training to follow-up with association if management and governance tools are still in place (e.g. tracking finances, overseeing equipment etc.)</p> <p>4.2a Minutes and attendance sheets from community/association meetings;</p> <p>4.2b Training records/attendance by gender, photos</p> <p>4.3a Documents outlining enforcement measures;</p> <p>4.3b List of infractions and those enforce</p> <p>4.4 Management plans/documents, including zoning maps, outlining community determined governance.</p>	<p>Sufficient local leadership and cohesion exists within the target communities for local management to be developed successfully and respected.</p>
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<p>Output 5. A network of fishing communities and implementing partners in the Comoros shares best practices in local fisheries management and community conservation</p>	<p>5.1 Partner organisations are sharing best practices and lessons learned via partner meetings, annual workshops, and at least six reciprocal trainings by end of project</p> <p>5.2 Six local and regional exchange visits (including training) for fishing communities across the Comoros (half of participants are women) on community-based marine management approaches by end of project.</p> <p>5.3 Two articles are published per year to promote community-based fisheries management in the Comoros' media, and a film produced by end of project.</p> <p>5.4 Manual documenting best practices in community-based marine management in the Comoros produced by end of project.</p>	<p>5.1a Minutes and attendance sheets from partner meetings;</p> <p>5.1b Training records and photos</p> <p>5.2a Training records;</p> <p>5.2b Exchange visit reports, photos</p> <p>5.3a Press articles published;</p> <p>5.3b List of television and radio hits;</p> <p>5.3c Film available online</p> <p>5.4 Picture-based manual of community-based marine management published</p>	<p>Partners see the benefits of sharing experiences</p>
<p>Activity 1.1 1. Awareness-raising sessions to increase understanding of marine conservation, management measures and adoption of sustainable fishing techniques (e.g. movie nights, debates about threats to the reef, theatre plays on closures).</p>			
<p>Activity 1.1.2 Training in sustainable fishing techniques and management initiatives for 200 fishers (half of whom are women) across three coastal areas</p>			
<p>Activity 1.2.2 Community consultations to discuss fisheries management options, based on participatory monitoring data</p>			
<p>Activity 1.2.3 Communities are supported to choose one fisheries management initiative to trial.</p>			

Activity 1.2.4 Work plan agreed upon with community and relevant authorities – including relevant associations and women’s groups – for management initiative implementation (e.g. location, duration, rules).

Activity 1.2.5 Monthly meetings to follow-up on implementation of management work plan and next steps advised by community feedback sessions (linked to 2.3.4).

Activity 1.3 Follow-up visits to provide support and further awareness raising to encourage uptake of sustainable fishing techniques (continuous in-field presence with local technicians).

Activity 1.4.1 Support to local associations in mobilising communities and spreading information on management initiatives, in collaboration with local authorities (linked with 1.1.1 awareness-raising sessions).

1.4.2 Household livelihood and KAP surveys with targeted fishers before commencing activities in respective zones, and at the end of project (complemented with results of 3.4).

Activity 2.1 Training for 60 community members in fisheries monitoring methods (half of whom are women).

Activity 2.2.1 Participatory fisheries monitoring carried out by community members and reef monitoring operational in each community of interest across three coastal areas (by mid-year three).

Activity 2.2.2 Participatory workshops to identify key biodiversity hotspots per coastal area in collaboration with fishers, supported by the reef monitoring datasets.

Activity 2.3.1 Trial different feedback formats and methods with the community to determine the best way to disseminate fisheries and reef data.

Activity 2.3.2 Training for 10 management association members in each coastal zone in simple analysis and presentation of catch (and reef) monitoring information back to their communities (half of whom are women).

Activity 2.3.3 Training for 10 members of local management associations (half of whom are women) in each coastal zone in how to use data as a management decision-support tool (e.g. evaluating the impact of and adapting management measures).

Activity 2.3.4 Dissemination of results of participatory fisheries monitoring and reef monitoring through quarterly feedback sessions to communities via management associations representatives (once trained).

Activity 2.4 Support organisation of annual review by each management association to advise next actions

Activity 3.1.1 Baseline study into catch value-addition opportunities focusing on the context of the coastal zones of interest and taking into account existing and potential markets.

Activity 3.1.2 Participatory workshops to discuss the results of the study with communities including leaders, local management associations and women's groups and select practical interventions to trial to leverage economic gains.

Activity 3.2.1 Training for 200 fishers (half of whom are women) across three coastal areas in selected value-addition activities.

Activity 3.2.2 Technical support to communities to implement value-addition activities (e.g. follow-up after training, necessary material/gear).

Activity 3.3.1 Training for 400 fishers (half of whom are women) across three coastal areas in market gardening and/or improved crop production (different trainings taking place across the year depending on the season).

Activity 3.3.2 Technical support to communities to implement sustainable agriculture practices (e.g. follow-up after training, material/gear, seed bank development).

Activity 3.4 Surveys at the start and end of project assessing progress against key livelihood indicators.

Activity 4.1.1 Participatory SWOT analysis workshop of existing management associations or where there is no existing association workshop to assess/discuss creating a new management association

Activity 4.1.2 Training sessions for new/existing management association to strengthen technical management and governance skills including recording meetings, keeping surveillance logbooks, financial management.

Activity 4.1.3 Monthly support visits to associations for capacity-building/tools in place.

Activity 4.2.1 Training sessions for management association members on LMMA establishment and management including description and benefits of LMMAs, consultative decision-making, teamwork, challenges (half of participants are women).

Activity 4.2.2 Learning exchange with another community managing an LMMA to witness management and discuss governance (national or international).

Activity 4.3 Support management associations to enforce measures and penalise infractions (linked with 4.1.3 and 1.2.4 fisheries management measures), including book keeping, surveillance scheduling.

Activity 4.4.1 Workshops with community and management associations to discuss the benefits of developing an LMMA (linked to 1.2.3 to 1.2.6, 4.2.1 and 4.2.2).

Activity 4.4.2 Workshops to decide on governance criteria (e.g. rules and regulations), informed by key biodiversity hotspots identified in 2.2.2, and gain consensus for a local management plan.

Activity 4.4.3 Support management associations to implement and enforce management plan (LMMA).

Activity 5.1.1 Scoping for and engaging partners and fishing communities (also through partners) to participate in workshops, trainings and exchange visits.

Activity 5.1.2 Partner workshops every twelve months to share best practice and lessons learned in community-based fisheries management.

Activity 5.1.3 Regular bi-monthly meetings with authorities and other key actors and partners to advocate for community-based management and share results.

Activity 5.1.4 Training in methodologies and tools to support community-based management for partners (e.g. catch monitoring, participatory methods) at least every twelve months.

Activity 5.2 Exchange visits between fishing communities locally on Anjouan and between islands with Mohéli and Grande Comore communities to share experiences on community-based management.

Activity 5.3.1 Regular media outputs in Comoros, and on partner social media accounts and blogs.

Activity 5.3.2 Film produced in collaboration with communities to share learnings in community-based fisheries management.

Activity 5.4 Development and publication of a manual on experiences in community-based fisheries management in the Comoros developed in collaboration with partners.

Annex 3: Standard Indicators

Table 1 Project Standard Indicators

DI Indicator number	Name of indicator using original wording	Name of Indicator after adjusting wording to align with DI Standard Indicators	Units	Disaggregation	Year 1 Total (half year)	Year 2 Total	Year 3 Total	Year 4 (half year)	Total to date	Total planned during the project
DI-A01	Training in sustainable fishing techniques and management initiatives	Number of people from local associations completing structured and relevant training in sustainable fishing techniques	People	% women	32	95	97		224 (100% women)	200
DI-A01	Training in fisheries monitoring techniques	Number of people from local associations completing structured and relevant training in fisheries monitoring techniques	People	% women	12	40	46		95 (89%)	60
DI-A01	Training in data analysis and presentation	Number of people from local associations completing structured and relevant training in data analysis and interpretation	People	% women	0	25	30		55 (50%)	60
DI-A01	Training in agricultural techniques for fishers	Number of people from local associations completing structured and relevant training in agricultural techniques for fishers	People	% women	165	323	445		933 ⁴ (78%)	400
DI-A01	Training in technical management and governance skills	Number of people from local associations completing structured and relevant training in technical management and governance skills	People	% women	15	27	77		119 (70%)	200
DI-A01	Training in LMMA establishment	Number of people from local associations completing	People	% women	0	7	0		7 (56%)	60

⁴ This number includes duplicates. We are working on correcting the data to extract the number of unique beneficiaries, and we can share that updated value once available by the end of May or in the next half year report.

DI Indicator number	Name of indicator using original wording	Name of Indicator after adjusting wording to align with DI Standard Indicators	Units	Disaggregation	Year 1 Total (half year)	Year 2 Total	Year 3 Total	Year 4 (half year)	Total to date	Total planned during the project
		structured and relevant training in LMMA establishment								
DI-A03	NA (new)	Number of local associations with improved capability and capacity as a result of the project.	Number	women, mixed, men associations	3 (2 women, 1 men associations)	4 (2 women, 2 men associations)	1 (1 mixed association)		8 (4 women, 1 mixed, 3 men associations)	60
DI-C01	Manual on community-based management and film on community-based management	Number of best practice guides and knowledge products published and endorsed.	Number	Type (movie, toolkit)	0	0	0		0	10
DI-B03	Temporary closure management plans or other management measures (long-term, eg. no-take zone, gear shift, LMMA)	Number of new/improved community marine management plans available and endorsed by local authorities	Number	new, improved	2 (new)	1 (new)	1 (new)		4	2
DI-D01	NA (new)	Hectares of coral reef habitat under sustainable management practices	ha		195		125		320	6
DI-D16	NA (new)	Number of households reporting improved livelihoods.	households (%)	Livelihood surveys	NA	NA	NA		NA	350
DI-A01	Training in technical management and governance skills	Number of people from local associations completing structured and relevant training in technical management and governance skills	People	% women	15	27	77		119 (70%)	75

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)
Rapport Résultats Suivi Des Récifs 2017-2021	Report	Faissoil Ahmed Said, Effy Vessaz, Fanny Wright, 2022	Male	Comorian	Dahari / Blue Ventures	https://daharicomores.org/publications/
Women in Comoros smoke fish to boost income and community development	Blog	Effy Vessaz, 2022	Female	Swiss	Blue Ventures	https://blog.blueventures.org/en/women-in-comoros-smoke-fish-to-boost-income-and-community-development/
Le harpon en bois pour capturer les poulpes et protéger les coraux	Blog	Dahari, 2023	Male	Comorian	Dahari	https://daharicomores.org/le-harpon-en-bois-pour-capturer-les-poulpes-et-protoger-les-coraux/
Comoros to Kenya: A trip to learn from fellow fishers in Kenya	Blog	Randall Mabwa, 2023	Male	Kenyan	Blue Ventures	https://blog.blueventures.org/en/comoros-to-kenya-a-trip-to-learn-from-fellow-fishers-in-kenya/
Safari ya Komori na Kenya - A peer learning visit	Video	Randall Mabwa, 2023	Male	Kenyan	Blue Ventures	https://vimeo.com/813515427/fd7ee3af01

Checklist for submission

	Check
Different reporting templates have different questions, and it is important you use the correct one. Have you checked you have used the correct template (checking fund, type of report (i.e. Annual or Final), and year) and deleted the blue guidance text before submission?	✓
Is the report less than 10MB? If so, please email to BCF-Reports@niras.com putting the project number in the Subject line.	✓
Is your report more than 10MB? If so, please discuss with BCF-Reports@niras.com about the best way to deliver the report, putting the project number in the Subject line.	
Have you included means of verification? You should not submit every project document, but the main outputs and a selection of the others would strengthen the report.	✓
Do you have hard copies of material you need 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.	
If you are submitting photos for publicity purposes, do these meet the outlined requirements (see section 16)?	✓
Have you involved your partners in preparation of the report and named the main contributors	✓
Have you completed the Project Expenditure table fully?	✓
Do not include claim forms or other communications with this report.	