

## 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: 30<sup>th</sup> April 2023**

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### Darwin Initiative Project Information

Project reference	28-014
Project title	Gibbon biodiversity conservation through coffee-based agroforestry
Country/ies	Myanmar
Lead Partner	Fauna & Flora International (FFI)
Project partner(s)	Asho Chin Coffee Association (ACCA) Myanmar Forest Department (MFD) Genius Coffee
Darwin Initiative grant value	£368,461
Start/end dates of project	1 April 2021 – 30 June 2024
Reporting period (e.g. Apr 2022 – Mar 2023) and number (e.g. Annual Report 1, 2, 3)	1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023 Annual Report 2
Project Leader name	Ngwe Lwin
Project website/blog/social media	None
Report author(s) and date	Aung Lin (FFI) and Ngwe Lwin (FFI), Gareth Goldthorpe (FFI) 30 April 2023

### 1. Project summary

The Arakan Mountain Range is a priority biodiversity corridor and contains Mann Wildlife Sanctuary (MWS), itself a key biodiversity site. Mann Wildlife Sanctuary and adjacent landscape is located in Nga-phe Township, Magway, also known as the Rakhine Yoma Range conservation corridor and has been identified as part of the Nat-yekan Key Biodiversity Area (Myanmar KBA No. 51) (WCS 2012).

The MWS is highlighted in Myanmar’s National Biodiversity Action Plan for its high levels of biodiversity and endemism and is an important watershed of the Ayeyarwady basin. In this respect, the MWS provides critical water to the country’s dry zone, Myanmar’s poorest region and most vulnerable to climate change.

The area has a rich biodiversity and one of the highest densities of Western Hoolock Gibbons in Myanmar. A total of 32 mammal species (including 11 globally threatened), 204 bird species (3 threatened), 372 species of plants (6 threatened) and 19 species of fish, have been recorded in the protected area.

The biologically diverse MWS, and its adjacent areas, is globally important but under threat from unsustainable agriculture. With a private-sector partner, FFI will enable farmers from 11 villages to develop gibbon-friendly agroforestry coffee, as an alternative to shifting agriculture, in exchange for gibbon protection measures. This will reduce dependency on forest clearance and shifting cultivation while strengthening livelihoods, and will support the management objectives of the recently gazetted 12,400ha of land that makes up the Mann Wildlife Sanctuary. This approach has great potential for replication within the Arakan mountains.

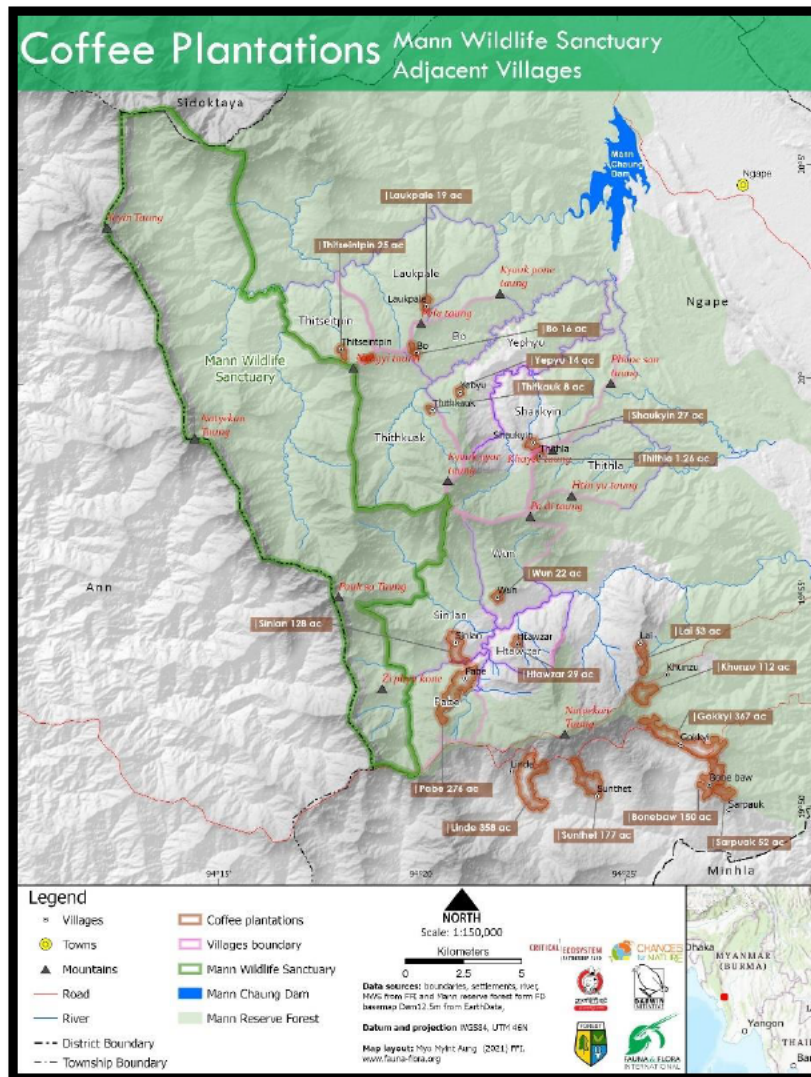


Figure 1: Location Map of the project area

## 2. Project stakeholders/ partners

Through the implementation of a Darwin Initiative project, we are working collaboratively with a range of people and groups in the Magwe Region including beneficiary communities, the Magway Regional government, international NGOs and local enterprises, as well as collaborating with international experts. During the reporting period, all have actively supported project development, planning, implementation, monitoring, achievement and lessons learned.

**Asho Chin Coffee Association (ACCA):** ACCA role in the project is to support coffee growers in the Ngape highland area in developing sustainable agriculture livelihoods: including coffee-based agroforestry development and other agroforestry products. ACCA also undertake biodiversity monitoring and patrolling, development of agroforestry in the buffer zone management plan, and village land-use plans in the surrounding landscape. These activities build upon ACCA's experience in establishing collective enterprises that improve community-based conservation and livelihoods, based on climate-smart agriculture.

In January 2022, FFI and ACCA entered into an agreement outlining ACCA's role in delivering specific project activities and outputs. This partnership has generally progressed well, with the main challenges in project implementation relating to delays and impacts that have arisen as a direct result of the political crisis in Myanmar.

**Genius Shan Highlands Coffee (a private company):** Genius coffee provide technical support for ACCA coffee growers, through field training and planning materials. They also undertake marketing of the project locally and internationally, acting as the main, non-exclusionary buyer.

**Chances for Nature (CFN):** CFN is collaborating with FFI on the design and delivery of biodiversity and primate conservation awareness and community-based primate conservation in Puaksa. Specifically, they provide training to build capacity in the project team and CSO partners in wildlife survey and monitoring techniques. They also provide co-financing to the project.

**Myanmar Forest Department (MFD)** is mandated to oversee forest and species protection and has been the main government partner for many years, under various memoranda. MFD will support certification of coffee and liaise with ACCA members on monitoring and spatial planning. They will ensure the project supports the implementation of project activities by providing travel permission, facilitating, and participating in consultation meetings and field surveys. Key partners for carrying out the designation process of Mann wildlife sanctuary.

### 3. Project progress

#### 3.1 Progress in carrying out project Activities

**Output 1:** Technical standards for gibbon/wildlife-friendly coffee which meets the management goals of the proposed Mann Wildlife Sanctuary (to reduce deforestation, improve forest connectivity and secure resource use rights for buffer- zone communities).

##### 1.1 Define and implement standards for gibbon-friendly coffee based on a suitable international scheme, i.e. the Wildlife Friendly Enterprise Network

To promote the conservation of wildlife and their habitats, the project team organized a meeting with Management committee of ACCA in March at the Bonbaw village, to define criteria for the standard for wildlife-friendly coffee in order to meet and receive certification as a wildlife-friendly coffee producer. During the meeting, common criteria for the wildlife-friendly coffee were defined. A total of 24 participants (male:19, female 5) actively attend the meetings and discussed the common criteria for the wildlife friendly coffee.

The common criteria for wildlife-friendly coffee were define as follows:

- Coffee plants grown under a canopy of trees provide a habitat for many species of birds, insects, and other wildlife.
- Coffee farms that protect and conserve natural habitats such as forests, and rivers, and farms that use agroforestry practices, which combine coffee production with the cultivation of other crops, can provide additional habitat for wildlife.
- Wildlife-friendly coffee producers must implement practices to conserve water, such as rainwater harvesting and using irrigation systems that reduce water waste
- Pesticides and other chemicals can harm wildlife and their habitats. Wildlife-friendly coffee producers must use organic or other low-impact methods to manage pests and diseases.
- Wildlife-friendly coffee producers have respect for labour practices, such as fair wages and safe working conditions, as well as community engagement and support.

##### 1.2 Fully implement the Participatory Guarantee System, with appropriate internal control system (with support from Myanmar Organic Growers and Producers Association (MOGPA) and Genius Coffee).

Organic Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) training was organized at Khun zu and Bonebaw village in collaboration with ACCA and the Myanmar Organic Growers and Producers Association (MPGPA) in May and June 2022 (Please see report 1 and 2 at annex 4). A total of 180 coffee farmers (male:123, and female:57) attended the training from 11 villages. The coffee farmers were taught how to make organic fertilizer, insecticide, and fungicide with agricultural waste from their farms and surrounding area (Bio-recycling) to meet the organic PGS standard and principle of ecology and reduce the cost of production.

A two-day training workshop with 30 Organic PGS group leaders (male:26, female: 4) was organized in November 2022 to provide the trainees with how to do internal monitoring and collect the data, peer review and farmer's detailed records in the field by using the Kobo collect application for PGS certification. Kobo Collect is an open-source mobile data collection application that allows users to easily collect data in the field using their Android device.

- 1.3 Certify current coffee production under the MOGPA PGS organic standard and the EU organic standard as prerequisites for the WFEN Certified Wildlife Friendly™ global products program, and accessing markets in Europe.

Throughout the project duration (2021-2023) the project and MOGPA supported the organic PGS certification process, 105 organic coffee farmers of ACCA received Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) certification in January 2023. (Please see report 5 at annex 4)The PGS certification assures transparent and inclusive organic farming practices and improves the recognition of organic coffee in the local global market. ACCA are confident that passion and conviction to achieve the PSG certification will inspire other farmers in Pauksa landscape to participate in our organic farming practices.

In August 2022, the project organized a meeting with the Wildlife Friendly Environment Network (WFEN) to discuss the development of certification for project stakeholders.

The project facilitated ACCA to prepare WFEN application forms with supporting documents in January 2023 and the first submission of WFEN application forms on 6 March 2023 for WFEN Certifications Committee review. The application was approved by WFEN Certifications Committee on 13 March 2023 and the final application package was submitted on 15 March 2023. (Please see documents 6,7 and 8 at annex 4)

- 1.4 Develop training-of-trainers (ToT) scheme (including refresher training) with Genius Coffee to ensure dissemination of appropriate production methods (5 days per year).

A two-day coffee training workshop was organized in December 2022, with 35 coffee farmers (male:20, female: 15) from six villages. The training was led by a coffee expert from a genius Shan Highland company who already has a lot of experience in coffee plantations, quality harvesting of coffee berries, coffee drying and roasting. The objective of the training was to increase the participants of understanding coffee harvesting and post-harvest processing methods, and to improve the quality of coffee to meet speciality coffee market requirements.

- 1.5 Routine documentation for ongoing organic/wildlife-friendly coffee certification assessments (2 days per month, per village).

During the reporting period, regular monitoring and internal control systems of coffee farmers' activities are conducted by PGS groups in their villages to ensure that they are complying with the organic PGS standards and regulations.

The project team together with ACCA conducted four on-site visits for the inspection of document review and detailed records of their organic farming and processing activities, including inputs used, planting and harvesting dates, and production.

During the 2022-2023 coffee planting and harvesting season, three fields Inspections were conducted by Myanmar Organic Growers and Producers Association (MPGPA) to identify non-compliances, corrective actions are taken to address the issue and prevent it throughout the coffee supply chain, and support to help them understand the organic standards and regulations and comply with the internal control system The team also inspected risk assessments to identify the potential risks that could compromise the organic integrity of the system, such as the use of prohibited substances or non-compliant practices.

**Output 2:** The GCA is registered as a legal entity with robust internal systems, financing plans and policies, and members have the skills and knowledge to fully implement technical standards to achieve improved and sustainable agricultural practices.

- 2.1 Formalise and legally register the Gibbon Coffee Association (ACCA).

The preparation of documents for ACCA registration was completed for submission to the regional government. However, due to the ongoing political situation in Myanmar the submission of ACCA registration has been postponed until the political situation eases in Myanmar.

- 2.2 Define terms of reference and by-laws for operation of the GCA (ACCA).

The project held the organizational development meeting on 21 October 2022, with 30 participants (male:20, female 10) from a management committee of ACCA members. The purpose of the meeting was to define terms of reference for the management committee of ACCA and members for the increased organizational effectiveness and organizational management, to strengthen organizational sustainability, including its objectives, strategies, and the scope of its activities. During the meetings, the participants discussed the structure of the organization, including the roles and responsibilities of the management committee, and the rules and regulations of ACCA members.

### 2.3 Define benefit-sharing mechanisms and obligations for GCA(ACCA) members, linked to the gibbon/wildlife-friendly coffee standard.

Between 17 to 18 February 2023, the project team arranged a meeting with the management committee of ACCA members (male:15, female:5) to define beneficiaries and benefits, stakeholder participation; and monitoring, evaluation, and adaptive management. Types of beneficiaries, eligibility criteria for participating in benefit sharing, types of benefits (e.g., monetary or nonmonetary), stakeholder participation in design, implementation, benefit-sharing arrangements and methods for monitoring and evaluation were discussed in the meeting.

### 2.4 Provide appropriate training (e.g. financial management, gender sensitivity, gibbon/habitat monitoring methods).

A four-day wildlife Monitoring and Patrol refresher training was conducted in August 2022, with 12 participants (male 12, female 0) of ACCA members. The training covered mammals, bird identification, survey methodology, camera trapping, wildlife and threat monitoring using the Cyber Tracker mobile application in the classroom and the practical field near the forests. (Please see report 3 at annex 4)

To understand financial planning and budgeting, implement effective internal control systems and effectively manage cost and cash flow, the project team organized a two-day financial management training session in May 2022. A total of 12 participants (male:7, female: 5) from ACCA management committee members attended the training.

The project organized the Organizational Development Training from 19 to 21 October 2022, with 30 participants (male:20, female 10) from ACCA. The purpose of the training was for the participants to understand the basic concept of organizational development (OD) and increased organizational effectiveness. The training covered: what kind of organization an organization is, the development of OD and Value of OD, OD discipline & principle of change, Organization Behaviour, Norms & Culture and Principles of the organization. (Please see report 4 at annex 4)

The project team in collaboration with the Myanmar Organic Growers and Producers Association (MPGPA) a study tour of organic farms in the Magway region, to enhance the capacity of coffee farmers on the basic concept of organic PGS agriculture and to promote market linkages among organic farmers across the region from 2 to 5 September 2022. A total of 20 participants (male:10, and female:10) from 10 villages participated in the study tour.

A two-day assets and inventory list training was organized at the ACCA office, with a total of 5 members of ACCA (male:3, and female:2) from 27 to 28 January 2023. The objective of assets and inventory list training is to equip ACCA members with the knowledge and skills necessary to effectively manage their assets, which can help them reduce costs, and increase efficiency. By maintaining an accurate inventory list of assets, ACCA members can better manage their resources, reduce waste and losses, and improve their overall financial management.

### 2.5 Develop and implement a sustainable financing plan to cover operational expenses such as routine re-certification, monitoring and management costs.

The project team facilitated the management committee of ACCA members to develop a sustainable finance mechanism during the meeting of the benefit-sharing mechanism on 28 January 2023. Institutional arrangements and funding structures for receiving, decision-



making structures and processes, and mechanisms for transparency were discussed by the meeting participants. Now the discussion notes were recorded to develop mechanism.

**Output 3:** Zonation and management of Mann wildlife sanctuary, and village land-use plans in the surrounding landscape are based on biodiversity science and community consultation, to ensure effective protected area management and habitat connectivity within the wider Mann River watershed.

**3.1** Finalise and agree guidelines for FPIC in the planning process.

During the reporting period, the project team identified the key stakeholders who will be involve in the development of FPIC guideline, established a working group that representative from stakeholders who are different perspectives and interests. The project team also conducted survey to better understand FPIC principles of cultural safety and humility, and involve engagement with Indigenous communities.

**3.2** Conduct detailed forest cover/land cover mapping, combining remote sensing and field surveys for the wider Mann watershed.

This activity was delivered in the Y1, will be repeated in end of the project

**3.3** Prepare a baseline to monitor deforestation risk associated with promoting high value commodities and inform and monitor village land use planning to ensure habitat connectivity.

The project teams organized a meeting at 6 villages to facilitate village land use planning and coffee agroforestry design as well as collect data for the preparation of the village land use plan through the integration of biodiversity science, local and Indigenous knowledge, community land and forest use, and conducted through FPIC principles from 16 to 22 March 2023. In addition, village land use committees for six villages were formed to monitor land use conflicts and biodiversity conservation in their village areas.

**3.4** Conduct behavioural and genetic studies of hoolock gibbons to determine feeding ecology and dispersal of gibbons through agroforestry/forest corridors by applying modern high-throughput DNA sequencing methods.

To study gibbons' feeding ecology and dispersal, the project team with community wildlife monitoring team identified the gibbon groups in the four different locations to collect data adjacent to the Mann Wildlife Sanctuary in August 2022.

**3.5** Support village land-use planning, and agroforestry design (including tree species selection) based on the scientific results.

In March 2023, the project team facilitated the land use committees of six villages: Pabe, Sinlan, Wun, Htawzar, Thithla, and Shaukyin to create village land use planning in the community land and forest use based on the gibbon habitat restoration plan, zonation plan in the buffer zone of MWS. This land use planning process involves identifying and mapping the existing land uses, as well as developing strategies for future land use, such as sustainable agriculture, conservation areas (gibbons and watershed, threatened tree species), following confirmation, through FPIC principles, that the use of land in a village is sustainable, equitable, and promotes the well-being of its residents. A total of 119 (male:84, female 35) participants from six villages attended land use planning meetings.

**3.6** Prepare a management and zonation plan for MWS, based on biodiversity science and public consultations, for government approval

A first draft of the management plan for the newly established MWS is under preparation. The wildlife monitoring team carried out field work in MWS for nine patrols to collect the presence/absence data of mammals and birds to understand their distribution in the MWS. Based on this information, the project will discuss with local communities to prepare the zonation of the MWS. This will help shape the design and strategizing of the protected area, moving forward, whilst ensuring that the access of local communities to key resources is not disrupted.

**3.7** Provide scientific data to inform gibbon/wildlife-friendly certification of coffee and other agroforestry products.

Between May to July 2022, the project team, with local para-botanists, carried out a tree survey in coffee plantation areas at nine villages: Wun, Htawzar, Sarpauk, Bonebaw, Gokkyi,

Khunzu, Lai, Linde, Sonthet. Simple forest inventory plot-and-line transect methods were used to identify forest types, and species density, and identify the presence of threatened (following IUCN categories), dominant and rare species, as well as cultivated crop species. During the survey, the team recorded four threatened tree species in the village coffee garden:

- 3.8 Monitor the population of key indicator species (gibbon and hornbill) in the wildlife sanctuary and surrounding landscape, and changes in conservation knowledge, attitude and behaviour (KAB) through project start/end surveys.

This activity was delivered in the Y1, will be repeated in the end of the project.

- 3.9 Monitor forest cover through remote sensing at the beginning and end of the project to verify reduced deforestation of primary forest and improved agroforestry cover and forest/agroforest connectivity.

This activity was delivered in the Y1, will be repeated in end of the project. (activity 3.2)

**Output 4:** Local growers and harvesters have improved technical skills, resources and capacity to access premium markets and improved value chains, to secure a reliable income source, contributing to more sustainable and resilient livelihoods.

- 4.1 Provide improved coffee and agroforest seedlings, considering the ecology of wildlife indicator species.

In June 2022, the project supported small grants to six grantees, in eight villages in the Ngape Township (Minbu District, Magway Region), for the development of sustainable coffee agroforestry to reduce habitat conversion of the secondary and primary forest and conserve the watershed. A total of 63,000 coffee seedlings were planted by the eight villages during the reporting period.

Between October 2022 and February 2023, the project supported small grants to ACCA and two agroforestry groups: Sinlan and Pabe villages (in Ngape Township, Minbu District, Magwe Region), for the development of coffee production and coffee nursery establishment (90,000 seedlings).

- 4.2 Develop post-harvest processing capacity for an additional seven villages, widening impacts and making the supply chain commercially viable.

During the 2022-23 coffee harvesting season, the project supported coffee processing equipment (Table 1) to ACCA and trained handling equipment and operation of post-harvest processing, to improve coffee quality and raise the value of beans. Moreover, Genius also provided the ACCA members to operate the post-harvesting process for 10 days in person and remote technical support during the coffee harvesting season. ACCA produced 25 tons of coffee parchment in this harvested season.

Table 1: Coffee processing equipment provided in Year 2 of the project

No.	Description	Quantity
1	Plastic sheet with UV protection (150' x 50' ft) for coffee drying house	2
2	Iron table for coffee bed (50' x 3' ft)	11
3	Green plastic netting for coffee bed (40' x 3' ft)	36
4	Coffee Hulling machine	1

- 4.3 Provide training to improve the quality of coffee cherry and bean selection and processing, meeting speciality coffee market requirements.

Coffee harvesting and post-harvest processing training workshop were done for 35 coffee farmers (activity 1.4).

The project team organized coffee harvesting and post-harvest processing awareness talks at 4 villages: Wun, Htawzar, Pabe, and Sinlin in December 2022 covering 65 coffee farmers (Males 46, Females 19). During the event, the team presented mainly the process of selective harvesting, pulping, fermenting, washing, and drying of coffee.

The project supported a small village development grant for the gokkyi coffee plantation groups for the capacity-building project of coffee farmers from 18 villages. During the coffee harvesting season of 2022-2023, 100 coffee farmers (Male:50, Female: 50) were trained in coffee harvesting and post-harvesting processing at the ACCA coffee factory. Each coffee farmer received 4 days (practical and tutorial) of coffee harvesting and post-harvest processing methods at ACCA.

#### 4.4 Increase visibility of “Gibbon Coffee” through improved marketing by Genius

Genius Coffee, the local company that purchases and markets the ‘Gibbon coffee’ also conducted some marketing promotion for the product in Japan at the Speciality Coffee Conference and Exhibition 2022 from 12 to 15 October 2022. During the event, The Genius Coffee Company conducted to introduce Gibbon Coffee marketing promotion to producers and importers from Latin America, Southeast Asia, and Africa as well as to enjoy tasting and cupping.

#### 4.5 Showcase the product at an international trade fair (one minimum) to gauge market/buyer interest (e.g. Biofach Fare).

The project team together with ACCA provided necessary information and materials to Genius Coffee, which would attend the Speciality Coffee Conference and Exhibition 2022, to be held in Tokyo, Japan from 12 to 15 October 2022. Genius Coffee introduced and displayed coffee produced by ACCA.

### 3.2 Progress towards project Outputs

**Output 1:** Technical standards for gibbon/wildlife-friendly coffee which meet the management goals of the proposed Mann Wildlife Sanctuary (to reduce deforestation, improve forest connectivity and secure resource use rights for buffer-zone communities).

*Indicator 1.1 Participatory Guarantee System established in 50% of coffee-producing area by March 2022*

In Year 2 of a project promoted sustainable coffee production through the development of an Organic Participatory Guarantee System (PGS). Specifically, the project team and ACCA organized PGS training in May and June 2022, leading to the formation of a new PGS group with members from 11 villages. Currently, there are 212 coffee farmers who are members of the PGS group. Looking ahead to Year 3, the project team and ACCA plan to continue supporting the development and expansion of the PGS group through ongoing training and capacity-building activities.

*Indicator 1.2 Training of Trainers course developed to ensure appropriate production methods by Dec 2021.*

35 coffee farmers (20 men; 15 women) completed coffee harvesting and post-harvest processing training (TOT) in December 2022.

*Indicator 1.3 100% of GCA members are certified as organic.*

105 coffee farmers of ACCA members are certified Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) in January 2023.

*Indicator 1.4 Standards for gibbon/wildlife-friendly coffee defined by March 2022.*

Wildlife Friendly Environment Network (WFEN) application was submitted by ACCA in March 2023. The standard of wildlife-friendly coffee was developed in Y2.

**Output 2:** The GCA is registered as a legal entity with robust internal systems, financing plans and policies, and members have the skills and knowledge to fully implement technical standards to achieve improved and sustainable agricultural practices.

*Indicator 2.1 Gibbon Coffee Association legally registered, with by-laws and benefit-sharing defined by March 2022.*

A first draft of benefit sharing arrangement for ACCA was defined in February 2023, Due to the ongoing political crisis happening in Myanmar, the registration was not possible in Y2. The application of registration form is now planned for Y3.

*Indicator 2.2 At least 50% of GCA members (c.500 out of 1000people) have received core*



*competencies training by project end, of which at least half are woman.*

A total of 489 ACCA members (Male:317, and Female:172) were trained in the different technical pieces of training in Year 2.

*Indicator 2.3 Sustainable financing plan implemented for the GCA by March 2023.*

A first draft of the discussion for the Institutional arrangements and funding structures for receiving, decision-making structures and processes, and mechanisms for transparency were recorded in Y2 and the project team will be facilitated further discussion and finalization to develop a sustainable financing plan in Y3.

**Output 3:** Zonation and management of Mann Wildlife Sanctuary, and village land-use plans in the surrounding landscape, are based on biodiversity science and community consultation, to ensure effective protected area management and habitat connectivity within the wider Mann river watershed.

*Indicator 3.1 Detailed forest cover/land cover mapping completed by end Y1*

This activity was delivered in the previous reporting period.

*Indicator 3.2 Mann wildlife sanctuary draft management plan prepared in consultation with local stakeholders, by end Y1.*

Based on the previous field survey results, for the collection of biodiversity information in and around MWS was completed in Y2. The township-level stakeholder workshop to consider the first draft of the management plan for the Mann Wildlife Sanctuary was originally planned to be held in March 2023 at Ngape. However, due to the political crisis, the workshop has been postponed to Y3.

*Indicator 3.3 Spatial planning in the new park buffer zone completed by end Y2.*

In Y2, village consultation meetings at six villages for the development of land use planning and buffer zone management of MWS were completed.

*Indicator 3.4 Behavioural and genetic studies of hoolock gibbons completed by end Y2.*

The four forest blocks area with different gibbon groups were selected for the data collection of study feeding ecology and dispersal of gibbons in Year 2.

Indicator 3.5 By March 2022, detailed village land use plans based on defined gibbon habitat restoration and management criteria are signed off by stakeholders from at least seven villages.

Eleven village land use maps, including key gibbon habitats and coffee agroforestry areas, were completed in Y1. Six village land use planning maps to extend coffee agroforestry and restoration of gibbon habitats were under preparation by end of Y2.

Indicator 3.6 Mann Wildlife Sanctuary gazetted and management planning completed.

This indicator was achieved in the previous reporting period.

**Output 4:** Local growers and harvesters have improved technical skills, resources and capacity to access premium markets and improved value chains, to secure a reliable income source, contributing to more sustainable and resilient livelihoods.

*Indicator 4.1 Improved coffee and agroforestry seedlings planted by at least 1,000 growers representing 1,000 households from 11 villages, by project end.*

A total of 63,000 coffee seedlings were planted by 450 households from 8 villages in 2022. Three coffee nurseries, with 90,000 coffee seedlings were established for the plantation of 2023-2024.

*Indicator 4.2 80% of growers reporting improved knowledge of post-harvest processing techniques.*

To date, 289 coffee farmers have been trained in all aspects of coffee harvesting, post-harvest processing, production, marketing, quality standards and association strengthening in Y1 and Y2. Coffee farmers are already aware that ripe coffee beans are valued at a high price in the last year in the region and it supports increasing income for growers and coffee producers. Due to the coffee quality improvement in the region, coffee prices are getting high along with the increase in coffee demand, and 9 companies of national coffee buyers are willing to buy with the premium prices of as much as GBP 5.82 –6.40 per 1.6kg, for parchment coffee, dry

natural processed coffee, and wet methods process coffee; this is triple the price paid before project interventions.

*Indicator 4.3 Coffee cherry quality and bean selection and processing improved, so 80% of coffee beans meet Genius's high-quality standard by March 2023*

Based on the technical expert from Genius Coffee, about 80% of coffee farmers worked together as a group for coffee processing, with more cooperation from individual coffee farmers. They also improved more effectively in coffee quality control and improvement of processing.

The quality control team from Sako No Tochu company made feedback for the coffee from the project area, Green Beans: mostly good quality but there are some immature coffees.

They reported some improvements and strongly recommended that the training of sorting staff should be implemented in order to avoid a drop-in quality as production volumes increase.

*Indicator 4.4 Increase in market visibility of "Gibbon Coffee" by March 2024.*

During the event of Specialty Coffee Conference and Exhibition 2022 in Japan, The Genius Coffee Company introduced Gibbon Coffee to producers and importers from Latin America, Southeast Asia, and Africa as well as the tasting and cupping of the coffee.

### **3.3 Progress towards the project Outcome**

Gibbon-friendly coffee agroforestry, and designation and collaborative management of MWS are protecting c.30,000ha of primary forest, benefiting endangered gibbon populations and livelihoods for 1,000 ethnic Chinpeople.

1. Gibbon density (1.6 groups/ sq km) stable by project end and Hornbill population stable by project end from baseline established in Y1.  
143 Great Hornbill, 53 Oriental Pied Hornbill and 13 Rufous-necked Hornbill were recorded (using the viewpoint method) in Y1 as baseline information to compare with the population at the project end.

The project team were able to update density and abundance estimates for hoolock gibbons in MWS based on the current and previous project survey results; MWS gibbon density of 949 ( $\pm$  516) (r=0.6km) - 709 ( $\pm$  427) (r=1.0km) individuals (using fixed point method)

2. By March 2024, gibbon- habitat (ie, closed-canopy forest) extent increases in the core areas by 5% annually.  
As previously reported, forest cover assessment was done in Y1 as baseline information to compare with the forest cover area at the end of the project.
3. Combined local income from coffee doubles by March 2024 for at least 1000 members of the GCA (ACCA).  
Because of the improvement in coffee harvesting and post-harvest methods, national companies are now willing to pay a premium for the coffee from ACCA. The price of coffee cherry in Y1 is about GBP 0.4 to 0.6 per 1.6kg of the coffee cherry, GBP 1 to 1.16 per 1.6kg of coffee cherry in Y2. Coffee farmers already have doubled their income from the coffee compared to the past harvesting seasons. During the last coffee harvesting season (November 2022-March 2023) ACCA purchased coffee cherries from 200 local coffee farmers and operate a small factory with 15 employees for coffee processing, in order to meet the market requirements for speciality coffee. A total of 112.5 tons were processed by ACCA.
4. At least 10,000 ha of bufferzone planted with coffee by March 2023.  
Between Y1 and Y2, throughout small village development grants, a total of 63,000 coffee seedlings were planted by 450 households from eight village coffee plantation groups in 2022, and 60,000 coffee seedlings were readied to plant in June and July 2023. 90,000 coffee seedlings will be ready to plant in June and July 2024.

5. There is a reduction in new incursions into primary forest for swidden farming between project baseline and end.

In Y1 land cover map was prepared as baseline information to compare with the land cover information at Y3 to understand the reduction in new incursions into primary forest.

### **3.4 Monitoring of assumptions**

Overall, the outcome and output level assumptions still hold true;

#### Outcome Level Assumptions

- Coffee growers remain interested in the further development of gibbon-friendly coffee together with Genius Coffee, to increase household incomes.
- Market demand for gibbon-friendly coffee is maintained at regional and national levels, as indicated by market research.
- There are no external impacts that dramatically negatively impact gibbon populations (disease, habitat destruction etc).
- Military rule nonetheless allows NGOs to continue to operate.

#### Output Level Assumptions

- There are no major changes to external standards that require significant revision of project technical standards during the project period.
- Growers do not become dis-incentivised to implement organic and gibbon-friendly standards by other opportunities and remain engaged with this project.
- Coffee farmers are willing to work together to develop gibbon-friendly coffee for the national market.
- National and local government agencies, as well as local communities, support the participatory gazettement and management planning of Mann Wildlife Sanctuary and village land use planning in the surrounding landscape.

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

- The practice of sustainable agriculture, such as coffee agroforestry can help to promote biodiversity while also improving the livelihoods of small-scale coffee farmers. By planting coffee into farming systems, farmers can create a more resilient ecosystem that supports a wider range of wildlife species, while providing a source of income for farmers.
- Improving coffee farmer capacity can also have significant benefits. By providing training the project in sustainable agricultural techniques (Organic PGS), which involves the non-use of pesticides, fertilizers, and other chemicals. Pest control methods do not allow the use of pesticides, and the soil is fertilized through compost to keep it chemical free. Communities make organic fertilizer, insecticide, and fungicide with agricultural waste from their own farms and surrounding areas (Bio-recycling) to reduce the cost of production and to enhance the regional system to care for both environment and people which can lead to increased income, food security for local communities.
- Twelve members of indigenous communities are now trained in biodiversity monitoring/patrolling (threat monitoring) in the protected areas and surrounding landscape.
- Project-engaged local communities in conservation efforts can support the promotion of the sustainable use of natural resources while also improving livelihoods.
- The project engaged with Genius Coffee to provide training in coffee harvesting and post-harvest processing methods, to improve the quality of coffee bean year by year as a group for coffee processing, with more cooperation from individual coffee farmers.
- With the financial and technical support of the project, the organizational capacity of ACCA and the coffee quality standards is improved. As a result, it can help a community-based organization to more effectively plan and implementation of the

project, the coffee from ACCA has received attention from the coffee industry and it raised awareness to extend coffee plantations in the project area.

#### **4 Project support to the Conventions, Treaties or Agreements**

Convention on Biological Diversity: The project is contributing to Myanmar's CBD commitments, as defined in the Myanmar National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (2015-2020), by:

- i) supporting the conservation of key species to improve the status of biodiversity (Strategic Goal C), including western hoolock gibbon (EN)
- ii) promoting appropriate agriculture in biodiverse landscapes, thereby reducing direct pressures and promoting sustainable use (Strategic Goal B), through the introduction of agroforestry coffee that retains canopy cover, protecting vital habitat for gibbons.
- iii) enhancing the benefits from biodiversity and ecosystem services (Strategic Goal D) by enabling 1000 ethnic Chin men and women to engage in biodiversity-friendly agroforestry coffee production in the landscape.

The project also contributes to Aichi target 11, by supporting the increase in Myanmar's protected area coverage by 12,400 ha.

The project supports the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC): The project contributes to Myanmar's UNFCCC Nationally Determined Contributions, as defined in the draft national REDD+ Strategy (2018), by:

- increasing Myanmar's protected area coverage, as noted above
- supporting community-based rehabilitation of climate-resilient ecosystems, and rural livelihoods in degraded watershed areas of the Central Dry Zone (the Mann forests protect the catchment for the Mann River Dam, which provides irrigation water to the dry zone).

#### **5 Project support to poverty reduction**

The project aimed to promote sustainable livelihoods and increase income for local communities through the development of the coffee industry. Capacity building activities were carried out to equip individuals with the necessary skills to engage in productive livelihood activities and access markets. The project provided capital for coffee production, including necessary equipment and machinery, resulting in the processing of 112.5 tons of coffee cherry and production of 25 tons of coffee parchment during the 2022-2023 harvesting season. A total of 200 coffee farmers, including both males and females, were trained in harvesting and post-harvest processing of coffee using different methods to produce specialty coffee of higher quality, which can be sold at premium prices in the market.

In addition, the project provided small village development grants to eight village conservation groups to plant 63,000 coffee seedlings, and supported the establishment of coffee nurseries to produce 90,000 coffee seedlings in ACCA, Silan and Pabe villages. These initiatives aimed to increase the productivity and sustainability of the coffee industry and create job opportunities for local communities. Overall, the project contributed to the promotion of sustainable livelihoods and the development of the coffee industry in the region.



## 6 Gender equality and social inclusion

<p>At least 50% of GCA members (c.500 out of 1000 people) have received core competencies training by project end, of which at least half are women.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A total of 489 local communities were trained in the different technical trainings in Y2. A total of 172 women (32%) joined the trainings</li> <li>• The project facilitated women to become members of the ACCA, with 340 doing so during the second year of the project; 49% of the current membership of ACCA (726 members).</li> </ul>
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## 7 Monitoring and evaluation

The project was monitored and evaluated based on the project work plan and the agreed measurable indicators (Annex 1 and 2). There have been no changes to the M&E plan during the reporting period. Monthly meetings with ACCA were conducted to update the project progress and to discuss workplans together with ACCA members.

The internal team supporting the M&E are:

- Finance Manager, Wint War Tun, centrally evaluates financial issues and works closely with the Senior Accountant, Nan Ei Phyu Sin;
- Market Chain Development Advisor, Kiran Mohanan, Emma Scott and Mrunmayee Amarnath supports the project team to develop the coffee market chain and Wildlife Friendly Certification.
- Project Director, Ngwe Lwin has regular meetings with the project manager and project team for work-planning and project implementation, and to ensure the project activities contribute to the project outputs.
- Protected Area Management adviser, Frank Momberg support the project team to develop protected area management plan preparation.

## 8 Lessons learnt

We learnt that coffee farmers work together as a group for coffee processing, with more cooperation from individual coffee farmers, which means sustainable coffee agroforestry development can contribute to sustainable and inclusive development in the region.

Sustainable coffee production requires collaboration and partnerships among different stakeholders, including government, civil society, and private sectors. Collaboration and partnerships can help to leverage resources, increase efficiency, and improve sustainability. Empowerment and participation of the poor and marginalized are essential components of sustainable livelihood development. These communities should be involved in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of project interventions to ensure that they meet their needs and expectations.

We also learnt that local civil society organizations (CSOs) play an important role in project Implementation as they can empower communities by promoting their active participation in decision-making processes and providing them with information, skills, and resources to enable them to participate more effectively.

By providing training and capacity-building support to strengthen community-based organizations, it can help to build more resilient communities and promote sustainable development.

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

No.	Comments	Response
1	Minor point - if I understand correctly, the Gibbon Coffee Association is now called the Asho Chin Coffee Association. Unfortunately,	We are using only the Asho Chin Coffee Association (ACCA) in the half

	the two names are used interchangeably in the text, causing confusion. Please tidy up in future reports	year and this report will be used in the future reports.
<b>2</b>	Raising capacity among lower growers and harvesters to access premium markets (Outcome 4) has progressed, with 90% of trainees (n=86) already implementing better harvesting practices and obtaining premium prices. However, it would be interesting to know in the project's coming years if other farmers are copying the better methods of project graduates.	In Y2, the project continued to support local coffee growers in the coffee harvesting, and post-harvest processing methods in order to meet speciality coffee, with a total of 200 trainees as other coffee farmers.

## 10. Risk Management

There have been no new risks identified, and no major modifications have been required for the project's original design.

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

N/A

## 10 Sustainability and legacy

The project focused on promoting sustainable agriculture, improving coffee farmer capacity, conserving biodiversity, and engaging local communities in conservation efforts. The project promotes sustainable agriculture by encouraging the practice of coffee agroforestry, which helps to promote biodiversity while also improving the livelihoods of small-scale coffee farmers. The project also provided training to farmers in sustainable agricultural techniques such as Organic PGS, which reduces the use of pesticides and fertilizers while promoting the use of organic fertilizers and pest control methods.

The project provided capacity building activities to equip individuals with necessary skills, and capital for coffee production, resulting in the processing of 112.5 tons of coffee cherry and production of 25 tons of coffee parchment during the 2022-2023 harvesting season. The project trained 200 coffee farmers in harvesting and post-harvest processing of coffee using different methods to produce specialty coffee of higher quality, which can be sold at premium prices in the market. The project engaged local communities in conservation efforts by training members of indigenous communities in biodiversity monitoring and patrolling. This helps to promote the sustainable use of natural resources while also improving livelihoods.

Through the financial and technical support of the project, the organizational capacity of ACCA (a community-based organization) is improved, which helps to more effectively plan and implement the project. The coffee from ACCA has received attention from the coffee industry, which has raised awareness and led to the extension of coffee plantations in the project area.

The project also provided small village development grants to eight village conservation groups to plant 63,000 coffee seedlings and supported the establishment of coffee nurseries to produce 90,000 coffee seedlings in ACCA, Silan and Pabe villages. These initiatives aimed to increase the productivity and sustainability of the coffee industry and create job opportunities for local communities in the region.

### 11 Darwin Initiative identity

The project team ensured that the role and support of the Darwin Initiative was emphasised at all meetings and training events. During the reporting period, the project distributed a total of 50 selective coffee harvesting awareness and 50 of 12 principles of PGS rule and regulation, all with the Darwin logo added.

## 12 Safeguarding

Has your Safeguarding Policy been updated in the past 12 months?	Yes
Have any concerns been investigated in the past 12 months	No
Does your project have a Safeguarding focal point?	Yes/ <i>Kyaw Kyaw Naing</i> , [REDACTED]
Has the focal point attended any formal training in the last 12 months?	Yes/ 11 March 2023, Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable adult's policy
What proportion (and number) of project staff have received formal training on Safeguarding?	Past: 100 % [4 field project staff] Planned: 100% [and 4 field project staff ]
Has there been any lessons learnt or challenges on Safeguarding in the past 12 months? Please ensure no sensitive data is included within responses. <b>None</b>	
Does the project have any developments or activities planned around Safeguarding in the coming 12 months? If so please specify. The project is planning conservation and developments activities around safeguarding in the coming 12 months, it will involve implementing policies and procedures to prevent abuse or harm, providing training to staff and volunteers on recognizing and responding to safeguarding concerns, and creating safe environments for vulnerable individuals and establish clear reporting procedures for any safeguarding concerns that will any arise.	

## 13 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)				
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>121,730.0</b>	<b>121,730.0</b>		

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

I agree for the Biodiversity Challenge Funds Secretariat to publish the content of this section (please leave this line in to indicate your agreement to use any material you provide here).

## 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><b>Impact</b></p> <p>The Mann Wildlife Sanctuary is supporting increasing gibbon populations as a result of extended habitat, improved connectivity, and excellent conservation management and agroforestry, enabled by resilient local livelihoods strategies.</p>		<p>Promoted sustainable agriculture and improves the livelihoods of small-scale coffee farmers while protecting biodiversity, through organic farming techniques, and increased awareness for extending coffee plantations.</p>	
<p><b>Outcome</b> Gibbon-friendly coffee agroforestry, and designation and collaborative management of Mann Wildlife Sanctuary are protecting c.30,000ha of primary forest, benefiting endangered gibbon populations and livelihoods for 1,000 ethnic Chinpeople.</p>	<p>01 Gibbon density (1.6 groups/ sq km) stable by project end and Hornbill population stable by project end from baseline established in Y1.</p> <p>02 By March 2024, gibbon-habitat (ie, closed-canopy forest) extent increases in the core areas by 5% annually</p> <p>03 Combined local income from coffee doubles by March 2024 for at least 1000 members of the GCA.</p> <p>04 At least 10,000 ha of bufferzone planted with coffee by March 2023.</p> <p>05 There is a reduction in new incursions into primary forest for swidden farming between project baseline and end</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Updated density and abundance estimate for hoolock gibbons in MWS based on the current and previous projects.</li> <li>• Collected income from coffee agroforestry at 11 villages.</li> <li>• Planted 63,000 coffee seedlings by 450 households from eight villages; a total of 60,000 coffee seedlings were readied to plant in the monsoon season, and 90,000 coffee seedlings will produce by ACCA, Sinlan and Pabe villages.</li> </ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Gibbon and hornbills will be monitored in Y3.</li> <li>2. Assess gibbon habitat area using remote sensing</li> <li>3. Collect income data from 11 villages to compare with baseline surveys from coffee agroforestry activities: finalized sustainable financing and benefit sharing mechanisms.</li> <li>4. Provide coffee seedlings to coffee farmers</li> <li>5. No activity in Y3</li> </ol>



<b>Output 1.</b> Technical standards for gibbon/wildlife-friendly coffee which meet the management goals of the proposed Mann Wildlife Sanctuary (to reduce deforestation, improve forest connectivity and secure resource use rights for buffer- zone communities).	<p>1.1 Participatory Guarantee System established in 50%of coffee-producing area by March 2022.</p> <p>1.2 Training of Trainers course developed to ensure appropriate production methods by Dec 2021.</p> <p>1.3 100% of GCA members are certified as organic.</p> <p>1.4 Standards for gibbon/wildlife-friendly coffee defined by March 2022.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organized Organic PGS training and a new member of PGS was formed at 12 villages.</li> <li>Trained 35 coffee farmers (20 men; 15 women) in coffee harvesting and post-harvest processing t(TOT) in December 2022.</li> <li>A total of 105 coffee farmers of ACCA members received the certification of Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) in January 2023.</li> <li>Submitted the Wildlife Friendly Environment Network (WFEN) application in March 2023 and the standard of wildlife-friendly coffee has been defined in January 2023.</li> </ul>	
Activity 1.1 Define and implement standards for gibbon-friendly coffee based on a suitable international scheme, i.e. the Wildlife Friendly Enterprise Network		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facilitated ACCA to define criteria for wildlife-friendly coffee to meet and receive certification</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No activity in Y3</li> </ul>
Activity 1.2 Fully implement the Participatory Guarantee System, with appropriate internal control system (with support from Myanmar Organic Growers and Producers Association (MOGPA) and Genius Coffee).		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organized two PGS training for the new PGS members (180 participants; 123 men: 57 women) from 11 villages.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This activity will be finalized in Y3</li> </ul>
Activity 1.3 Certify current coffee production under the MOGPA PGS organic standard and the EU organic standard as prerequisites for the WFEN Certified Wildlife Friendly™ global products program, and accessing markets in Europe		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supported 105 organic coffee farmers to receive Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) certification in January 2023.</li> <li>Facilitated ACCA for the preparation of the Wildlife Friendly Environment Network (WFEN) application process.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In collaboration with ACCA and MOGPA, PGS organic certification will be continued to support qualified coffee farmers.</li> </ul>
Activity 1.4 Develop training-of-trainers (ToT) scheme (including refresher training) with Genius Coffee to ensure dissemination of appropriate production methods (5 days per year).		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provided 35 coffee farmers (20 men; 15 women) with</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This activity will be continued in Y3</li> </ul>

		coffee harvesting and post-harvest processing (ToT)	
Activity 1.5 Routine documentation for ongoing organic/wildlife-friendly coffee certification assessments (2 days per month, per village).		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MOGPA, FFI and ACCA and PGS group leaders conducted regular monitoring and field inspections for the internal control system of coffee farmers' activities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This activity will be continued in Y3.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Output 2.</b> The GCA is registered as a legal entity with robust internal systems, financing plans and policies, and members have the skills and knowledge to fully implement technical standards to achieve improved and sustainable agricultural practices.</p>	<p>2.1 Gibbon Coffee Association legally registered, with by-laws and benefit-sharing defined by March 2022.</p> <p>2.2 At least 50% of GCA members (c.500 out of 1000people) have received core competencies training by project end, of which at least half are women.</p> <p>2.3 Sustainable financing plan implemented for the GCA by March 2023.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The document preparation of ACCA registration was completed and defined. A first draft of the benefit-sharing arrangement for ACCA was completed in February 2023.</li> <li>Trained 489 ACCA members (Male:317, and Female:172) in different technical pieces of training.</li> <li>Developed a first draft of a sustainable financing plan for ACCA in January 2023</li> </ul>	
Activity 2.1. Formalise and legally register the Gibbon Coffee Association.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facilitated ACCA for the preparation of registration documents.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to facilitate ACCA for the submission of ACCA registration to the township level of the administration department.</li> </ul>
Activity 2.2. Define terms of reference and by-laws for operation of the GCA		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facilitated ACCA to define terms of reference, the structure of the organization with roles and responsibilities for the management committee of ACCA and members</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This activity will be continued in Y3</li> </ul>
Activity 2.3 Define benefit-sharing mechanisms and obligations for GCA members, linked to the gibbon/wildlife-friendly coffee standard		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organized a meeting to facilitate the Management committee of ACCA to define benefit-sharing mechanisms.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to facilitate ACCA for the completion of benefit-sharing mechanisms throughout the implementation of further technical support for</li> </ul>

		wildlife-friendly certification in Y3.
Activity 2.4 Provide appropriate training (e.g. financial management, gender sensitivity, gibbon/habitat monitoring methods).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trained 489 ACCA members (Male:317, Female:172) in different technical pieces of training such as Participatory Guarantee System (PGS organic guidelines), Financial Management, Wildlife Monitoring and Patrolling, Organizational Development, coffee harvesting and post-harvest processing training</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Further Training related to coffee harvesting and the post-harvesting process will be organized in Y3.</li> </ul>
Activity 2.5 Develop and implement a sustainable financing plan to cover operational expenses such as routine re-certification, monitoring and management costs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facilitated ACCA to develop a sustainable finance mechanism, a first draft of a sustainable finance plan was prepared.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to facilitate ACCA for the completion of a sustainable finance mechanism in Y3.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Output 3.</b> Zonation and management of Mann wildlife sanctuary, and village land-use plans in the surrounding landscape, are based on biodiversity science and community consultation, to ensure effective protected area management and habitat connectivity within the wider Mann river watershed</p>	<p>3.1 Detailed forest cover/land cover mapping completed by end Y1.</p> <p>3.2 Mann wildlife sanctuary draft management plan prepared in consultation with local stakeholders, by end Y1.</p> <p>3.3 Spatial planning in the new park buffer zone completed by end Y2.</p> <p>3.4 Behavioural and genetic studies of Hoolock Gibbons completed by end Y2.</p> <p>3.5 By March 2022, detailed village land use plans based on defined gibbon habitat restoration and management</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collected biodiversity information in and around Mann Wildlife Sanctuary for the development of a Management plan.</li> <li>Organized six village consultation meetings based on the FPIC principles to prepare land use planning.</li> <li>Selected forest block and gibbons groups for the data collection of study feeding ecology.</li> <li>Facilitated land use committee of six villages to prepare village land use planning in the community land and forest use areas.</li> </ul>

	<p>criteria are signed off by stakeholders from at least seven villages.</p> <p>3.6 Mann Wildlife Sanctuary gazettement and management planning completed</p>	
Activity 3.1 Finalise and agree guidelines for FPIC in the planning process.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The project continued to follow FPIC guidelines in the project planning and implementation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No activity in Y3</li> </ul>
Activity 3.2 Conduct detailed forest cover/land cover mapping, combining remote sensing and field surveys for the wider Mann watershed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No work to update for this activity in Y2.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No activity in Y3</li> </ul>
Activity 3.3 Prepare a baseline to monitor deforestation risk associated with promoting high-value commodities, and inform and monitor village land use planning to ensure habitat connectivity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conducted six village consultation meeting to discuss 5-year land use planning for their community land use areas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This activity will be continued in Y3.</li> </ul>
Activity 3.4 Conduct behavioural and genetic studies of Hoolock Gibbons to determine feeding ecology and dispersal of gibbons through agroforest/forest corridors by applying modern high-throughput DNA sequencing methods.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identified the gibbon groups in the four different forest blocks for the collection of the data adjacent to the Mann Wildlife Sanctuary.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This activity will be continued in Y3</li> </ul>
Activity 3.5 Support village land use planning and agroforestry design (including tree species selection) based on the scientific results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discussed with six village land use committees for the preparation of detailed land use planning.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Six village land use mappings will be produced in Y3.</li> </ul>
Activity 3.6 Prepare a management and zonation plan for Mann Wildlife Sanctuary, based on biodiversity science and public consultations, for government approval	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collected biodiversity information to promote the management plan of Mann Wildlife Sanctuary</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consultation meetings will be conducted for the development of management and zonation plan of MWS</li> </ul>
Activity 3.7 Provide scientific data to inform gibbon/wildlife-friendly certification of coffee and other agroforestry products.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Carried out a tree survey in coffee plantation areas at nine villages: Wun, Htawzar, Sarpauk, Bonebaw, Gokkyi, Khunzu, Lai, Linde, and Sonthet.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No activity in Y3.</li> </ul>



<p>Activity 3.8 Monitor the population of key indicator species (Gibbons and Hornbill) in the wildlife sanctuary and surrounding landscape, and changes in conservation knowledge, attitude and behaviour (KAB) through project start/end surveys.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No work to update for this activity in Y2.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hornbill population will be monitored in Y3</li> </ul>
<p>Activity 3.9 Monitor forest cover through remote sensing at the beginning and end of the project to verify reduced deforestation of primary forest and improved agroforestry cover and forest/agroforest connectivity.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No work to update for this activity in Y2.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This activity will be repeated in the Y4.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Output 4:</b> Local growers and harvesters have improved technical skills, resources and capacity to access premium markets and improved value chains, to secure a reliable income source, contributing to more sustainable and resilient livelihoods.</p>	<p>4.1 Improved coffee and agroforest seedlings planted by at least 1,000 growers representing 1,000 households from 11 villages, by project end.</p> <p>4.2 80% of growers reporting improved knowledge of post-harvest processing techniques.</p> <p>4.3 Coffee cherry quality and bean selection and processing improved, so 80% of coffee beans meet Genius's high-quality standard by March 2023.</p> <p>4.4 Increase in market visibility of "Gibbon Coffee" by March 2024.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provided 63,000 coffee seedlings for 450 households at 8 villages in 2022 and three coffee nurseries for 90,000 coffee seedlings were established for the plantation of 2023-2024.</li> <li>Trained 200 coffee farmers (116 men, and 84 women) in all aspects of coffee harvesting, post-harvest processing, production, and marketing.</li> <li>Improved more effective coffee quality control and improvement of processing by promoting coffee plantations and processing better quality coffee year by year.</li> <li>Introduced Gibbon Coffee to producers and importers from Latin America, Southeast Asia, and Africa at the event of Specialty Coffee Conference and Exhibition 2022 in Japan</li> </ul>
<p>Activity 4.1 Provide improved coffee and agroforest seedlings, considering the ecology of wildlife indicator species.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supported village small development grants to six grantees, in eight villages to plant 63,000 coffee seedlings in 2022</li> <li>Provided small grants to ACCA, Sinlan and Pabe villages for the coffee nursery establishment of 90,000 seedlings.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This activity will be continued in Y3</li> </ul>
<p>Activity 4.2 Develop post-harvest processing capacity for an additional seven villages, widening impacts and making the supply chain commercially viable</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supported coffee processing equipment to ACCA and trained handling equipment and operation of post-harvest processing, to improve coffee quality and raise the value of beans.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This activity will be continued in Y3</li> </ul>

<p>Activity 4.3 Provide training to improve the quality of coffee cherry and bean selection and processing, meeting speciality coffee market requirements.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organized coffee harvesting and post-harvest processing training and coffee awareness talks, reaching 200 coffee farmers (116 men, 84 women) from twelve villages.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Training will be organized for coffee farmers in Y3</li> </ul>
<p>Activity 4.4 Increase visibility of “Gibbon Coffee” through improved marketing by Genius</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Genius Coffee conducted Gibbon coffee’ marketing at the Speciality Coffee Conference and Exhibition in October 2022.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This activity will be continued in Y3.</li> </ul>
<p>Activity 4.5 Showcase the product at an international trade fair (one minimum) to gauge market/buyer interest (e.g. Biofach Fare).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Arranged Genius coffee to participate the Speciality Coffee Conference and Exhibition 2022, In Japan, to introduce and display coffee produced by ACCA.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This activity will be continued in Y3</li> </ul>

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

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
<p><b>Impact:</b> The Mann Wildlife Sanctuary is supporting increasing gibbon populations as a result of extended habitat, improved connectivity, and excellent conservation management and agroforestry, enabled by resilient local livelihoods strategies.</p> <p>(Max 30 words)</p>			
<p><b>Outcome:</b> (Max 30 words)</p> <p>Gibbon-friendly coffee agroforestry, and designation and collaborative management of Mann Wildlife Sanctuary are protecting c.30,000ha of primary forest, benefiting endangered gibbon populations and livelihoods for 1,000 ethnic Chin people.</p>	<p>01. Gibbon density (1.6 groups/ sq km) stable by project end and Hornbill population stable by project end from baseline established in Y1.</p> <p>02. By March 2024, gibbon-habitat (ie, closed-canopy forest) extent increases in the core areas by 5% annually</p> <p>03. Combined local income from coffee doubles by March 2024 for at least 1000 members of the GCA.</p> <p>04. At least 10,000 ha of bufferzone planted with coffee by March 2023.</p> <p>05. There is a reduction in new incursions into primary forest for swidden farming between project baseline and end.</p>	<p>01. Gibbon/ Hornbill population survey reports.</p> <p>02. Land cover map and forest inventory at sample sites.</p> <p>03. Household surveys in random sample of members, year 1 baseline, and final year assessment.</p> <p>04. Annual GCA and project progress reports.</p> <p>05. Drone-based or other remote sensing vegetation analysis maps.</p>	<p>Coffee growers remain interested in the further development of gibbon-friendly coffee together with Genius, to increase household incomes.</p> <p>Market demand for gibbon-friendly coffee at regional and national level is maintained at levels indicated in our test market research.</p> <p>All stakeholders support the gazettelement of a collaboratively managed Mann Wildlife Sanctuary.</p> <p>There are no external impacts that dramatically negatively impact gibbon populations (outbreak of disease, major illegal habitat destruction).</p>

			<p>Myanmar continues to be largely unaffected by the Covid-19 pandemic.</p> <p>Military rule nonetheless allows NGOs to continue to operate. This should be mitigated by most of our project staff being based in-country. We consider this a fair assumption, since the FFI Myanmar programme was founded and operated under similar circumstances for several years.</p>
<p><b>Output 1:</b> Technical standards for gibbon/wildlife-friendly coffee which meet the management goals of the proposed Mann Wildlife Sanctuary (to reduce deforestation, improve forest connectivity and secure resource use rights for buffer-zone communities).</p>	<p>1.1 Participatory Guarantee System established in 50% of coffee-producing area by March 2022.</p> <p>1.2 Training of Trainers course developed to ensure appropriate production methods by Dec 2021.</p> <p>1.3 100% of GCA members are certified as organic.</p> <p>1.4 Standards for gibbon/wildlife-friendly coffee defined by March 2022.</p>	<p>1.1 Annual report of participatory guarantee system progress.</p> <p>1.2 Training reports on ToT for coffee planting and production including training evaluation assessment.</p> <p>1.3 Annual Internal Control System reports (one per project year) and organic certificate.</p> <p>1.4 Agreement with coffee farmers and stakeholders of gibbon/wildlife-friendly coffee standard.</p>	<p>There are no major changes to external standards that requiresignificant revision of project technical standards during the project period.</p> <p>Growers do not become dis- incentivised to implement organic and gibbon-friendly standards by other opportunitiesand remain engaged with this project.</p>

<p><b>Output 2:</b> The GCA is registered as a legal entity with robust internal systems, financing plans and policies, and members have the skills and knowledge to fully implement technical standards to achieve improved and sustainable agricultural practices.</p>	<p>2.1 Gibbon Coffee Association legally registered, with by-laws and benefit-sharing defined by March 2022.</p> <p>2.2 At least 50% of GCA members (c.500 out of 1000 people) have received core competencies training by project end, of which at least half are women.</p> <p>2.3 Sustainable financing plan implemented for the GCA by March 2023.</p>	<p>2.1 Registration process reports and organization management document.</p> <p>2.2 Annual training reports, including pre- and post-training knowledge assessments/ training evaluation</p> <p>2.3 Annual progress reports of GCA on development of sustainable financing plan.</p>	<p>Coffee farmers are willing to work together to develop gibbon-friendly coffee for the national market.</p>
<p><b>Output 3:</b> Zonation and management of Mann wildlife sanctuary, and village land-use plans in the surrounding landscape, are based on biodiversity science and community consultation, to ensure effective protected area management and habitat connectivity within the wider Mann river watershed</p>	<p>1.1 Detailed forest cover/land cover mapping completed by end Y1.</p> <p>1.2 Mann wildlife sanctuary draft management plan prepared in consultation with local stakeholders, by end Y1.</p> <p>1.3 Spatial planning in the new park buffer zone completed by end Y2.</p> <p>1.4 Behavioural and genetic studies of Hoolock Gibbons completed by end Y2.</p> <p>1.5 By March 2022, detailed village land use plans based on defined gibbon habitat restoration and management criteria are signed off by stakeholders from at least seven villages.</p>	<p>3.1 Land cover mapping report with map.</p> <p>3.2 Management/zonation spatial planning report, including zonation maps.</p> <p>3.3 Agricultural land use plan for the landscape.</p> <p>3.4 Research reports/data.</p> <p>3.5 Village endorsement records, photos.</p>	<p>National and local government agencies, as well as local communities, support the participatory gazettement and management planning of Mann Wildlife Sanctuary and village land use planning in surrounding landscape.</p>

	3.6 Mann Wildlife Sanctuary gazettelement and management planning completed.	1.6 Gazettelement documents, management plans submitted to government for legal designation.	
<b>Output 4:</b> Local growers and harvesters have improved technical skills, resources and capacity to access premium markets and improved value chains, to secure a reliable income source, contributing to more sustainable and resilient livelihoods.	<p>4.1 Improved coffee and agroforest seedlings planted by at least 1,000 growers representing 1,000 households from 11 villages, by project end.</p> <p>4.2 80% of growers reporting improved knowledge of post-harvest processing techniques.</p> <p>4.3 Coffee cherry quality and bean selection and processing improved, so 80% of coffee beans meet Genius's high-quality standard by March 2023.</p> <p>4.4 Increase in market visibility of "Gibbon Coffee" by March 2024.</p>	<p>4.1 Fixed point photos (before and after planting).</p> <p>4.2 Pre- and post-training participant assessments report</p> <p>4.3 Coffee quality assessment report from Genius.</p> <p>4.4 Number of sales enquiries from commercial buyers.</p>	<p>Growers and local conditions sufficient to produce improved quality cherry.</p> <p>Successful marketing elevates consumer awareness in Myanmar, leading to an increased demand.</p>
<p><b>Activities</b> (each activity is numbered according to the output that it will contribute towards, for example 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 are contributing to Output 1) NB. Each activity should start on a new line and be no more than approximately 25 words</p> <p>1.1 Define and implement standards for gibbon-friendly coffee based on a suitable international scheme, i.e. the Wildlife Friendly Enterprise Network.</p> <p>1.2 Fully implement the Participatory Guarantee System, with appropriate internal control system (with support from Myanmar Organic Growers and Producers Association (MOGPA) and Genius Coffee).</p> <p>1.3 Certify current coffee production under the MOGPA PGS organic standard and the EU organic standard as prerequisites for the WFEN Certified Wildlife Friendly™ global products program, and accessing markets in Europe.</p> <p>1.3 Develop training-of-trainers (ToT) scheme (including refresher training) with Genius Coffee to ensure dissemination of appropriate production methods (5 days per year).</p> <p>1.4 Routine documentation for ongoing organic/wildlife-friendly coffee certification assessments (2 days per month, per village).</p> <p>1.5 Develop training-of-trainers (ToT) scheme (including refresher training) with Genius Coffee to ensure dissemination of appropriate production</p>			



methods (5 days per year).

- 1.6 Routine documentation for ongoing organic/wildlife-friendly coffee certification assessments (2 days per month, per village).
- 2.1 Formalise and legally register the Gibbon Coffee Association.
- 2.2 Define terms of reference and by-laws for operation of the GCA.
- 2.3 Define benefit-sharing mechanisms and obligations for GCA members, linked to the gibbon/wildlife-friendly coffee standard.
- 2.4 Provide appropriate training (e.g. financial management, gender sensitivity, gibbon/habitat monitoring methods).
- 2.5 Develop and implement a sustainable financing plan to cover operational expenses such as routine re-certification, monitoring and management costs.
- 3.1 Finalise and agree guidelines for FPIC in the planning process.
- 3.2 Conduct detailed forest cover/land cover mapping, combining remote sensing and field surveys for the wider Mann watershed.
- 3.3 Prepare a baseline to monitor deforestation risk associated with promoting high-value commodities, and inform and monitor village land use planning to ensure habitat connectivity.
- 3.4 Conduct behavioural and genetic studies of Hoolock Gibbons to determine feeding ecology and dispersal of gibbons through agroforest/forest corridors by applying modern high-throughput DNA sequencing methods.
- 3.5 Support village land use planning and agroforestry design (including tree species selection) based on the scientific results.
- 3.6 Prepare a management and zonation plan for Mann Wildlife Sanctuary, based on biodiversity science and public consultations, for government approval.
- 3.7 Provide scientific data to inform gibbon/wildlife-friendly certification of coffee and other agroforestry products.
- 3.8 Monitor the population of key indicator species (Gibbons and Hornbill) in the wildlife sanctuary and surrounding landscape, and changes in conservation knowledge, attitude and behaviour (KAB) through project start/end surveys.
- 3.9 Monitor forest cover through remote sensing at the beginning and end of the project to verify reduced deforestation of primary forest and improved agroforestry cover and forest/agroforest connectivity.
- 4.1 Provide improved coffee and agroforest seedlings, taking into account the ecology of wildlife indicator species.
- 4.2 Develop post-harvest processing capacity for an additional seven villages, widening impacts and making the supply chain commercially viable.
- 4.3 Provide training to improve the quality of coffee cherry and bean selection and processing, meeting speciality coffee market requirements.
- 4.4 Increase visibility of “Gibbon Coffee” through improved marketing by Genius.
- 4.5 Showcase the product at an international trade fair (one minimum) to gauge market/buyer interest (e.g. Biofach Fare).

## Annex 3: Standard Indicator

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	Year 2 Total	Year 3 Total	Total to date	Total planned during the project
DI-A01	At least 50% of GCA(ACCA) members (c.500 out of 1000 people) have received core competencies training by project end, of which at least half are women.	No. of community members received Wildlife monitoring Training	People	22 men	10	12		626	1000
		No. community members received coffee harvesting and post-harvest processing training	People	179 men, 110 women	89	200			
		No. of farmers received Internal control system training for organic certificate application (PGS)	People	190men, 78women	88	180			
		No. of ACCA members received financial management training	People	7men, 5women		12			
		No. of ACCA members organizational Development Training	People	20men, 10women		30			
		No. of ACCA members assets and inventory list training	People	3 men, 2 women		5			

## 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 <b>correct template</b> (checking fund, type of report (i.e. Annual or Final), and year) and <b>deleted the blue guidance text</b> before submission?	
<b>Is the report less than 10MB?</b> If so, please email to <a href="mailto:BCF-Reports@niras.com">BCF-Reports@niras.com</a> putting the project number in the Subject line.	
<b>Is your report more than 10MB?</b> If so, please discuss with <a href="mailto:BCF-Reports@niras.com">BCF-Reports@niras.com</a> about the best way to deliver the report, putting the project number in the Subject line.	
<b>Have you included means of verification?</b> You should not submit every project document, but the main outputs and a selection of the others would strengthen the report.	
<b>Do you have hard copies of material you need to submit with the report?</b> If so, please make this clear in the covering email and ensure all material is marked with the project number. However, we would expect that most material will now be electronic.	
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.	