

## 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 2022**

### Darwin Initiative Project Information

Project reference	28-019
Project title	Protecting ecosystem functions in key watersheds for biodiversity and people
Country/ies	Bolivia
Lead partner	Asociación Armonía
Project partner(s)	1) Tiquipaya Municipal Government 2) Secretaria de la Madre Tierra– Gobierno Departamental de Cochabamba (Regional Government of Cochabamba) 3) Tunari National Park 4) Faunagua
Darwin grant value	£ 270,000
Start/end dates of project	01/Oct/2021 - 20/Sep/2023
Reporting period (e.g. Apr 2021 – Mar 2022) and number (e.g. Annual Report 1, 2, 3)	Reporting period: 01/Oct/2021 to 30/Mar/2022 Annual report #: 1
Project Leader name	Rodrigo W. Soria Auza
Project website/blog/social media	
Report author(s) and date	Rodrigo Soria, Daniela Aguirre, Sebastian Herzog & Paul Van Damme & 30/Apr/2022

### 1. Project summary

The Tunari National Park (TNP) lacks strategies that integrate local community needs with nature protection. This has triggered native forest destruction, loss of ecosystem functions and expansion of exotic tree plantations. We will implement a habitat restoration program in coordination with key stakeholders and engage local communities within Park boundaries to strengthen local development based on sustainable forestry use and protection of biodiversity/ecosystem functions. A massive communication strategy will be implemented to create suitable conditions for project replication in neighbouring municipalities.

A map of the project area can be found [here](#). Through this project we will focus most of our activities in five communities that are located in the Tiquipaya municipality within the [TNP](#). These communities form a union named Sindicato 13 de Agosto.

Across this document we use several acronyms. A glossary of acronyms can be found in this [link](#).

Hyperlinked (in blue and underlined) text in this document will lead to supplementary material (e.g. agreements, pictures, documents, maps, etc.) stored in the cloud that are relevant for this report.

## 2. Project stakeholders/ partners

Project partners are: 1) The Tiquipaya municipal government, represented by the Dirección de Medio Ambiente y la Madre Tierra (the Municipal Direction of Environmental Issues). 2) The Regional Government of Cochabamba through its Dirección de la Madre Tierra (office of the regional Government of Cochabamba in charge of Environmental Issues). 3) The Tunari National Park (TNP) that is part of the Servicio Nacional de Areas Protegidas (SERNAP). SERNAP administrates the 22 National protected areas of Bolivia. 4) Faunagua, a Bolivian NGO that also works in the same area. The above-mentioned institutions were involved as partners since the planning stage of this project. During the implementation of the project a new actor entered into the scene. This new actor is Kurmi, a Bolivian NGO interested in the management and protection basins in the Tiquipaya municipality.

- 1) **Tiquipaya Municipal government of Tiquipaya (TMG)**. Armonía and the TMG signed an [agreement of cooperation](#) that allow us to cooperate in multiple activities. Thanks to this agreement we improved the installations of its nursery that we are using to produce the native trees. Its personnel participated in the last reforestation campaigns and the ongoing monitoring (survival of planted trees).
- 2) **Regional government of Cochabamba (RGC)**. Armonía and the RGC also signed an [agreement of cooperation](#). As the production capacity of the nursery we built is 100,000 saplings/year, the regional government of Cochabamba will also produce a number of saplings for the project. For the first year of project implementation, the RGC's contribution was 40,000 saplings of native trees, and its personnel also participated in the ongoing monitoring.
- 3) **Tunari National Park (TNP)**. Armonía and the TNP also signed an [agreement of cooperation](#). The personnel of its protected area also participated in the reforestation campaigns, and are also currently participating in the monitoring of planted trees.
- 4) **Faunagua (FAU)**. FAU started to build a baseline database of information to estimate the ecosystem functions provided by the Tunari National Park. This baseline will be key to measure the impact of the project by the end of the project implementation and in the mid to long-term. For the implementation of the present project Armonía and FAU also signed an [agreement of cooperation](#). This allow us to deliver some funds to FAU as subgrantee.

During the first months of project implementation a new actor entered into scene. This new actor is KURMI (KUR), a Bolivian NGO that aims to improve the management and protection of watershed in Tiquipaya municipality. For this purpose, this NGO aims to conform a platform formed by all actors within this municipality (municipal authorities and local leaders of the civil society). We are currently making progress to sign an agreement of cooperation.

## 3. Project progress

We accomplished over 85% of the expected progress for this first annual report (project started in Oct 2021). Progress reached for outputs 1, 2 and 3 surpassed the expectations (see [project timetable](#)). We experienced some delays implementing planned activities for outputs 4 and 5. This mostly due to time availability of stakeholders.

### 3.1 Progress in carrying out project Activities

*Output 1.* Between Dec 2021 and Mar 2022, we planted 140,080 saplings of native trees (10,080 more trees than the proposed per reforestation season). After the conclusion of the reforestation season, we updated the map of reforested areas in the project area. During this reforestation campaign (Dec 2021 – Mar 2022) we reforested 110 hectares, and summing up

the hectares reforested during the first reforestation campaign (Dic 2020 to Mar 2021) we have reforested 200 hectares in total (to see the map, click [here](#)).

In March 2022 we started with saplings production for the next reforestation campaign (Dec 2022 – Mar 2023). Given the progress we achieved, for this next reforestation season we aim to produce 200,000 saplings of native trees (this number include 100,000 saplings of the threatened *Polylepis subtusalbida* & 13,000 saplings of the threatened *Kageneckia lanceolata*). By the end of March 2022, we have already 27,000 saplings from three species in production (*Polypepis subtusalbida*, *Kageneckia lanceolata* and *Buddleja coriacea*). Number of saplings will increase significantly between April and July (Our tree nursery production plan can be downloaded [here](#). This is a living document that will be periodically updated).

**Output 2.** After a consultation with the five communities that form the Sindicato 13 de Agosto, we were asked to start a pilot forestry management plan for the tree plantations in Thola Pujru community. The fieldwork was conducted between October and December 2021. The development of the plan took place in January 2022 and its presentation to the community of Thola Pujru in February. The forestry management plan can be downloaded [here](#) (At the moment we only have the Spanish version of the plan)

**Output 3.** We assisted to several meetings with each of the five communities that form the Sindicato 13 de Agosto (Cruzani, Laphia, Linkupata, Thola Pujru and Totorá). These meetings were key to strengthen relationships with key community members such as leaders and members of the Organización de Gestión de Cuencas (OGC). OGC was recently formed by members from these communities to propose a better management of the watersheds within their community territories (which is basically non-existent so far). Our initial meetings were rather fluid at the beginning. However, by Nov 2021 Kurmi started activities. As this organization also required the time of local communities for meetings and workshops, our plan activities had to be adjusted to fit with local people's time availability.

Kurmi's goal is to strengthen the municipal government to form a platform to support the management of watersheds of this municipality. As, we both (Armonía and Kurmi) have similar goals, the TMG and local communities asked us (Armonía & Kurmi) to organize a coordinated working agenda. For this purpose, we organized a first meeting in January 2022, and a second meeting by late March 2022.

**Output 4.** We developed the monitoring protocol to keep track of the development of planted trees, which can be accessed through this [link](#) (at the moment this document is only in Spanish). We have not filled the database yet because reforestation campaigns concluded by mid-March 2022, and the monitoring fieldwork is being conducted until early May.

We also started to develop the monitoring programme for Biodiversity. Unlike the monitoring of reforested areas, we are still developing the study design. We are also considering to include monitoring of soil biomass because it might be possible to record changes much faster (perhaps even before the conclusion of the project). The main reason for our delay is that we aim to construct a protocol that might be easily implemented by technical personnel from RGO, TMG and the TNP that have basic formation. We expect to have it ready by mid May 2022, and start its implementation by June 2022.

Our project partner Faunagua is currently obtaining baseline drone images and optimizing the protocol to monitor changes in vegetation coverage. The baseline database of images will help us measure landscape changes in the future (images of field work [here](#)). Faunagua is also measuring water flows in watershed within the project area. The protocols (document) are yet to be concluded (pictures of this activities can be found [here](#)).

**Output 5.** Since the start of the project (Oct 2021) we have already had at least 5 meetings with the key local and regional authorities (TMG and RGO). We are already coordinating the planning of several activities along the 2022. So, these key actors are very well informed. We have also had very positive meetings with personnel from two neighbouring municipalities (Quillacollo and Sacaba).

Before consolidating a formal meeting with journalist and TV presenters, we developed a communication strategy. The strategy is ready and can be downloaded [here](#) (at the present the document is in Spanish). We already contacted key personalities that might help us spread

project news (journalists and TV presenters). However, due to time availability of persons we couldn't organize the meeting yet.

We prepared diverse material (banners and leaflets) that we use and distribute in all events that we organize and attend (click [here](#) to see material produced)

Finally, we conducted the first survey of public opinion and perception about the Tunari National Park. This survey was conducted during the last week of March 2022 and the results will be ready in April (2022).

### 3.2 Progress towards project Outputs

*Output 1.* At this stage of project implementation, we have achieved almost 50% of indicators. We have already a map that shows the [restored areas](#) so far. And we also have developed a map where the areas to be restored up to year 2025 are identified (map can be downloaded [here](#)).

Thanks to the contribution of Global Forest Generation through its program Acción Andina, we managed to reforest 140,080 saplings of native trees during this last reforestation season (i.e. 10,080 trees more than initially proposed), and we aim to plant at least 200,000 saplings during the next reforestation campaign (i.e. 70,000 more than the proposed). See the tree nursery production plan for 2022 [here](#).

As the TMG already included habitat restoration as a key component within the municipal watersheds management plan that is under development, we are very confident that we will successfully achieve the output 1 before the conclusion of 2022.

*Output 2.* The forestry management plan for pine/eucalyptus plantations in Thola Pujru community is concluded and socialized with members from this community (see pictures of the socializations [here](#)). Next step is to present this plan to the corresponding authorities later in 2022. We will use this plan as a model for the remaining communities, and then motivate them to also develop sustainable forestry management plan for the plantations within their territories as well.

*Output 3.* Though the governance body (OGC) is formed by members from the five communities that form the Sindicato 13 de Agosto, there is still a lot of work to do to consolidate it as a formal governance body that includes a representative from the TMG and a representative from the TNP ([here](#) you will find lists of attendees to meetings we organized with the key stakeholders & [here](#) you will find photos of the events). The arrival of Kurmi provoked a delay of several meetings. Communities' members were overwhelmed by the number of meetings and workshops each NGO was organizing. To help each other reaching our goals, we decided to plan our meetings together. Though this caused a delay in our programmed activities, it is ultimately positive for everyone.

*Outcome 4.* One of the three planned monitoring programs is already designed and in implementation (the monitoring protocol for [planted saplings](#)). The monitoring protocol to measure future changes in landscape is being developed by Faunagua. This partner is building a baseline database of drone images (see pictures of field work [here](#)).

To develop the monitoring protocol of water retention and environmental flow for watersheds in the project area, Faunagua is evaluating several variables (e.g. water flow, topographic/edaphic characteristics) that are key (see pictures of fieldwork [here](#)).

The monitoring protocol to measure population trends of key biodiversity that occur in the area is being currently developed. At the moment we are adjusting the methods, and survey points to be geographically coherent with the reforested areas. We are also considering to measure data of soil biomass (because changes of soil biodiversity can happen much faster).

Finally, to measure the socioeconomic impacts of the project we already started to design a socioeconomic survey. This will be fundamental to build a baseline database of the communities that will allow us to measure any change by the end of the project implementation (and afterwards). Members from the same communities are involved as survey interviewers (the list of participants [here](#)).

*Outcome 5.* We developed a communication strategic plan ([here](#)) to maximize our communication impact and visualize our next steps.

We made significant progress socializing our project with Sacaba and Quillacollo municipalities (Here minutes of one meeting [here](#)). Thanks to these activities we were approached by three communities (2 in Quillacollo and 1 in Sacaba municipalities) that requested us to include them in our activities for this year. These communities receive the support from their corresponding municipal governments.

The first video clip about the project is being edited now and will be ready by late May 2022 (pictures of field work [here](#)).

We were not able to organize activities with potential partners that will help us to communicate the project yet, but these activities will start soon.

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

We made significant progress to achieve the project outcome. Below we develop the progress reached to achieve each indicator:

*Indicator 1. Tiquipaya is the first municipality that develops a reforestation program to protect the ecosystem functions and threatened biodiversity within the Key biodiversity Area (KBA) southern slopes of TNP.*

As the TMG included the habitat restoration program as part of the municipal watershed management plan (which is usually a 5-years plan), we are very confident that we will achieve this indicator way before than expected.

As our activities motivated to the TMG to develop its municipal watershed management plan, we highlight this as an unexpected impact of the project.

*Indicator 2. Quechua family economies in Tiquipaya communities within TNP (200 families, totalling approximately 900 persons) have diversified and increased by 5% due to the implementation of a sustainable forestry management plan.*

After 6 months of project implementation, we have already developed the forestry management plan of exotic tree plantations for families in the community of Thola Pujru. Due to the limited trust local communities have in the administration of the TNP (past administrations of the TNP have banned the use of exotic tree plantations consistently for decades), members from the remaining communities are sceptics that the forestry management plan will be approved by the administration of the TNP and the SERNAP. It is key for us to proceed with the socialization and approval of the plan we already developed for Thola Pujru until the permits are obtained. Thus, the other communities will see that the TNP administration and the SERNAP have in fact changed its policy.

*Indicator 3. Governance and social organizations (including gender equity) and their capacities for sustainable development are strengthened.*

Through our activities we are strengthening the recently reactivated OGC. We are also actively encouraging the participation of female leaders. The outstanding women that have key leading roles in the project area are: Silvia Vargas (Laphia community), Judith Vasquez (Thola Pujru community) and Norah Fernandez (Totora community). Among these persons, Silvia Vargas has an outstanding position. She was elected as subalcaldesa for this district of the Tiquipaya municipality, and is very active our activities (meetings, workshops, reforestation campaigns, etc.). We have already established a working agenda to continue the consolidation of the OGC, and the mechanism for this governance body to communicate and coordinate with the TMG, CRG and the TNP.

*Indicator 4. A communications strategy put in place to create suitable conditions in neighbouring municipalities to replicate this project's achievements.*

We have developed the [communication strategy](#) already. From April 2022 we are starting its implementation.

*Indicator 5. A monitoring programme to evaluate biodiversity and ecosystem functions is developed and implemented in coordination with key stakeholders.*

Though with some delays, we have made some progress to achieve this indicator. A baseline database of drone images is being built. This will allow us to measure future landscape changes. Our partner Faunagua is also constructing a database of water flows for all

watersheds in the project area. This work will provide the baseline information of the ecological functions at its current state. Then key stake holders will be trained to be able to implement it in the future.

The monitoring program to evaluate biodiversity is still at its early stages of design, but progress will be achieved later this year (specially between April and July).

### **3.4 Monitoring of assumptions**

*Outcome assumption: No political crisis that potentially might interrupt the successful implementation of this project takes place in the next three years.*

Comments: As the current government is adequately managing the economy and the politics, and the Covid pandemia has been managed well (cases of covid19 have decreased significantly in Bolivia). There is no evidence of any apparent situation that could bring Bolivia back to the 2019 -2020 period, when a political crisis and the pandemia paralyzed the country.

*Output assumptions*

*Output 1 assumption: All stakeholders endorse this initiative.*

Comments: As reported here, all stakeholders agree with project activities and its proposed output and outcomes. This has been demonstrated in previous sections of this report.

*Output 2 assumption: The office of national protected areas and the Ministry of Environment and Water ([MMAyA](#)) endorse this initiative.*

Comments: The national office of protected areas (SERNAP), through its local representative, the administration of the PNP, is a project partner (we have signed an [agreement](#)). We are still working to strengthen our relationship with the Ministry of Environment and Water. In this regard, we have already had a meeting to present our project to its office in charge of these issues, the Dirección General de Biodiversidad y Areas Protegidas ([DGBAP](#)).

*Output 3 assumption: Local communities, the TNP and the Tiquipaya municipal government reach agreements.*

Comments: Given the level of commitment shown by local communities, the TNP and the TMG, it is very plausible that these stakeholders will reach all the needed agreements.

*Output 4 assumption: Key stakeholders are committed to the implementation of activities beyond the duration of this project.*

Comments: Ensuring the participation of stakeholders in long-term monitoring is challenging due to limited time-availability, limited availability of resources and personnel without proper training. Through this project we provide equipment and training to key personnel from the TMG and the TNP. We will also sign an agreement of commitment to guarantee that personnel from TMG and TNP will continue conducting monitoring activities.

*Output 5 Assumption 1: Key actors in neighbouring municipalities give us space to present the project*

It is important to highlight that we have already had meetings with the municipal governments of Quillacollo and Sacaba (two neighbouring municipalities). Though we still have to contact the two remaining municipalities (Cochabamba and Vinto), we are very confident that this assumption is valid.

*Output 5 Assumption 2: Key journalists give us space in newspapers, TV channels and other spaces.*

With the help of our partner RGC we will have access to journalists, newspapers and TV interviews.

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

Through this project we are restoring the highly degraded and fragmented forests of the southern slopes of the TNP, a Bolivian [KBA](#) in a critical state of conservation. It is especially important to restore the high Andean Kewiña forests, which are formed by the threatened tree *Polylepis subtusalbida* (*Polylepis* is a genus of trees endemic to the high Andes). Most of the

remaining Kewiña fragments formed by this species are located in this KBA and provides key habitat for numerous range-restricted bird species. Among these species is the threatened Cochabamba Mountain-Finch (also Bolivian endemic).

Since this KBA native vegetation is profoundly degraded, the ecosystem functions it provides to the valley of Cochabamba (with approximately 1 million inhabitants) are compromised (see [map](#)). These ecosystem functions are the regulation of the water cycle along the year (e.g. under current conditions abundant water flow during the rainy season and extreme drought during the dry months; see [here](#)). The peaks of water abundance in the watersheds have already caused several disasters. The most important is the mudslide of Feb 2018 that caused millionaire losses in infrastructure and human lives. Restoring the native vegetation is also important to protect the underground reservoirs of water. It is also important to highlight that circa 90% of the water consumed by the inhabitants of the Cochabamba valley comes from the TNP.

Regional leaders realized in the XX century (70s to 90s) that planting trees was important to decrease the probability of disasters (e.g. mudslides) and promoted the installation of pine/eucalyptus plantations. However, these plantations became an additional threat to the native forests, and definitively do not offer suitable habitat for the local threatened biodiversity. As the administration of the TNP did not allow local communities (that existed way before the establishment of this protected area) to make use of these plantations, local communities became an important actor that is against the protected area. Through this project we aim to promote the sustainable management of the plantations of exotic trees by local communities. Thus, family economies in these communities will diversify and become more resilient (rural communities are the poorer families).

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

Through this project we aim to help Bolivia achieve the COP 14 (Egypt, 17-29 November 2018) decision 14/5 (Biodiversity and Climate Change) that aims to implement ecosystem-based approaches to climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction. Through the restoration of native forests, carbon fixation will increase, soil will be restored and protected, and the risk of landslides will be reduced, protecting families living in areas vulnerable to landslides (e.g. the parts of Tiquipaya municipality).

Through this project we are also aiming to contribute to the Goals for Sustainable Development as explained below:

SDG 1 (No poverty). Resilience to environmental, economic and social disasters will be built for at least four local communities within Tunari National Park. This will be achieved through improving the sustainable use of natural resources within their territories and creating local capacity to develop sustainable development projects.

SDG 5 (Gender Equality). Through activities designed to develop and strengthen leadership in local communities, we will make sure to include the participation of at least 50% of women. Thus, women in these communities will take more active roles in community decision making.

SDG 10 (Reduced inequalities). Incomes of families in at least four communities will diversify and increase thanks to the sustainable forestry management to be developed and implemented through this project. As these communities are among the poorest, we aim to reduce income inequalities.

SDG 13 (Climate Action). Through this project, we aim to strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related disasters and promote the development of local capacities for climate change-related planning and management.

The focal point for most treaties is the Vice-minister of Environment, Biodiversity, Climate Change and Forestry Development. We have already contacted this authority and presented the project. We aiming to present project progress at least once each year.

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

The prohibition of forestry management of exotic trees (pine and eucalyptus) is an important source of conflict between the park administration and communities (when plantations were established with community participation, local people were promised access to this resource).

The development of the forestry management plan and its implementation will help build bridges between these stakeholders. Through this project we will help five communities (Cruzani, Laphia, Linkupata, Thola Pujru and Totorá that together sum approximately 200 families) to develop sustainable forestry management plan. Thus, these communities will diversify their economies. To measure the impact of the project we are currently developing a socioeconomic baseline information.

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

As stated in our proposal, decision-making in Bolivian indigenous communities is traditionally the role of men. Though some progress has been achieved to foster the women as leaders in Bolivia, and some degree of success has been achieved, the balance of male – female leaders in indigenous communities is far from equal. During this period of project implementation, we have identified three key women that are natural leaders. These women are: Silvia Vargas, Judith Vasquez and Norah Fernandez. We will continue strengthening their capacities as leaders. Moreover, we will continue looking for more female leader among the youngest generations.

## **7. Monitoring and evaluation**

As an internal mechanism of project progress, the members of the core team (Armonía) meet once every week (Mondays) to report the progress achieved during the last week, evaluate the progress made toward each output, and discuss what activities to implement during the next week. We also have monthly meetings with project partners (Faunagua, TNP & TMG). During these meetings we report about the progress achieved, and also evaluate the next activities to be implemented in order to achieve the proposed outputs. During this period of project implementation representatives of TNP and TMG are not always present (40% to 50% of attendance rate). Therefore, in order to keep them informed we opted to have more frequent person to person meetings.

The M&E we developed for each project output is explained and discussed below:

**1) Reforestation programme.** From April 2022, we keep track of saplings development through monthly reports, allowing us to know in advance the amount of saplings production to be planted during the reforestation seasons. Reforested areas are mapped; thus, we will be able to show the location of these areas. We have developed a monitoring plan to keep track of saplings survival during the first years. We are also building a monitoring program for long-term landscape changes (drone images).

**2) Local communities' economies strengthened and improved (5%).** A baseline study implemented at the project start will generate information of the socioeconomic conditions in local communities. The survey study is been implemented and will be concluded by late April. Members from local communities are participating in the surveys.

**3) Governance and capacity building.** The monitoring of progress in governance takes place through a close follow-up of workshops and meetings. We wanted to document progress achieved in a minute book that will be signed by representatives of all stakeholders. However, leaders refused to sign the minute book. We are now simply compiling minutes.

**4) Communication and dissemination.** To evaluate changes in opinion, perception and knowledge of people over the Tunari National Park, we conducted surveys across the valley of Cochabamba, especially in Cochabamba municipality (the most populated municipality). We will repeat the survey twice each year and compare the results.

**5) Monitoring of biodiversity and ecosystem functions.** Permanent plots are established right after the conclusion of each reforestation season, and the survival rate of saplings planted between Dec and Mar of each year is measured between May and July (dry season). This monitoring will be conducted for the first years (up to 10). For later changes we will compare high resolution drone images. During this period of project implementation, we started to build a baseline databank of high-resolution drone images. We are still developing the monitoring protocol to keep track of biodiversity changes in the long term. Ecosystem services will be monitored in three ways: we will calculate the effect of project interventions on water retention, infiltration and water runoff, using a standardized methodology (Soil Conservation Service SCS-CN). Results from meteorological and gauge stations will be used to feed existing



datasets and adjust results of water runoff models. Landslide risk will be evaluated periodically using approaches optimized by the Regional Department of River Basins (SDCGAD Cochabamba). To the date, we have acquired the needed and started taking the measurements.

## **8. Lessons learnt**

The most relevant lesson learnt so far is that longer period of time is required to coordinate activities with project partners that are public institutions (TMG, RGC and TNP). Bureaucratic procedures simply take longer than we thought.

Some processes with local communities also took longer than expected. Most communities chose new leaders right before the start of the project, and we had to update new leaders and cultivate a relationship with them. Communities choose new leaders every two years. So, it is important for us to create relationships with as much members from the communities. Especially those with a high leadership profile. For this purpose, we attend the monthly communities' meetings.

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

Since this is the first report that we present, it does not apply to us to fill out this section

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

Nothing to report here

## **11. Sustainability and legacy**

Here we are reporting the first 6 months of project implementation (project is 2 years long). During this time, we clearly saw high interest of partners and local communities in training and capacity building. We have even identified key persons who (we think) will soon become leaders and we are encouraging their participation in project training workshops.

As mentioned in our proposal, all documents produced through the project (socioeconomic surveys, monitoring protocols, etc.) will be shared with project partners in paper and digital. Later in 2022 we will create a section in our website where these documents will be available to be downloaded.

## **12. Darwin identity**

The first step we made was to create project banners that contain the logos of all donors (see [here](#) and [here](#)). This material is displayed in all events we attend (see [here](#)). Likewise, we created informative material about the project where donor logos are also displayed (see [here](#) and [here](#)).

Project personnel always wear a uniform that display the logo of Darwin (as project supporter) and Armonía's logo (see [here](#)). We built a supporting team that help us with surveys and other activities. Members of this team also wear an uniform when conducting project's activities (see [here](#)).

Usually in our first interactions with stakeholders we give a brief introduction about who our support come from. Consequently, most stakeholders are aware of Darwin Initiative support.

Finally, Armonía does have accounts of Twitter, Instagram and Facebook. However, we will recently start to intensify communications about our project progress

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

100% of our team received vaccines as programmed, and with the project support, we acquired protection and sanitary equipment/material. We count with a safety protocol and strictly follow it. Thus, we minimize risks for project personnel, partners and especially local communities. Thanks to the preventive measures we take, we have not experienced an impact of covid19 over our activities so far.

## 14. Safeguarding

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

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

Armonía has developed in 2020 a safeguard policy that is approved by its board. An English copy of Armonía's safeguard policy can be downloaded [here](#)

## 15. Project expenditure

Please expand and complete Table 1. If all receipts have not yet been received, please provide indicative figures and clearly mark them as Draft. The Actual claim form will be taken as the final accounting for funds.

**Table 1: Project expenditure during the reporting period (1 April 2021 – 31 March 2022)**

Project spend (indicative) since last Annual Report	2021/22 Grant (£)	2021/22 Total Darwin Costs (£)	Variance %	Comments (please explain significant variances)
Staff costs (see below)	████████	████████	██	Part of project personnel started activities in Nov and Dec 2021 and not Oct 2021, as originally planned
Consultancy costs	████████	████████	██	Global Forest Generation contribution to the project allowed us to spend less than projected during this period of implementation.
Overhead Costs	████████	████████	██	
Travel and subsistence	████████	████████	██	During this period a high proportion of meetings/workshops took place in installations of the Tiquipaya municipal government (community members came here from their communities). This will change in coming periods of project implementation
Operating Costs	████████	████████	██	
Capital items (see below)	████████	████████	██	
Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E)	█	█		This item is included in other budget items (e.g. travel & subsistence and operative costs)
Others (see below)	████████	████████	██	GFG contribution to the project was higher than expected. Therefore we spent

				less than projected. However, we will send a change request to allocate part of this item to others that are important for the project
<b>TOTAL</b>				

Highlight any agreed changes to the budget and **fully** explain any variation in expenditure where this is +/- 10% of the budget. Have these changes been discussed with and approved by Darwin?

**16. OPTIONAL: Outstanding achievements of your project during the reporting period (300-400 words maximum). This section may be used for publicity purposes**

I 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).

- During the last reforestation season (December to March) we planted 140,080 saplings of native trees. This is 10,800 more saplings than originally proposed. Thanks to the additional support we obtained from Global Forest Generation (through its program Acción Andina) we will plant at least 200,000 saplings of native trees (70,000 saplings more than we originally proposed).
- The reforestation program has already become part of the watershed management plan of Tiquipaya municipality. We expected this to happen during the second year of project implementation.

## 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?	Yes
<b>Is the report less than 10MB?</b> If so, please email to <a href="mailto:Darwin-Projects@itsi.co.uk">Darwin-Projects@itsi.co.uk</a> putting the project number in the Subject line.	Yes
<b>Is your report more than 10MB?</b> If so, please discuss with <a href="mailto:Darwin-Projects@itsi.co.uk">Darwin-Projects@itsi.co.uk</a> about the best way to deliver the report, putting the project number in the Subject line.	No
<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.	Yes
<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.	Yes. All material is digital
Have you involved your partners in preparation of the report and named the main contributors?	Yes
Have you completed the Project Expenditure table fully?	Yes
Do not include claim forms or other communications with this report.	