Darwin Initiative Main: Annual Report

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

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

Submission Deadline: 30th April 2023

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Darwin Initiative Project Information

Project reference	28-028
Project title	Pairing community conservation areas with sustainable aquaculture in Lake Victoria
Country/ies	Kenya
Lead Partner	Conservation International Foundation
Project partner(s)	FFI, Pathfinder International, Victory Farms LLC
Darwin Initiative grant value	£399,454.00
Start/end dates of project	1 October 2021 – 30 June 2024
Reporting period (e.g. Apr 2022 – Mar 2023) and number (e.g. Annual Report 1, 2, 3)	1 April 2022 – 30 March 2023; Annual Report 2
Project Leader name	Leonard Akwany
Project website/blog/social media	https://www.conservation.org/projects/conservation-international-ventures-llc/community-conservation-in-lake-victoria
Report author(s) and date	Leonard Akwany, Zachary Wells, Mary Emily Farnsworth (2 May, 2023)

1. Project summary

Lake Victoria, a global biodiversity hotspot, historically supported more than 400 fish species.[1] It is the **second most productive inland fishery globally**, whose annual catch of up to 800,000 tonnes has a total annual value of $USD 600 million.[2] Livelihoods of around **four million people** are tied to the lake's fishery value chain, but the export of fish leaves lake communities' food and nutrition insecure.[3]

[1]Sayer, C.A., Máiz-Tomé, L. and Darwall, W.R.T. 2018. Freshwater biodiversity in the Lake Victoria Basin: Guidance for species conservation, site protection, climate resilience and sustainable livelihoods. Cambridge, UK and Gland, Switzerland: IUCN. xiv +226pp. https://portals.iucn.org/library/node/47642

[2]LVFO. 2007. LVFO Regional plan of action for the management of fishing capacity in Lake Victoria. Jinja, Uganda, LVFO. Available online at: http://www.fao.org/tempref/FI/DOCUMENT/IPOAS/regional/lakevictoria/RPOACapacity.pdf

[3] Ainsworth, R., Cowx, I.G. and Funge-Smith, S.J. 2021. A review of major river basins and large lakes relevant to inland fisheries. FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Circular No. 1170. Rome, FAO. Rome, FAO. Available online at: https://doi.org/10.4060/cb2827en

Twenty percent of all aquatic lake species assessed are **threatened with extinction**.[4] Overfishing, illegal and unregulated fishing, economic needs, introduced species, littoral wetland loss, climate change, and land-based pollution threaten native fish.[5] Fisherfolk are increasingly exploiting small pelagic species and intensifying fishing effort, with impacts on native fish populations and livelihoods. **Weak transnational lake governance** also impedes effective fishery management.

Cage-based aquaculture is emerging as a promising source of regional food security and economic development among individuals, communities, and enterprises, but it brings risks including: i) added pollution; ii) disease introduction; iii) competition from escapees; iv) encroachment into spawning grounds, fishing routes, and landing sites; v) territorial conflicts; and vi) exploitation of the wild fisheries for feed.[6] **Lack of zoning and best practices** for aquaculture's responsible expansion and lack of clear mechanisms for conserving freshwater ecosystems by aquaculture companies are putting the lake at risk.[7] Fisherfolk communities have traditional ecological knowledge of fish breeding grounds, but **protection of those areas is constrained** due to ineffective governance structures at all levels (county, sub-county, and Beach Management Unit (BMU)), limited incentives, disenfranchised BMU leadership, insufficient resources (e.g. patrol boats, personnel, monitoring tools) – all of which have limited community-level stewardship of Lake Victoria's native fish, and specifically of key fish breeding areas.[8]

To mitigate this, the project is engaging with the fisherfolk community, civil society, and an aquaculture company to develop sustainably financed and incentive-based **community conservation areas (CCAs)** alongside responsible aquaculture. Specifically, we explore how an aquaculture out-grower model that includes community participation in enhanced livelihoods (cage aquaculture and potentially irrigated farming and ponds) can be leveraged alongside other incentives to catalyze the creation and sustained management of fringing wetlands and nearshore areas that serve as fish breeding grounds. While this project cannot solve the problem of weak transnational governance, input to the Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization (LVFO) provides that regional institution with argumentation for enhanced conservation activities.

The project is being implemented in Homa Bay County, Kenya in the area of Sindo, previously identified as a priority for a lake-wide network of aquatic protected areas.[9] The project works with the BMUs of two communities - Roo and Ukula - that have existing agreements with the aquaculture company Victory Farms to participate in a community development program.

[4] Sayer et al. 2018

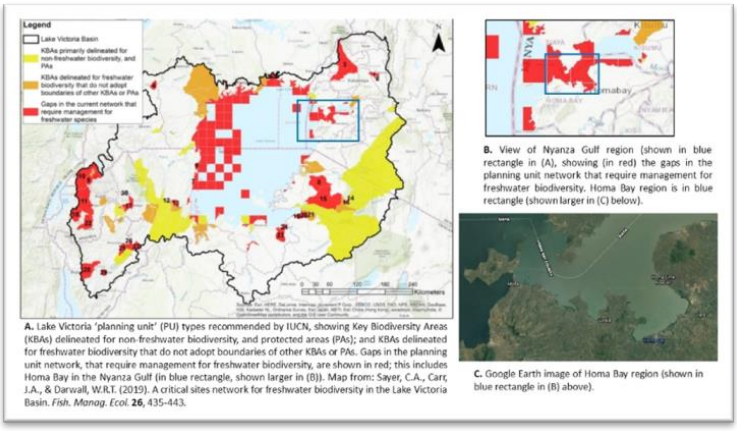
[5] Ainsworth et al. 2001

[6] Musinguzi, L., Lugya, J., Rwezawula, P., Kamya, A., Nuwahereza, C., Halafo, J., … & Osinde, R. 2019. The extent of cage aquaculture, adherence to best practices and reflections for sustainable aquaculture on African inland waters. Journal of Great Lakes Research, 45(6), 1340-1347. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jglr.2019.09.011

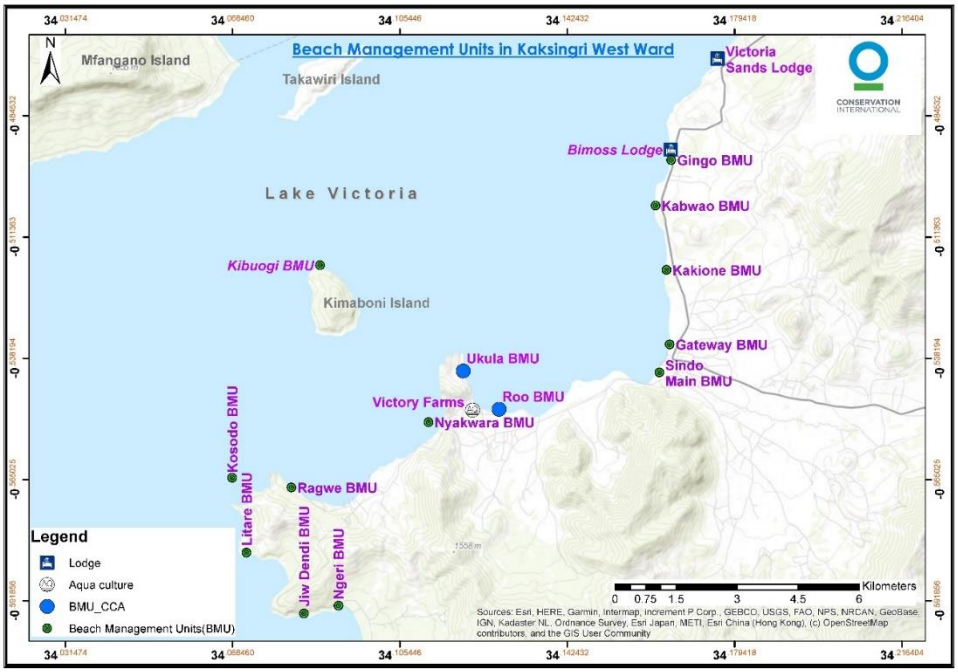
[7] Orina PS., Ogello E., Kembenya E., Githukia C., Musa S., Ombwa V., Mwainge VM., Abwao J., Ondiba RN and Okechi JK. 2018. State of cage culture in Lake Victoria, Kenya. Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute. Available online at: https://repository.maseno.ac.ke/bitstream/handle/123456789/2258/STATEOFCAGECULTUREformail%20%281%29.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y

[8] Ainsworth et al. 2021

[9] Sayer et al. 2019



Map 1: Project area, showing gaps in the IUCN planning unit network that require management for freshwater biodiversity.



Map 2: Location of BMUs in project region, with two target BMUs highlighted

2. Project stakeholders/ partners

Conservation International continues to work in partnership with Fauna and Flora International (FFI), Pathfinder International, and Victory Farms Ltd. to deliver this project.

Victory Farms' original out-grower model, which included the establishment of environmental protection zones, served as the genesis of the idea of combining responsible aquaculture, sustainable inland fisheries, and conservation. The project continues to work with two community-level BMUs that have an existing partnership with Victory Farms. The two BMUs sit along a portion of Lake Victoria's coastline identified for its high aquatic biodiversity values. Victoria Farms convened local BMU Council, composed of 10 BMUs continues to be critical for scaling the project to additional neighbouring BMUs and currently consultation on wider initiative for establishment of CCAs and re-introduction of native tilapia among 14 BMUs of Sindo Bay is ongoing.

FFI and Pathfinder International were both brought into this project as partners for their relevant expertise and continue to contribute to the project in impactful ways. FFI undertook a similar Darwin-funded project to establish terrestrial community conservation areas in lakeside areas in

Uganda. Pathfinder International brings its expertise in gender and its experience undertaking a project with Homa Bay BMUs that included protecting fish breeding areas. Both partners have provided inputs to the design of community engagements, and they have assisted in facilitation of in-person community workshops. **Pathfinder International** is equally involved in training fisherfolk women on entrepreneurship and village saving and loaning, networking with micro-financing institutions and organizing learning exchange for women self-help groups.

Each of the project partners experienced internal staff changes working on the project during the period, which was approved through a Change Request form submitted by CI. The CI project lead has worked closely with the partner organizations during these transitions to ensure a productive transition in the work and alignment among all partners.

The partnership continues to be operationalised through **periodic joint and bilateral meetings** for the purposes of planning activities and their implementation, firming up technical approaches, developing baseline dialogues and survey tools, and sharpening indicators. The partnership implementation leads identified in year 1 from each partner organization continue to meet regularly and join in the field for project activity implementation. During the past year, the partnership has created a **WhatsApp Field Team Platform** for sharing, updating and communicating on project implementation matters. This platform involves CI, FFI, Pathfinder International, Victory Farms, Kenya Fisheries Service, Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute, Homabay County Government Fisheries Office, BMU Council and County Government BMUs Liaison Office. The partnership achievements during this period include firming baseline dialogues information, training communities on CCA monitoring and surveillance, leadership, governance, and resource mobilization, women entrepreneurship, village saving and loaning, self-help group organization and learning exchange. The partnership has also defined the CCA incentives package with the fisherfolk communities and integrated learning from community conservation area case studies from Uganda and a conservancies model from Laikipia in Kenya.

The project continues to involve **other relevant local institutions,** which has been a dynamic contribution to the project in the past year. The Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute (KMFRI) ahve assisted to develop guidance for collaboration between aquaculture and capture fisheries. The Kenya Fisheries Service (KeFS) and Homabay County Fisheries Office at the Suba-South Division, Kaksingiri West Ward level have facilitated inclusion of the BMUs agenda within sub-sector development at both national and county government levels and supporting training on CCA monitoring, surveillance and community triggered process of gazetting CCAs. They also support consultations on anchoring CCAs in freshwater ecosystems in national laws and policies. Further, CI, through the Darwin Project Leader, is now a member of the National Ramsar Committee coordinated by Kenya Wildlife Service, which in turn is the focal point of Ramsar Convention. CI has participated in developing the National Ramsar Report including the Ramsar Site Information Sheet and is directly feeding relevant project information into the Ramsar reporting process. CI continues to remain in contact with the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) through the Ministry of Environment and associated agency of National Environment and Management Authority for engagement and sharing results that will advance the Kenyan government's commitment to the CBD conventions. CI is engaging the LVFO as an entry point for sharing models of CCAs and responsible aquaculture in the Lake Victoria region; specifically, this has been done through consultation for the best practices guidance and aquatic CCAs white paper outlines.

The project's relationship with broader BMU networks for the purposes of ultimately **scaling the CCA approach via adoption by other communities** continues to be nurtured through participation in BMU Council monthly meetings. CI is also engaging with the County Government CEC office, County Government BMUs Liaison Office, National BMU Network, the Homabay County BMU Network, Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute and Victory Farms for a wider initiative of establishing CCAs and re-introducing native fish species specifically, native Tilapia or *Oreochromis esculentus* through wild collection in satellite water bodies and local

breeding. Further, a partnership was developed with **Women Enterprise Fund (WEF) and Wanawake Wavuvu (WAWA-Kenya)** for women's enterprise training, financing, empowerment and learning exchange.

The project team is actively also engaging the **UK High Commission in Kenya** and is planning site visits to take place early in the following reporting period.

3. Project progress

3.1 Progress in carrying out project Activities

Output 1: Management and monitoring frameworks for each of the two CCAs, developed through participatory processes, are finalized and being implemented by BMUs:

- **Output 1, Activity 1.1**: With each community, facilitate a draft delineation of CCA boundaries and goals for the CCA, using a combination of species/ecological data/knowledge and community knowledge/preferences.

  On 15 September 2022, Conservation International (CI) facilitated a focused participatory discussion with 24 Roo village riparian farmers (16 males, 8 females) who operate within the proposed riparian portion of the Community Conservation Areas (CCAs). An agreement was reached to designate a 30-meter riparian buffer area for the CCAs, to benefit soil and water conservation, as well as the fish breeding areas. CI will be exploring a solar irrigation system for watering the farms away from riparian areas, as well as other practices of integrated conservation or regenerative agriculture. Since the Ukula riparian area is not currently being farmed, CI will explore restoration practices through active and passive regeneration interventions for a 30-meter riparian zone as well.

- **Output 1, Activity 1.2:** Conduct a set of dialogues with communities on rights, identity, and gender, possibly separate for men/women, to lay the foundation for participatory planning and visioning.

  CI conducted outreach between 19-22 July 2022, to verify the findings of previous baseline dialogues and surveys by gathering information on income levels, potential CCA sites, and gender dynamics.

  CI also undertook additional outreach to the Beach Management Unit (BMU) assembly focused on increasing awareness of the necessity of CCAs for protecting the lake's native fish species and sustaining the fishery's productivity. This outreach, held in the Roo and Ukula villages, was attended by 102 participants (64 males, 38 females) and was held between 1-25 August 2022.

  From 12-15 September 2022, CI conducted focus group discussions with women in the two partner communities of Roo and Ukula on gender-related empowerment issues and needed interventions. The women confirmed that the jaboya culture (the practice of exchanging sex-for-fish) is still prevalent and highlighted the low female representation within the BMU leadership. They voiced a need for training on business management and leadership, access to capital, empowerment, and the establishment of local financing mechanisms, such as group savings and loan associations.

- **Output 1, Activity 1.3:** Conduct participatory and gender-focused design and negotiation of CCA agreements, including community commitments, incentives to be provided, monitoring frameworks for compliance, and outcomes.

  CI facilitated participatory discussions with community 69 members in total (47 males, 22 females) focused on the incentives required for the establishment of the CCAs. Requests included: training on leadership and governance, business development and management; support for cage aquaculture through capital for small businesses; linkages with affordable financiers like the Women Enterprise Fund and the National Government

Affirmative Action Fund; group savings and loans; provision of legal fishing nets, boats, and life jackets; beach bathrooms and toilets; portable/drinking water; and provision of omena drying structures to reduce post-harvest losses. These requests have been appraised as project incentives packages and formed integral component of draft Conservation Agreement (see Draft Conservation Agreements attached, Annex 4.1a & 4.1b).

Consultations by CI with the BMUs and community members has led to the outlining of community commitments towards functional CCAs. These consultations took place from 29 August-2 September 2022 and the commitments included: designation of the CCA sites, demarcation, surveillance and monitoring, and local mobilization and awareness-building on the CCAs.

- **Output 1, Activity 1.4:** Finalize CCA boundaries with communities as part of the management framework and map using GIS.

  CI facilitated sessions with the two BMUs and community members (including men, women, and young people) from 14-15 September 2022, which were focused on CCA by-laws. Topics included designation of areas, access, and penalties. This resulted into development of site conservation plan for the Ukula and Roo CCAs (see attached Draft Site Conservation Plan, Annex 4.2)

  The CCAs have been mapped and demarcated in terms of riparian, fish breeding and right fishing zones. The Roo and Ukula CCAs totals to 1,137 ha (Roo, 807 and Ukula, 330) (See the attached map, Annex 4.4) (this activity also contributes to Output 1, Activity 1.9, referenced below).

- **Output 1, Activity 1.5:** Measure baseline biodiversity indicators at CCA locations

  In collaboration with the Kenya Marine Fisheries and Research Institute (KMFRI), from 6-10 June 2022, CI conducted a second and more in-depth limnological and fish species survey, to establish baseline ecological information for impact monitoring and evaluation. Outputs include clarifying indicators and earmarking potential fish breeding sites.

- **Output 1, Activity 1.7:** Establish representative CCA governing/management groups, with regularly scheduled meetings.

  From 12-15 September 2022, CI consulted with the BMUs on CCA management and governance needs. Identified needs included: an expanded patrol subcommittee to provide surveillance and monitoring to the CCA; incorporation of other stakeholders beyond the BMUs, such as farmers, local authorities, and County and National Government agencies; and awareness-raising among neighbouring BMUs for compliance.

- **Output 1, Activity 1.8:** Train BMUs in resource mobilization (e.g. via county integrated development plans), organizational management, and citizen science monitoring of CCAs.

  With the BMUs, CI undertook a training needs assessment from 25 July-1 August 2022. The following training topics were agreed upon: leadership, group savings and loans, business practices, fundraising/resource mobilization, CCA surveillance and monitoring, and BMU governance. As a result of the topics that were identified with the BMUs, CI is now developing basic training manuals to deliver these trainings through participatory workshops.

  Training on CCA surveillance and monitoring undertaken covering biological, physical and human activities indicators, transect sampling, GPS, data recording and protocols and citizen science monitoring approach. 37 participants, including 29 males and 8 females, were trained under Patrol Committee responsible for Monitoring, Control and Surveillance. The training resulted in a monitoring protocol sheet to be used for Citizen

Science Monitoring and capturing biophysical and human activities related elements, which will be shared during the upcoming reporting period.

- **Output 1, Activity 1.9:** Implement CCA agreements (demarcation, enforcement).

  As mentioned above under Activity 1.4, the CCAs have been mapped and demarcated in terms of riparian, fish breeding and right fishing zones. The Roo and Ukula CCAs totals to 1,137 ha (Roo, 807 and Ukula, 330).

Output 2: Sustainable financing plans for each of the two CCAs are developed to enable the CCAs' persistence beyond the life of the project:

- **Output 2, Activity 2.1:** Conduct desktop research and stakeholder interviews to develop possible sustainable financing mechanisms for managing and enforcing CCAs

  CI has undertaken a desktop review on sustainable financing approaches, such as devolved funds, trust funds and impact investing. The desktop review and consultations with BMUs and key stakeholders availed the following financing options:
  - Private finance such as impact and corporate investors
  - Public finance
  - Development Funders/Donors finance.

  Further analysis has uncovered the following specific needs/options:
  - The need to enhance existing BMU funding options such as BMUs annual registration fees, BMU non-members/Other BMUs landing fees, hiring of BMU assets such as hall, boats etc. and apply to Homabay Beach Management SACCOs for minimal interest loans.
  - Lobby and advocate for more allocation of fisheries conservation and development funds in County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP) under devolved funds for County Government.
  - Likewise tap on women, youth and Uwezo funds.
  - Lobby and advocate for more fund for ministry of blue economy and tap for zero interest loans from Kenya Fisheries Trust Fund.
  - Establish CCAs Trust fund and tap on blended financing from impact investing, private and public financing and development/Conservation Funders and NGOs.

  The first outline draft of sustainable financing plan was shared with BMUs and is undergoing review before ratification and acceptance.

- **Output 2, Activity 2.4:** As needed, conduct initial financial literacy training with relevant community members to lay the foundation for implementation of the plans.

  A training on leadership, governance, organizational management, gender mainstreaming, advocacy, resource mobilization and financial literacy was conducted for the two BMUs from 1st-2nd February 2023. A total of 60 participants were trained, including 34 men and 26 women.

  A Women's Financial Literacy Training focused on women enterprises, group saving, and loaning, was undertaken from 30th-31st January 2023, where a total of 45 women were trained. Follow-up training was provided for four self-help groups, covering the following modules, including: developing a budget, keeping daily budget records, and credit/debit management. The training also included a collaboration with Women Enterprise Fund (WEF), in preparation for income generating activities livelihoods funding which will become available to female community members through this fund.

  In addition, a learning exchange with more established groups took place on 27th-28th March, 2023, focused on women empowerment and livelihood activities, such as cage

fish farming, village saving and loaning. The exchange was organized in collaboration with Wanawake Wavuvi (WA-WA KENYA). (See Annex 4.5 Women-led Enterprises Training & Learning Exchange).

Output 3: Best practices and opportunities for collaborative conservation between aquaculture enterprises and communities are generated.

- **Output 3, Activity 3.1:** Develop draft guidance for influencing the broader sustainable aquaculture sector to support CCAs as a step towards achieving new positive impact.

The project is utilizing Victory Farms cage aquaculture as case study in documenting best practices and opportunities for responsible aquaculture and collaborative conservation between aquaculture enterprises and fisherfolk communities. This is augmented by consultations with BMUs, Kenya Fisheries Service, Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute and Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization. This has resulted into development of outline thematic areas to detail for best practices including:

- Concessions Management/Cage Sighting
- BMU Council
- Benefits Sharing Agreements/Corporate Social Responsibility
- Wastes Management Circular Economy
- Environmental Safeguards/Water Quality/Biosecurity/Escapees
- Social Safeguards

Finally, the best practices and opportunities can only be secured while operating under critical principles such as Circular Economy, Environmental and Social Safeguards, Biorights.

Output 4: A foundation is laid for strengthening, via fisheries policy and governance, enabling conditions for the establishment, enforcement, and resourcing of aquatic CCAs.

- **Output 4, Activity 4.1:** Develop draft white paper with recommendations for strengthening, via fisheries policy and governance, enabling conditions for the establishment, enforcement, and resourcing of aquatic CCAs.

There are ongoing consultations with grass-root, sub-national, national and regional stakeholders on aquatic CCAs regarding the following areas:

- The rationale for CCAs in Lake Victoria Fisheries Conservation
- The case studies of CCA manifestations in Lake Victoria region
- The existing gaps in policies and other governance instruments with regards to CCAs/enabling environment.
- The requisite incentives for CCAs adoption and scaling
- The fit of CCAs in new global biodiversity framework under freshwater biodiversity protection and other conservation areas.

The consultations have involved BMUs, BMUs network, County Governments, Kenya Fisheries Service, Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute, Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization.
These consultations have developed thematic areas outline for detailing in the white paper, which we will drafted in the upcoming reporting period. Equally proposed additional stakeholders to be outreached.

3.2 Progress towards project Outputs

Progress towards project Outputs

Output 1: Management and monitoring frameworks for each of the two CCAs, developed through participatory processes, are finalized and being implemented by BMUs

Substantial progress has been made towards Output 1 and there is a high likelihood that the output will be achieved by project end. Although not all aspects of Output 1 were able to be reached in year 2 of project implementation, outlined below is the significant progress that has been made.

Written management and monitoring plans for the two CCA sites were completed during the implementation period, including conservation plans, including science-based monitoring and surveillance protocols (Indicator 1.1). The plans have been made available to community members. Conservation Agreements have been drafted, detailing Conservation Actions, Benefit Package, Monitoring and Sanctions, as a part of the community's formal commitments to implement and enforce the CCAs and will be finalized at the beginning of the next reporting period (Indicator 1.2). The two CCAs have been mapped and demarcated in terms of riparian, fish breeding and right fishing zones with Roo and Ukula area measuring 807ha and 330 ha respectively, bringing 1,137 ha under CCA (Indicator 1.3). The designed multi-stakeholder and governance structure for CCAs include BMUs, as well as other user groups such as farmers, Kenya Fisheries Service, County Government Fisheries, Local Administration, Victory Farms and the BMU Council is established and has a regular meeting schedule (Indicator 1.4).

In addition, the following incentives were formalized and implemented during the reporting period, including a Women's Financial Literacy Training, focused on group savings and leading to the creation of self-help savings and loaning groups, linkages with the Women Enterprise Fund, and a learning exchange on alternative livelihoods (Indicator 1.5). Although the Conservation Agreements have not yet been signed, it is anticipated that this these will be signed early in the next reporting period (June 2023).

Output 2: Sustainable financing plans for each of the two CCAs are developed to enable the CCAs' persistence beyond the life of the project

CI has undertaken a desktop review on sustainable financing approaches, such as devolved funds, trust funds and impact investing. The desktop review and consultations with BMUs and key stakeholders availed the following financing options;

Private finance such as impact and corporate investors
Public finance
Development Funders/Donors finance

The need to enhance existing BMU funding options such as BMUs annual registration fees, BMU non-members/Other BMUs landing fees, Hire of BMU assets such as hall, Boats etc. Equally tap on Homabay Beach Management SACCOs for less-interest charges loans. Lobby and advocate for more allocation of fisheries conservation and development funds in County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP) under devolved funds for County Government. Likewise apply for the National Government affirmative action funds such as women, youth and Uwezo funds. Likewise, lobby and advocate for more fund for ministry of blue economy and tap for zero interest loans from Kenya Fisheries Trust Fund.

Equally establish CCAs Trust fund and tap on blended financing from impact investing, private and public financing and development/Conservation Funders and NGOs. The first outline draft of sustainable financing plan was shared with BMUs and is undergoing review (Indicator 2. 1).

Output 3: Best practices and opportunities for collaborative conservation between aquaculture enterprises and communities are generated.

This output is appraised through development of a guidance document on collaborative establishment of CCAs with BMUs and dissemination of the same in East Africa Community targeting aquaculture sub-sector. The project is tapping on Victory Farms cage aquaculture as

case study in documenting best practices and opportunities for responsible aquaculture and collaborative conservation between aquaculture enterprises and fisherfolk communities. This is augmented by consultations with BMUs, Kenya Fisheries Service, Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute, Aquaculture Associations and Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization.

This has resulted into the development of an Outline of thematic areas to detail for best practices and opportunities, which includes;

- Concessions Management/Cage Sighting
- BMU Council
- Benefits Sharing Agreements/Corporate Social Responsibility
- Wastes Management Circular Economy
- Environmental Safeguards/Water Quality/Biosecurity/Escapees
- Social Safeguards

Finally, the best practices and opportunities can only be secured while operating under critical principles such as Circular Economy, Environmental and Social Safeguards and Bio rights (Indicator 3.1).

Output 4: A foundation is laid for strengthening, via fisheries policy and governance, enabling conditions for the establishment, enforcement, and resourcing of aquatic CCAs

This output is appraised through development of a white paper on aquatic CCAs and dissemination of the same in East Africa Community. There are ongoing consultations with grass-root, sub-national, national and regional stakeholders on aquatic CCAs in regards to the following areas;

- The rationale for CCAs in Lake Victoria Fisheries Conservation
- The case studies of CCA manifestations in Lake Victoria region
- The existing gaps in policies and other governance instruments with regards to CCAs/enabling environment.
- The requisite incentives for CCAs adoption and scaling
- The fit of CCAs in new global biodiversity framework under freshwater biodiversity protection and other conservation areas.

The consultations have involved BMUs, BMUs network, County Governments, Kenya Fisheries Service, Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute, Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization. These consultations have developed thematic areas outline for detailing in the white paper (Indicator 4.1), which will be produced in the upcoming year of project implementation. Equally proposed additional stakeholders to be outreached.

3.3 Progress towards the project Outcome

Progress towards the project Outcome

The four outputs are designed to generate the outcome that **native fish species are protected by two communities via an incentive-driven model that will deliver livelihood improvements for 2,000 women, men, and youth and will be scalable across Lake Victoria**. Reasonable outcome indicators progress has been made as detailed below:

In terms of formal protection, by the first quarter of financial year 2, two CCAs of an estimated combined size of 1000 hectares are to have been delineated (see target). Two CCA sites have been identified, mapped and demarcated at Roo and Ukula and zoned as follows: riparian zones, core fish breeding zones and right fishing zones. Roo CCA is 807 ha and Ukula is 330 ha totalling to 1137 ha.

By the project end, encroachment of illegal fishing into CCAs will be reduced from baseline conditions. Communities have reported 2 incidences of illegal fishing methods and gears per month especially Beach Seine, representing a decline from historical data which showed 4-6 daily incidences of rampant illegal activity. Despite the decrease in reported incidences, fisheries officers and researchers report that the use of illegal nets and associated incidences of illegal fishing are going up. This inconsistency will be resolved through joint monitoring and surveillance coordinated by BMU Council.

By the project end, limnological measures within established CCAs will show stabilization or improvement from baseline conditions. The following baseline parameters have been measured: water physico-chemical parameters (dissolved oxygen, temperature, pH, conductivity, and turbidity), phytoplankton communities, zooplankton, macrobenthos and native fish species. The in-depth baseline surveys were undertaken in June 2022, and this has formed the basis of periodic monitoring by BMUs through citizen science and a developed community monitoring protocol (see Annex 4.3 - Second Species and Limnological Study Report).

By the project end, population numbers of target freshwater fish species in CCAs will have improved from baseline conditions. Baseline surveys of fish species have been undertaken, identifying the presence of native Ngege species and several haplochromine species. Further in-depth fish species surveys was undertaken in June 2022, and this has firmed baseline fish species population data and formed the basis of monitoring.

By the project end, incomes reported semi-annually for half of employable adults and youth in the two communities will show statistically significant increases. Our project has outreached 600 households resulting into impacting of 2400 people. The baseline income levels of targeted fisherfolk communities have been documented and formed the basis of monitoring.

By the midway point of the project, at least 75% of men, women, and youth over the age of 18 of all participating households will feel their voices are heard and represented in processes of CCA planning and management. The baseline dialogues and surveys identified all common interest and user groups to be involved in the CCA planning and management. These included men, women, youth, persons with disabilities, farmers, and fisherpersons. This has formed the basis of monitoring.

By the end of the project, annual incidences of sexual exploitation as a result of ‘sex for fish’ will show a statistically significant decrease from baseline conditions. The baseline dialogues and surveys indicated *jaboya* is prevalent in the target BMUs.

One year and six months into the implementation of the project, those indicators are still considered adequate for measuring progress against the outcome. We are confident in the project’s ability to deliver on activities and associated indicators. We have progressed reasonable and secured outcome progress in terms of CCAs areas, foundation for increased household income through training and allocated incentives and strong grass-root management and stewardship for delivery on fish species population increase.

3.4 Monitoring of assumptions

Risks and assumptions identified during the project proposal phase still largely hold true.

Assumption	Status
Men and women in two communities are active and involved in project activities and receive co-benefits.	This remains valid as men and women have been actively participating in our consultative meetings, trainings on various themes, mapping and demarcation, design of commitments and incentives, development of CCAs site

	conservation and monitoring plans among other engagements. Participants in our herein stated engagements were full house as indicated herein and included men, women, youth and persons with disability drawn from various user and interest groups. We witness the same on receiving co-benefits, for instance, our training on women enterprises attracted 45 women and leadership, governance and resource mobilization attracted 60 persons (46 are males, 14 females).
CCAs can be effectively enforced, especially from fishing pressures from outside the communities.	This remains valid with enforcement through joint patrols by BMUs, Kenya Fisheries Service and County Government Fisheries Office. Public education, awareness and consultations have been undertaken to meet constitutional threshold of public participation and Grievance Redress mechanism (GRM) made an integral part of Conservation Agreement.
Fish populations respond to CCAs within project timeframe	This remains valid and informed by fish life cycle science. This result should be attainable within the project lifespan assuming strict adherence to CCAs' restrictions.
National elections in riparian countries during project lifetime will not lead to changed mandates around Lake Victoria fisheries and economic development	This remains valid as strong indications are towards proactive and positive government involvement in improvement of the blue economy through strengthening the enabling environment and triggering investment flow into the sub-sector.
Women gain enough alternative income so as not to need to buy from fisherfolk who demand sex for fish, and they are willing to report sex-for-fish incidents.	Alternative livelihoods and economic empowerment of women were identified during the baseline dialogues and surveys as critical for reducing sexual exploitation of women through sex-for-fish culture. Several alternative income sources were proposed, including value addition to fish products, post-harvest losses avoidance measures, savings and loans, trainings, and alternative livelihoods. The training on women enterprise, financial literacy, village saving and loaning, linkage with women enterprise fund and learning exchange with more established self-help women groups stands a chance to actualize women economic empowerment through income generating activities and availed capital access. It is yet to be seen if this assumption will hold true, considering the drastic change this would require in relation to livelihoods practices and financial security of the women.
Communities choose to establish aquatic or riparian CCAs as a result of the participatory development process	This remains valid as fisherfolk communities voluntarily participated in the identification of CCAs, detailing the significance and requisite commitments from them during the baseline dialogues and surveys. Likewise in trainings, CCAs mapping and demarcation and detailing of Conservation Agreements.

The opportunity costs of CCA establishment can be compensated for with viable incentives	This remains valid as indicative incentives were identified during the fisherfolk communities' outreach and baseline dialogues and surveys.
Communities are able to come to consensus within the expected timeframe	This remains valid
A viable enforcement mechanism for CCAs can be designed and successfully implemented.	This remains valid
BMU officials enforce and adhere to CCA rules	This remains valid
Communities trust BMUs as implementing bodies for CCAs	This remains valid
COVID will not prevent community meetings	This remains valid
Sustainable financing options can be identified, with equitable benefits for men and women.	This remains valid
Community members are motivated to participate in sustainable financing solutions (e.g. outgrower model, microcredit finance mechanisms).	This remains valid
The collaborative conservation model between aquaculture enterprises and communities shows near-term success	This remains valid
A critical mass of aquaculture companies (and associated communities) operating in Lake Victoria and the greater East Africa region are committed to or interested in sustainability, including development of CCAs	This remains to be seen, as many aquaculture players are entering Lake Victoria and there is a lack of transparency and accountability among some of them.
The LVFO remains an effective bridging institution for influencing each country's fisheries ministries	This remains valid
Conflict among the three riparian countries regarding lake fisheries management hasn't escalated, and there are enough shared interests for a single white paper to be useful	This remains valid

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

Impact: achievement of positive impact on biodiversity and poverty alleviation

The impact that the project is designed to achieve is the restoration of Lake Victoria fish biodiversity and linked wild capture fisheries alongside the expansion of responsible aquaculture, with well-being benefits for riparian and regional communities.

The implemented project activities have built strong foundation for aforementioned overarching impact. These include establishment of 1,137 ha CCAs in Roo and Ukula for positive biodiversity improvement through restoration of a thriving capture fisheries population, including endangered fish species. The developed site conservation plans for the CCAs, capacity building of Beach Management Units patrol sub-committees on monitoring, control and surveillance through citizen

science approach and the second in-depth biodiversity baseline study has laid strong foundation for positive impact on biodiversity.

The training on women enterprises, leadership, governance and resource mobilization, linkage with women enterprise fund will provide progressive leadership, requisite business acumen and kick-start capital for economic empowerment and poverty alleviation. The social capital built through re-organizing and training of women self-help groups on saving for conservation through village saving and loaning will help in gender empowerment and poverty alleviation among marginalised target women population. The incentive packages, as detailed in the conservation agreements, which include alternative livelihood options, will result in poverty alleviation. The sustainable finance plan will provide blended financing options for securing CCAs and triggering sustainable development.

4. Project support to the Conventions, Treaties or Agreements

The project continues to contribute to national policy and international biodiversity conventions, treaties and agreements, as outlined below.

Specifically, the project contributes to the newly created targets of **Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity** Framework under Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). The creation and management of CCAs to protect fish breeding sites will contribute to **Target 3**, by conserving areas of importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services through effectively and equitably managed “other effective area-based conservation measures.” Consultations between project staff and representatives of the two target communities have laid the foundation for the establishment of CCAs, which will take the form of Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures (OECMs). Community members have acknowledged the need to protect fish breeding sites and have identified the challenges of effectively doing so given current resources.

First coarse and second in-depth baseline studies commissioned as a complement to this project and funded by a separate source has confirmed the presence in the project area of endangered fish species of (*Oreochromis esculentus, Oreochromis variabilis* and *Labeo victorianus*) and several haplochromine species are also present. Thus, once established, the CCAs should contribute to **Target 4**, through improving the conservation status of threatened species. By restricting fishing access to the breeding areas of fish that are harvested, the CCAs will also contribute to **Target 5 and 9**, through applying an ecosystem-based approach to the sustainable management of fish stocks. These fish constitute critical natural capital for vulnerable communities, and so the CCAs will also contribute to **Target 2 and 1**, by safeguarding ecosystems that provide essential services. Facilitated discussions with communities around appropriate and relevant incentives for establishing and adhering to the CCAs have been undertaken through participatory consultative outreach (Activity 1.3) and baseline dialogues and surveys (Activity 1.6); this process is contributing to **Target 11**, related to positive incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

This project is also generating guidance for sustainable aquaculture, and as such will contribute to **Target 10**, focused on the sustainable management of aquaculture to ensure biodiversity conservation. The guidance has been partly drafted, based on parallel processes being undertaken through complementary projects.

The project is equally relevant to **Target 5** calls for the sustainable harvesting of wild species; **Target 9** is focused on ensuring that the benefits of food security are achieved through the sustainable management of wild species of fauna; and **Target 10 and 15** addresses the sustainability and resilience of biodiversity and sustainable patterns of production in managed ecosystems, including aquaculture practices. The project is also relevant to **Target 22 and 23** by enabling gender equality through gender responsive approach for equal opportunity, capacity, and participation in prevailing gender-based violence and patriarchal fisherfolk communities. This

is undertaken through economic strengthening and leadership training for active participation of women in male dominated fisheries co-management structures. Equally **Target 21** on knowledge-based governance and participatory management of freshwater biodiversity. Additionally, **Target 19** for increased financial resources through blended financing as detailed in our sustainable finance plans for the CCAs.

The project continues to align with the **Ramsar Convention**'s mission for "the conservation and wise use of all wetlands through local and national actions and international cooperation, as a contribution towards achieving sustainable development throughout the world." It addresses goal 3.12 of the Convention's 2016-24 Strategic Plan to achieve "enhanced sustainability of key sectors such as water … aquaculture and fisheries, when they affect wetlands, contributing to biodiversity conservation and human livelihoods."

Following the engagement during year 1 of the project of CI with the **Ramsar and the CBD conventions** in the Kenyan Ministry of Environment and, associated agencies of the Kenya Wildlife Service and National Environment Management, CI is now member of National Working Committee on Ramsar and participates in updating Ramsar Sites Information Sheet for COP15 and advancing wetlands agenda in Kenya. CI's project lead presented a summary of the project at the Ramsar Centre for Eastern Africa 3rd Governing Council meeting, held 4-5 August 2022 in Nakuru, Kenya (see Annex 4.7). This meeting was attended by the Ramsar Convention Focal Points and associated agencies from Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania and Burundi. The meeting provided an opportunity to reconnect with the Ramsar Focal Point in Kenya for reporting of the project results towards Kenya's national commitment to the Ramsar Convention, and for linking with the Africa Senior Advisor to the Ramsar Secretariat. The meeting was attended by 29 participants and the presentation and photos from the event can be shared upon request.

5. Project support to poverty reduction

Kenya is a lower-middle-income country. However, the distribution of household wealth is unequal, and according to the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics, in 2018 Homa Bay County was 34th out of 47 counties in terms of GDP per capita.[10] Within fishing communities, there continues to be an **uneven distribution of wealth**, with women being affected disproportionately by poverty due to their lack of economic empowerment and lower status.[11] In our baseline dialogues and surveys that involved 128 persons from the two fisherfolk communities of Roo and Ukula, 49% of the participants reported incomes of only 500-5000 KES per month; 32% reported incomes of 5000-6000 per month , and 19% reported incomes above 10,000 KES per month. There are income disparities among boat owners, crew members, and fish mongers, with boat owners earning the most.

During the past year of implementation, there were further interventions aimed at creating lasting impact on poverty reduction, notably a Women's Financial Literacy Training on enterprises, the creation of savings and loaning groups, linkages with the Women Enterprise Fund on qualifications for interest free loans, and a learning exchange on alternative income generating activities. The project remains hopeful that through these initiatives and activities, the impact and reduction of vulnerability for women in the community will be lessened (Project Outcome, Indicator 0.5)

Several other activities were also undertaken which indirectly contribute to the reduction of poverty, including: designation of 1137 ha of CCAs in the two communities, 30 metres riparian

[10] Kenya National Bureau of Statistics. List of counties of Kenya by GDP (2017). Available online at: https://www.nyongesasande.com/list-of-counties-of-kenya-by-gdp/.

[11] Lwenya, C. A; Lwenya, K.R.; Abila, Richard O.; Omwega, R. (2006). Gender participation in fisheries management of Lake Victoria, Kenya. In: Odada, Eric & Olago, Daniel O. (Ed.) Proceedings of the 11th World Lakes Conference: vol. 2. p. 266-272.

area, trainings on citizen science monitoring and surveillance, training on leadership, governance, resource mobilization and advocacy, and provision of life jackets. Through these activities, fish breeding will be enhanced, and resultant fish landings will improve the livelihoods and income of the two target fisherfolk communities. This approach ensures that jointly men, women, adolescents, and people with disabilities benefit from the negotiated incentive packages. (Project Outcome, Indicators 0.1-0.7)

In addition, the sustainable finance plan, site conservation plan, and associated co-management and protection of CCAs have together placed the recovery of fishery resources on the right track in terms of benefit on improved fishery productivity, income and food security for employable men, women, and youth. (Project Outcome, Indicators 0.1-0.7))

6. Gender equality and social inclusion

As explained in the project proposal and highlighted again in last year's report, gender inequality and gender-based violence are prominent issues in the Lake Victoria communities, with environmental degradation and reduced fish catch acting as key drivers. Men continued to dominate governance and decision-making, income generation, land and property ownership, and even decisions about reproductive health. Women are often marginalized along the fisheries value chain, being relegated to roles of small-scale fish mongers and processors. The exchange of sex for fish so that women can feed their families has been well-documented. An outcome indicator for this project is the reduction of incidences of sexual exploitation because of 'sex for fish.'

During the past year of project implementation, the leadership, governance, resource mobilization and advocacy training has sensitized BMU leadership and its membership on gender responsive fisheries, co-management leadership, the need for women leadership and participation in BMU governance and decision-making, and the consequences of sex for fish on jaboya culture. This has resulted in target BMUs creating the office of a Gender Focal Person. In addition, women have become increasingly motivated to play a role in BMU leadership and have become more proactive in BMU activities.

In September 2022, CI conducted focus group discussions with women in the two partner communities of Roo and Ukula on gender-related empowerment issues and needed interventions (see Section 3, Activity 1.2). In January 2023, a Women's Financial Literacy Training took place (see Section 3, Activity 1.3 & Activity 2.4), where 45 women were trained on enterprises, group savings and loans, budgeting, and bookkeeping. This was followed by a follow-up training for four self-help groups, which delved further into the financial training. The training also included a collaboration with WEF, in preparation for income generating activities livelihoods funding which will become available to female community members through this fund.

In addition, a learning exchange with more established groups took place in March 2023, focused on women empowerment and livelihood activities, such as cage fish farming, village saving and loaning. The exchange was organized in collaboration with the organization WA-WA KENYA (see Section 3, Activity 1.3 & Activity 2.4).

This has and will continue to be very instrumental in strengthening their economic position in the household, meaning a reduction in the vulnerabilities which lead to practicing prostitution.

Please quantify the proportion of women on the Project Board[12].	There are 4 women members on the Project Implementation Committee, made up of CI and all partners (9 individuals in total). The breakdown per organization is as follows: 2 Pathfinder International, 1 Victory Farms, 1 FFI.

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

Please quantify the proportion of project partners that are led by women, or which have a senior leadership team consisting of at least 50% women[13].	The project partner organizations have varying level of female leadership, as highlighted below. Pathfinder International: The project is supported by two female senior leadership members from the US office, two female field staff in Kenya, as well as a female country representative in the Kenya office (more than 50%). FFI: The project is supported by two female senior leadership members from the UK office and one female field staff in Kenya (more than 50%). Victory Farms: The project has one female finance officer supporting the project (less than 50%).

7. Monitoring and evaluation

The M&E Plan, included in last year's report, was developed at the project outset and was refined through interactions with partners and community members during the initial period of the project, to aid joint monitoring of the indicators under the leadership of Conservation International. It has continued to guide the project in the monitoring of activities throughout the implementation period.

Community dialogues, surveys, and species and limnological studies have been undertaken to detail the baseline conditions of social, economic, biological and physical indicators providing the foundation for monitoring change over the project lifespan. The project outcome is that native fish species are protected by two communities via an incentive-driven model that will deliver livelihood improvements for 2,000 women, men, and youth and will be scalable across Lake Victoria. The outcome is designed to reflect and respond to impacts that are expected to be generated by the project outputs and activities. Because the livelihood improvements will be both direct and indirect across the two communities, it is possible that observed improvements may not be wholly attributable to the project. At the same time, external forces (e.g. climate change-related water level fluctuations) could lead to negative impacts on livelihoods that the project would be unable to counteract.

The project activities including training, consultative meetings, mapping and demarcation of CCAs, design of incentives packages consider all interest groups (men, women, youth, minorities and people with disabilities) and are recorded in registration lists, which are categorised in terms of gender, livelihoods and role in the BMU or community. Community members will continue to be engaged in numerous ways, including through their production of citizen science for monitoring biodiversity indicators. Additionally, government officials from Kenya Fisheries Service, Homabay County Government Fisheries Office and Kenya and Marine Research Institute have been successfully engaged, which will be important for the outcome's sustainability and scalability.

The logframe and workplan have continued to guide internal monitoring of project progress and ensuring that activities stay on track.

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

8. Lessons learnt

The project continues to learn and improve, benefiting from each partner leading and providing technical support in their areas of expertise, such as gender empowerment, best practice in CCAs creation, and undertaking biophysical baseline surveys.

Building local network of state and non-state actors continues to create goodwill and legitimacy about the project and its mandate. Working through common interest groups such as fisherfolk, farmers, women, youth under the overall BMU leadership has greatly supported in the resolution of conflicting issues (for example working with famers group has resulted into agreeing on restoration of riparian zone) and undertaking specific interventions (such as designation and mapping of CCAs and consensus on designation of 30 metres riparian areas). Therefore, a significant lesson learnt is the importance of partnerships, local networking, inclusive public participation and use of both scientific and local knowledge, to add the project in reaching its outcomes and objectives.

We are documenting significant stories and best practices and will disseminate this information to enhance learning and inform future plans.

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

The following comments were received and addressed, based on the 2022 Annual Report Review:

Review Comments & Queries	**Response/Action Taken**
It would be useful if the project timeline could be revised to take account of operational realities	Please see an updated Project Implementation Timeline, included as Annex 4.8 of this report.
Smarten the logframe Indicators by adding targets for changes from the measured baseline where these are not stated. (The M&E plan already includes targets for most of these indicators – only 0.4 and 1.5 are without)	The indicators and associated targets have been elaborated in the updated M&E Plan (see Annex 4.9), in particular, 0.4 and 1.5.
Consider developing a project webpage / website	A project webpage has been created, please see: Community conservation in Lake Victoria
More detailed/technical supporting evidence should be annexed with subsequent annual reports. (e.g. reports from baseline consultations; feedback reports from training events). These are best kept as separate documents (preferably hyperlinked from the report for ease of Reviewer access) rather than consolidated in a single document	The supporting evidence, in terms of technical reports, have been provided with this report. The partners have collectively contributed towards addressing this request through their provision of supporting evidence for implementation milestones.

10. Risk Management

The project has not encountered any new risks in the last 12 months and has therefore not needed to make any significant adaptations to the project design.

The project will begin working to create a risk register, according to the Darwin Initiative provided template, to assist the project in continuing our close monitoring of risks going forward, especially as the project is approaching the final months and year of implementation.

11. Other comments on progress not covered elsewhere

The project continues to engage in community outreaches with the 14 BMUs situated in Sindo Bay of Kaksingiri West Ward, which is well-beyond the target 2 BMUs. The aim is to proactively nurture and establish networks for scaling of CCA model through adoption by other BMUs. The project has worked to equally sensitize all impacting BMUs for wider compliance of protection regime prevailing in already established CCAs.

The project continues to offer refuge grounds in the CCAs for the release of native tilapia (Oreochromis esculentus) in a wider collaboration with KEMFRI, Victory Farms and Homabay County Government Blue Economy/Fisheries Department.

In collaboration with KEMFRI, the project has undertaken a more in-depth study with a rigorous appraisal of the water physico-chemical parameters (DO, temperature, pH, conductivity, and turbidity), phytoplankton communities, zooplankton, macrobenthos, and fish species presence/absence (see Annex 4.3 Second Species and Limnological Study Report)

12. Sustainability and legacy

Our sustainability approach has been geared towards proactive involvement and participation of appropriate government agencies and local institutions, such as Kenya Fisheries Service, County Government Fisheries Office, Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute, County BMU Network, and the BMU Council. They have been actively involved in project activities planning and implementation as a way of continuity of the project mandate, which is in sync with various agencies mandates. CI has equally sought to share project milestones and significant stories with a broader network through various communication channels such as social media and the fisheries and wetlands multi-stakeholders' platforms, as a way to highlight the work of the project.

The training and capacity building of BMUs and associated local institutions, sustainable financing plan, facilitation of replication and wider adoption of our model, will be captured through a white paper and guidance document, which will help to ensure a sustained legacy. Capacity building of sub-committee on monitoring and surveillance has provided adequate skills and knowledge on monitoring and surveillance of CCAs, which the project anticipates will continue beyond the project period. Our project interventions such as training, CCAs designation, mapping and demarcation, sustainable finance plans development have involved fisherfolk communities and local stakeholders in both planning and implementation, hence resulting in on-going capacity building. Our site conservation plans and prioritised interventions provide a concrete roadmap for joint action beyond project period and can be supported by both state and non-state development partners.

13. Darwin Initiative identity

The project continues to utilize the developed communication plan to publicise the project activities, milestones and Darwin Initiative. We have used Darwin Initiative Logo in Football Uniforms used by Ukula Youth Team in Homabay County Football League.

In addition, the project's webpage recognizes support received from UK Government through Darwin Initiative facility.

Understanding Darwin Initiative as funder of our project has been communicated in our workshops, BMU community assembly consultation forum, and outreaches such as national wetlands committee and Eastern Africa Ramsar Centre meetings. Equally in international conferences such as the Oslo Conference on Environmental Law (see Annex 4.6).

14. Safeguarding

In early 2023, CI rolled out a new institutional safeguard system (the CI Safeguard System, CISS), to expand upon the support available to staff and partners through providing policies, standards, procedures, and guidance to ensure projects are effective, efficient, and equitable. To promote human rights, the CISS works to reduce equity gaps, promote gender equality, and improve social and environmental sustainability.

Has your Safeguarding Policy been updated in the past 12 months?	No, the policy remains consistent with the previously provided policy

Have any concerns been investigated in the past 12 months	No, there have not been any safeguard concerns raised to-date
Does your project have a Safeguarding focal point?	Yes, Elijah Toirai, [redacted]
Has the focal point attended any formal training in the last 12 months?	Yes, the focal point has received training on the new CI Safeguard System during the past year
What proportion (and number) of project staff have received formal training on Safeguarding?	Past: 55% (6/11) [CI Project staff (2); Pathfinder International project staff (2),Victory Farms Project staff(2)] Planned: an additional 27% [FFI Project staff will soon be completing an organization wide Safeguards Training (3)]
Has there been any lessons learnt or challenges on Safeguarding in the past 12 months? Please ensure no sensitive data is included within responses. There have been no challenges or instances to report on Safeguarding during the reporting period.	
Does the project have any developments or activities planned around Safeguarding in the coming 12 months? If so, please specify. The project does not currently have any specific activities planned around Safeguarding for the upcoming reporting period. As a part of the role out of the new CI Safeguard System, CI will ensure that the if any challenges arise related to safeguards within this project, they are appropriately addressed, utilising this new system of support.	

15. Project expenditure

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

Project spend (indicative) since last Annual Report	2022/23 Grant (£)	2022/23 Total Darwin Costs (£)	Variance %	Comments (please explain significant variances)
Staff costs (see below)	[redacted]			
Consultancy costs				
Overhead Costs				
Travel and subsistence				
Operating Costs				
Capital items (see below)				
Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E)				
Others (see below)				
TOTAL	**163,26**	**129,478.7**		

**Total costs for 2022-2023 should be considered as draft since pending financial information from the partners will be received after the deadline for the submission of this technical progress report.*

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

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

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

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).

The mobilization of Ukula and Roo BMUs to establish 1,137 ha Community Conservation Areas is critical for restoration, protection and conservation of freshwater biodiversity as they qualify as other effective area-based conservation measure (OECM) and advances newly adopted Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework under Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). Additionally, the CCA area will be critical in improving the fishery livelihood of fisherfolk communities involved in terms of improving the fish stock. See Ukula and Roo BMUs CCAs map attached, Annex 4.4)

File Type (Image / Video / Graphic)	**File Name or File Location**	**Caption, country and credit**	**Online accounts to be tagged (leave blank if none)**	**Consent of subjects received (delete as necessary)**
Ukula BMU CCA Map	Ukula CCA	Ukula Community Conservation Area, Kenya, CI		**Yes** / No
Roo BMU CCA Map	Roo CCA	Roo Community Conservation Area,Kenya, CI		**Yes** / No

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
Impact Lake Victoria fish biodiversity and linked wild capture fisheries will be restored alongside the expansion of responsible aquaculture, with well-being benefits for riparian and regional communities.		The establishment of 1,137 ha functional CCAs composed of riparian zones, fish breeding zones and right fishing zones has laid the foundation for restoration of capture fisheries. Implementation of incentives such as training on alternative sources of income and livelihoods for men, women, youth and persons with disabilities, including linkage for income generating activities capital is in the right direction for generating a positive impact on poverty alleviation.	[redacted]
Outcome Native fish species are protected by two communities via an incentive-driven model that will deliver livelihood improvements for 2,000 women, men, and youth and will be scalable across Lake Victoria.	0.1 By the first quarter of financial year 2, two community conservation areas (CCAs) of an estimated combined size of 1000 hectares are delineated. 0.2 By the project end, encroachment of illegal fishing into CCAs will be reduced from baseline conditions. 0.3 By the project end, limnological measures within established CCAs will show stabilization or improvement from baseline conditions.	0.1 Two CCAs at Roo and Ukula measuring 1,137 ha in total have been established. 0.2 CCA illegal fishing monitoring scheme and associated protocol was developed. 0.3 The following baseline parameters have been measured in the 2nd study, in year 2: water physico-chemical parameters (DO, temperature, pH, conductivity, and turbidity), phytoplankton communities, zooplankton, macrobenthos and native fish species. 0.4 Second in-depth baseline surveys of fish species were undertaken, identifying the presence of native	0.1 Activity was undertaken in Year 2. No further actions required. 0.2 CCA illegal fishing monitoring scheme using citizen science will continue (ongoing). 0.3 CCA limnological monitoring and associated protocol developed and periodic monitoring using citizen science will continue (ongoing). 0.4 Periodic monitoring will continue using citizen science (ongoing).

	0.4. By the project end, population numbers of target freshwater fish species in CCAs will have improved from baseline conditions.	Ngege species and several haplochromine species.	
	0.5 By the project end, incomes reported semi-annually for half of employable adults and youth in the two communities show statistically significant increases from baseline conditions, with both men and women reporting an increase.	0.5 The baseline income levels of targeted fisherfolk communities have been documented through baseline dialogues and surveys and this will inform the basis of monitoring increases on income levels.	0.5 Community prioritised livelihoods-related incentives implementation through conservation agreements, which are to be finalized in the upcoming period
	0.6 By the midway point of the project, at least 75% of men, women, and youth over the age of 18 of all participating households feel their voices are heard and represented in processes of CCA planning and management.	0.6 The project team, jointly with BMU sub-committees, has operationalize the CCAs.	0.6 Involvement of participating households in processes of CCA management will continue (on-going).
	0.7 By the end of the project, annual incidences of sexual exploitation as a result of 'sex for fish' show a statistically significant decrease from baseline conditions.	0.7 The project team has trained 45 women and working with 4 women's self-help groups for implementation of identified livelihood-related incentives for women's empowerment.	0.7 The project team will continue to work with and support women's self-help groups.
Output 1. Management and monitoring frameworks for each of the two community conservation areas (CCAs), developed through participatory processes, are finalized and being implemented by BMUs.	1.1 By the end of financial year 2 of the project, written management and monitoring plans for two CCAs are complete.	1.1 Written site management and monitoring plans for two CCAs are complete and being implemented.	
	1.2 By the end of financial year 2, BMUs for each community have made formal commitments to implement and enforce the CCAs.	1.2 Two CCAs in Ukula and Roo measuring 1137 ha established	

	1.3 By the end of financial year 2, the two CCAs are physically demarcated. 1.4 By the end of financial year 2, multi-stakeholder governance and management structures for CCAs are in place and functional. 1.5 By the end of financial year 2, incentives (e.g. alternative livelihoods training, community savings groups, enhanced participation in Victory Farms' outgrower model) for each community, to foster CCA stewardship, are finalized and implemented	1.3 Two CCAs designated and mapped using GPS and associated maps produced covering riparian, fish breeding and right fishing zones. 1.4 Multi-governance and management structure composed of BMUs, farmers, local administration and local government agencies were created. 1.5 Incentives such as training and support for livelihoods (such as fishing boat for women), group saving and loaning, linkages with women enterprise fund, omena drying racks, right fishing gears have been implemented.	
Activity 1.1 With each community, facilitate a draft delineation of CCA boundaries and goals for the CCA, using a combination of species/ecological data/knowledge and community knowledge/preferences.		The project undertook several rounds of fisherfolk communities' dialogues using local consultative forums. The two BMUs were the entry point, with engagement of each BMU's executive committee, sub-committees, and assembly on identification of sites for CCAs. The indicative agreement is that CCAs will constitute the vegetated riparian zone, the core fish breeding zone, and an illegal fishing-free zone. Ngou and Roo Bay areas for Ukula and Roo were identified for CCAs and draft delineations were completed. The communities used local knowledge such as areas of no waves, calm waters, vegetated riparian areas with reeds/papyrus, and the presence of fish eggs and young fish as suitable for CCAs and fish breeding zones. The dialogues involved participation of men, women, youth, and persons with	Monitoring and Surveillance of CCAs through established citizen science monitoring and surveillance protocol.

	disabilities, representing various common interest or user groups. (See Annex 4.1a and 4.1b)	
Activity 1.2 Conduct a set of dialogues with communities on rights, identity, and gender, possibly separate for men/women, to lay the foundation for participatory planning and visioning.	Implementation plans and joint vision have been informed by baseline dialogues and periodic consultations with BMUs and other common interest groups such as farmers, youth and women self-help groups. The baseline dialogue report is in place and informing implementation and M&E in terms of baseline information.	Activity was undertaken in Year 2. No further actions required.
Activity 1.3 Conduct participatory and gender-focused design and negotiation of CCA agreements, including community commitments, incentives to be provided, monitoring frameworks for compliance, and outcomes.	Through dialogues in the form of participatory meetings and workshops, CCA Conservation Agreements have been developed. Additionally, Citizen Science Monitoring Scheme is in place through Sub-committee on Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) KeFS will reinforce compliance in collaboration with BMUs.	CCA conservation agreements draft to be finalized.
Activity 1.4 Finalize CCA boundaries with communities as part of the management framework and map using GIS.	CCA boundaries designated and mapped	Activity was undertaken in Year 2. No further actions required.
Activity 1.5 Measure baseline biodiversity indicators at CCA locations.	In-depth baseline fish and limnological surveys in Sindo Bay targeting Roo and Ukula Beach Management Units territorial waters were undertaken. This provided baseline information on native fish species and limnological conditions prevailing in the target area of the lake. The following parameters were appraised; water physico-chemical parameters (DO, temperature, pH, conductivity, and turbidity), phytoplankton communities, zooplankton, macrobenthos, and fish samples were collected in triplicates at site	Activity to measure baseline indicators was undertaken in Year 2.
Activity 1.6 Measure baseline livelihood, governance, and gender indicators at CCA locations.	The baseline dialogues and surveys undertaken generated baseline information on livelihood, governance	Activity was undertaken in Year 2. No further actions required

	and gender issues. Baseline reported completed and will inform monitoring and evaluation of the project.	
Activity 1.7 Establish representative CCA governing/management groups, with regularly scheduled meetings.	CCA governing/management group established representing BMUs, farmers, local administration and government agencies. Terms of Reference for the CCA governing and management groups drafted and validated by stakeholders through participatory workshops.	Activity was undertaken in Year 2. No further actions required
Activity 1.8 Train BMUs in resource mobilization (e.g. via county integrated development plans), organizational management, and citizen science monitoring of CCAs.	BMU training on leadership, governance, organization management and citizen science undertaken, and 60 participants trained.	Activity was undertaken in Year 2. No further actions required
Activity 1.9 Implement CCA agreements (demarcation, enforcement).	CCA conservation agreements draft in place, GPS mapping completed, monitoring and enforcement through sub-committee on monitoring control and surveillance (MCS) ongoing.	CCA Conservation Agreements to be finalized in the upcoming report period.
Activity 1.10 Twice a year (every 6 months), measure short-term realized impact through biodiversity and livelihood/gender indicators.	Second biodiversity and limnological study done, livelihoods and gender indicators captured in semi-annual progress reporting	Measurement ongoing
Activity 1.11 Conduct quarterly meetings with communities and other stakeholders to gather feedback and address concerns.	Several meetings held with BMU Executive Committees, Sub-Committees and assembly meetings held with other interest groups such as farmers in riparian areas.	Quarterly meetings ongoing
Activity 1.12 Adaptively manage CCA agreements as necessary, based on monitoring results and community feedback.	CCA Conservation Agreements Draft in place	Work on this activity is scheduled for Year 3
Activity 1.13 Write up summary report of CCA model and lessons learned.	Write-up is in progress based on lessons learnt	Work on this activity is scheduled for Year 4
Activity 1.14 Present CCA model results and summary to PMERL committee.	Detailing of CCA model results and summary are being developed	Work on this activity is scheduled for Year 4
Activity 1.15 Present CCA model results and summary to communities and to the Lake Victoria BMU Network.	The model is being detailed but outreaches on the model has been shared with BMU Council	Work on this activity is scheduled for Year 4

Output 2. Sustainable financing plans for each of the two CCAs are developed to enable the CCAs' persistence beyond the life of the project.	2.1 By the end of financial year 2, sustainable financing plans for each CCA that account for the opportunity costs of CCAs are complete. 2.2. By the end of the project, at least one financing mechanism for sustaining the CCAs is operational.	2.1 Sustainable financing plan draft for CCAs with blended financing options is in place and will be ratified by end of June 2023 2.2 Practical blended financing options will be explored in year 3	
Activity 2.1. Conduct desktop research and stakeholder interviews to develop possible sustainable financing mechanisms for managing and enforcing CCAs.		Desktop research on sustainable financing options that have been applied elsewhere was completed and informed development of sustainable financing plan for the CCAs	Activity was undertaken in Year 2. No further actions required
Activity 2.2. Present sustainable financing options to communities during quarterly meetings.		Sustainable financing options through devolved funds, national funds, private funds and BMU internal fundraising mechanisms has been shared with BMUs committees and assembly, through representative community meetings, which were held to collect input into indicative sustainable financing options	Activity was undertaken in Year 2. No further actions required
Activity 2.3 Develop sustainable finance plans for the CCAs in conjunction with communities. Disseminate plans back to communities.		Sustainable financial plan draft was developed (with communities?) and is in place.	Indicative sustainable finance plans will be disseminated for communities' input and validation
Activity 2.4. As needed, conduct initial financial literacy training with relevant community members to lay the foundation for implementation of the plans.		Financial literacy training has been given to 60 members of BMUs/fisherfolk communities and 45 members of various women groups	Activity was undertaken in Year 2. No further actions required
Activity 2.5. Identify next steps for operationalizing sustainable finance plans and, as appropriate, capture in a concept note.		Sustainable financial plan draft is in place	A detailed concept note on operationalizing the sustainable financing plans will be ratified through experts' input
Output 3. Best practices and opportunities for collaborative conservation between aquaculture enterprises and communities are generated.	3.1 By the end of the project, a guidance document targeted to the East Africa aquaculture sector on	Draft guidance for influencing the broader sustainable aquaculture sector to support CCAs as a step towards achieving net positive impact is in the early stages of development, informed in part by other aquaculture projects being undertaken in Kenya and elsewhere.	

	the collaborative establishment of CCAs with BMUs is developed. 3.2 By the end of the project, the guidance document is available to relevant stakeholders and publicized through relevant channels to increase awareness and uptake amongst the East Africa aquaculture sector.		
Activity 3.1. Develop draft guidance for influencing the broader sustainable aquaculture sector to support CCAs as a step towards achieving net positive impact.		The guidance document has been outlined in terms of thematic topics in consultation with stakeholders and sections are being populated and informed by lessons learnt	Work on this activity is scheduled for Year 3
Activity 3.2 Present draft guidance at a virtual consultative forum including aquaculture companies and county/national fisheries/aquaculture officials.		No progress to report	Work on this activity is scheduled for Year 3
Activity 3.3 Finalize and disseminate aquaculture guidance document via national-level aquaculture associations, and through identified channels such as annual events, online fora, etc.		No progress to report	Work on this activity is scheduled for Year 3
Activity 3.4. Monitor downloads of guidance document as measure of dissemination effectiveness		No progress to report	Work on this activity is scheduled for Year 3
Output 4. A foundation is laid for strengthening, via fisheries policy and governance, enabling conditions for the establishment, enforcement, and resourcing of aquatic CCAs.	4.1 By the end of the project, a white paper targeted to the Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization (LVFO) and its national-level riparian country members has been produced 4.2 By the end of the project, the white paper is presented to the LVFO and individual fishery officials and disseminated via relevant channels to increase awareness and uptake	An appraisal of supportive policies, laws, and regulations that can underpin functional CCAs is underway and is being complemented by an exploration of case studies in the Lake Victoria region. This line of inquiry has found no direct policy instrument for protecting freshwater ecosystems but provisions that exist for community conserved areas and BMU co-management of territorial waters provide regulatory anchors for the CCAs.	
Activity 4.1. Develop draft white paper with recommendations for strengthening, via fisheries policy and governance, enabling conditions for the establishment, enforcement, and resourcing of aquatic CCAs.		Research in support of this activity is ongoing, thematic topics outlined in consultation with key stakeholders	Work on this activity is scheduled for Year 3

Activity 4.2. Present draft white paper at a virtual consultative forum including the Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization, member country representatives, and select other county and national-level fishery officials.	No progress to report	Work on this activity is scheduled for Year 3
Activity 4.3. Finalize and disseminate the white paper via the Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization and through other national and lake-wide channels to be identified.	No progress to report	Work on this activity is scheduled for Year 3

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

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
Impact: Lake Victoria fish biodiversity and linked wild capture fisheries will be restored alongside the expansion of responsible aquaculture, with well-being benefits for riparian and regional communities.			
Outcome: Native fish species are protected by two communities via an incentive-driven model that will deliver livelihood improvements for 2,000 women, men, and youth and will be scalable across Lake Victoria.	0.1 By the first quarter of financial year 2, two community conservation areas (CCAs) of an estimated combined size of 1000 hectares are delineated. 0.2 By the project end, encroachment of illegal fishing into CCAs will be reduced from baseline conditions. 0.3 By the project end, limnological measures within established CCAs will show stabilization or improvement from baseline conditions. 0.4. By the project end, population numbers of target freshwater fish species in CCAs will have improved from baseline conditions. 0.5 By the project end, incomes reported semi-annually for half of employable adults and youth in the two communities show statistically significant increases from baseline conditions, with both men and women reporting an increase. 0.6 By the midway point of the project, at least 75% of men, women, and youth over the age of 18 of all	0.1 CCAs are delineated in GIS, with multiple use zoning as appropriate. 0.2 Baseline and semi-annual information synthesis from BMU monitoring of incidences of encroachment or illegal fishing 0.3 Baseline and semi-annual surveys of limnological measures (e.g. pH, temperature, BOD) in the CCAs. 0.4 Baseline and semi-annual surveys of native fish species in CCAs. 0.5 Sex disaggregated baseline and semi-annual surveys of income among adults, including questions on how additional income is spent 0.6 Baseline and quarterly surveys in association with community meetings 0.7 Baseline and quarterly surveys of women in the communities, using the. USAID Afya Pwani community gender-based violence (GBV) and intimate partner violence (IPV) screening summary tool. We will also explore health facility data generated by the Kenya government's tool called MOH 364.	Men and women in two communities are active and involved in project activities and receive co-benefits. CCAs can be effectively enforced, especially from fishing pressures from outside the communities. Fish populations respond to CCAs within project timeframe. National elections in riparian countries during project lifetime will not lead to changed mandates around Lake Victoria fisheries and economic development. Women gain enough alternative income so as not to need to buy from fisherfolk who demand sex for fish, and they are willing to report sex-for-fish incidents.

	participating households feel their voices are heard and represented in processes of CCA planning and management. 0.7 By the end of the project, annual incidences of sexual exploitation as a result of 'sex for fish' show a statistically significant decrease from baseline conditions.		
Outputs: **1**. Management and monitoring frameworks for each of the two community conservation areas (CCAs), developed through participatory processes, are finalized and being implemented by BMUs.	1.1 By the end of financial year 2 of the project, written management and monitoring plans for two CCAs are complete. 1.2 By the end of financial year 2, BMUs for each community have made formal commitments to implement and enforce the CCAs. 1.3 By the end of financial year 2, the two CCAs are physically demarcated. 1.4 By the end of financial year 2, multi-stakeholder governance and management structures for CCAs are in place and functional. 1.5 By the end of financial year 2, incentives (e.g. alternative livelihoods training, community savings groups, enhanced participation in Victory Farms' outgrower model) for each community, to foster CCA	1.1 Plans produced and available to all community members. 1.2 Written commitments made by BMU leadership. 1.3 Markers installed. 1.4 Representative CCA governing/management groups, either as part of BMUs or apart from them, are created, populated, and have a regular meeting schedule. 1.5 Conservation agreements are signed, or other incentive mechanisms are formalized.	Communities choose to establish aquatic or riparian CCAs as a result of the participatory development process. The opportunity costs of CCA establishment can be compensated for with viable incentives. Communities are able to come to consensus within the expected timeframe. A viable enforcement mechanism for CCAs can be designed and successfully implemented. BMU officials enforce and adhere to CCA rules. Communities trust BMUs as implementing bodies for CCAs. COVID will not prevent community meetings.

	stewardship, are finalized and implemented		
2. Sustainable financing plans for each of the two CCAs are developed to enable the CCAs' persistence beyond the life of the project.	2.1 By the end of financial year 2, sustainable financing plans for each CCA that account for the opportunity costs of CCAs are complete. 2.2. By the end of the project, at least one financing mechanism for sustaining the CCAs is operational.	2.1 Financing plans available and presented to community members. 2.2 Evidence of financing mechanism in place (e.g. via bank account statements).	Sustainable financing options can be identified, with equitable benefits for men and women. Community members are motivated to participate in sustainable financing solutions (e.g. outgrower model, microcredit finance mechanisms).
3. Best practices and opportunities for collaborative conservation between aquaculture enterprises and communities are generated.	3.1 By the end of the project, a guidance document targeted to the East Africa aquaculture sector on the collaborative establishment of CCAs with BMUs is developed. 3.2 By the end of the project, the guidance document is available to relevant stakeholders and publicized through relevant channels to increase awareness and uptake amongst the East Africa aquaculture sector.	3.1 Report publicly available. 3.2 Report download and distribution rate monitored.	The collaborative conservation model between aquaculture enterprises and communities shows near-term success. A critical mass of aquaculture companies (and associated communities) operating in Lake Victoria and the greater East Africa region are committed to or interested in sustainability, including development of CCAs.
4. A foundation is laid for strengthening, via fisheries policy and governance, enabling conditions for the establishment, enforcement, and resourcing of aquatic CCAs.	4.1 By the end of the project, a white paper targeted to the Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization (LVFO) and its national-level riparian country members has been produced 4.2 By the end of the project, the white paper is presented to the LVFO and individual fishery officials and disseminated via relevant channels to increase awareness and uptake.	4.1. White paper available online and in hard copy. 4.2. White paper download and distribution rate monitored; presentation made to LVFO.	The LVFO remains an effective bridging institution for influencing each country's fisheries ministries. Conflict among the three riparian countries regarding lake fisheries management hasn't escalated, and there are enough shared interests for a single white paper to be useful.

Activities

1.1 With each community, facilitate a draft delineation of CCA boundaries and goals for the CCA, using a combination of species/ecological data/knowledge and community knowledge/preferences.
1.2 Conduct a set of dialogues with communities on rights, identity, and gender, possibly separate for men/women, to lay the foundation for participatory planning and visioning.
1.3 Conduct participatory and gender-focused design and negotiation of CCA agreements, including community commitments, incentives to be provided, monitoring frameworks for compliance, and outcomes.
1.4 Finalize CCA boundaries with communities as part of the management framework and map using GIS.
1.5 Measure baseline biodiversity indicators at CCA locations.
1.6 Measure baseline livelihood, governance, and gender indicators at CCA locations.
1.7 Establish representative CCA governing/management groups, with regularly scheduled meetings.
1.8 Train BMUs in resource mobilization (eg via county integrated development plans), organizational management, and citizen science monitoring of CCAs
1.9 Implement CCA agreements (demarcation, enforcement).
1.10 Twice a year (every 6 months), measure short-term realized impact through biodiversity and livelihood/gender indicators.
1.11 Conduct quarterly meetings with communities and other stakeholders to gather feedback and address concerns.
1.12 Adaptively manage CCA agreements as necessary, based on monitoring results and community feedback.
1.13 Write up summary report of CCA model and lessons learned.
1.14 Present CCA model results and summary to PMERL committee.
1.15 Present CCA model results and summary to communities and to the Lake Victoria BMU Network.
2.1 Conduct desktop research and stakeholder interviews to develop possible sustainable financing mechanisms for managing and enforcing CCAs.
2.2 Present sustainable financing options to communities during quarterly meetings.
2.3 Develop sustainable finance plans for the CCAs in conjunction with communities. Disseminate plans back to communities.
2.4 As needed, conduct initial financial literacy training with relevant community members to lay the foundation for implementation of the plans.
2.5 Identify next steps for operationalizing sustainable finance plans and, as appropriate, capture in a concept note.
3.1 Develop draft guidance for influencing the broader sustainable aquaculture sector to support CCAs as a step towards achieving net positive impact.
3.2. Present draft guidance at a virtual consultative forum including aquaculture companies and county/national fisheries/aquaculture officials.
3.3 Finalize and disseminate aquaculture guidance document via national-level aquaculture associations, and through identified channels such as annual events, online fora, etc.
3.4 Monitor downloads of guidance document as measure of dissemination effectiveness
4.1 Develop draft white paper with recommendations for strengthening, via fisheries policy and governance, enabling conditions for the establishment, enforcement, and resourcing of aquatic CCAs.
4.2 Present draft white paper at a virtual consultative forum including the Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization, member country representatives, and select other county and national-level fishery officials.
4.3 Finalize and disseminate the white paper via the Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization and through other national and lake-wide channels to be identified.
4.4 Monitor downloads of white paper as a measure of dissemination effectiveness.

Annex 3: Standard Indicators

Table 1 Project Standard Indicators

DI Indicator number	Name of indicator using original wording	Name of Indicator after adjusting wording to align with DI Standard Indicators	Units	Disaggregation	Year 1 Total	Year 2 Total	Year 3 Total	Total to date	Total planned during the project
E.g. DI-A01	E.g. People who attended training on CBD Reporting Standards	E.g. Number of officials from national Department of Environment who attended training on CBD Reporting Standards	People	Men	20			20	60
E.g. DI-C17	E.g. Articles published by members of the project team	E.g. Number of unique papers published in peer reviewed journals	Number	None	1			1	4
DI-B01	Number of new/improved habitat management plans available and endorsed	1.1 By the end of financial year 2 of the project, written management and monitoring plans for two CCAs are complete.	Number	None	0	2	0	2	2
DI-B04	Number of new/improved sustainable livelihoods/ poverty reduction management plans available and endorsed*.	2.1 By the end of financial year 2, sustainable financing plans for each CCA that account for the opportunity costs of CCAs are complete	Number	None	0	0	2	2	2
DI-B05	Number of people with increased participation in local communities / local management organisations (i.e., participation in Governance/citizen engagement)	0.6 By the midway point of the project, at least 75% of men, women, and youth over the age of 18 of all participating households feel their voices are heard and represented in processes of CCA planning and management	Number	Gender	0	283	284		567
DI-C01	Number of best practice guides and knowledge products published and endorsed	3.1 By the end of the project, a guidance document targeted to the East Africa aquaculture sector on the collaborative establishment of CCAs with BMUs is developed	Number	None	0	0	1	0	1

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-D01	Hectares of habitat under sustainable management practices	0.1. By the first quarter of financial year 2, two community conservation areas (CCAs) of an estimated combined size of 1000 hectares are delineated	Ha	None	0	1137	0	1137	1000
DI-A10	Proportion sustainable livelihood enterprises established that are functioning at project end (at least a year after establishment).	0.5 By the project end, incomes reported semi-annually for half of employable adults and youth in the two communities show statistically significant increases from baseline conditions, with both men and women reporting an increase	Proportion	None	0				50%
DI-B09	Number of individuals / households reporting a decrease in unsustainable practices as a result of project activities	0.2 By the project end, encroachment of illegal fishing into CCAs will be reduced from baseline conditions.	Number	Gender	0		1134	1134	2000
DI-B10	Number of individuals / households reporting an adoption of livelihood improvement practices as a result of project activities	1.5 By the end of financial year 2, incentives (e.g. alternative livelihoods training, community savings groups, enhanced participation in Victory Farms' outgrower model) for each community, to foster CCA stewardship are finalized and implemented	Number	Gender	0		1134	1134	2000
DI-C19	Number of other publications produced	4.1 By the end of the project, a white paper targeted to the Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization (LVFO) and its national-level riparian country members has been produced	Number	None	0	0	1	0	1

Table 2 Publications

Title	Type (e.g. journals, manual, CDs)	Detail (authors, year)	Gender of Lead Author	Nationality of Lead Author	Publishers (name, city)	Available from (e.g. weblink or publisher if not available online)

Checklist for submission

	Check
Different reporting templates have different questions, and it is important you use the correct one. Have you checked you have used the **correct template** (checking fund, type of report (i.e. Annual or Final), and year) and **deleted the blue guidance text** before submission?	X
Is the report less than 10MB? If so, please email to BCF-Reports@niras.com putting the project number in the Subject line.	
Is your report more than 10MB? If so, please discuss with BCF-Reports@niras.com about the best way to deliver the report, putting the project number in the Subject line.	X
Have you included means of verification? You should not submit every project document, but the main outputs and a selection of the others would strengthen the report.	X
Do you have hard copies of material you need to submit with the report? If so, please make this clear in the covering email and ensure all material is marked with the project number. However, we would expect that most material will now be electronic.	
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Have you involved your partners in preparation of the report and named the main contributors	X
Have you completed the Project Expenditure table fully?	X
Do not include claim forms or other communications with this report.	