

Darwin Initiative Main: Annual Report

To be completed with reference to the "Project Reporting Information Note":

(<https://www.darwininitiative.org.uk/resources/information-notes/>)

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

Submission Deadline: 30th April 2024

Submit to: BCF-Reports@niras.com including your project ref in the subject line

Darwin Initiative Project Information

Project reference	29-013 / DIR28S2\1074
Project title	An integrated approach to protecting wildlife from poisoning in Mara-Serengeti
Country/ies	Kenya and Tanzania
Lead Partner	BirdLife International
Project partner(s)	Nature Kenya and Nature Tanzania
Darwin Initiative grant value	£522,480.00
Start/end dates of project	1 June 2022 – 31 March 2025
Reporting period (e.g. Apr 2023 – Mar 2024) and number (e.g. Annual Report 1, 2, 3)	1 April 2023 – 31 March 2024 (Annual report 2)
Project Leader name	Fadzai Matsvimbo
Project website/blog/social media	www.birdlife.org/africa
Report author(s) and date	[REDACTED] April 2024

1. Project summary

The Mara-Serengeti landscape is a crucial area for vultures in Africa, but they face threats from human-wildlife conflict and use of their body parts in traditional medicine. The project aims to reduce wildlife poisoning and improve livelihoods by working with communities on both sides of the Mara-Serengeti transboundary area. Retaliatory poisoning against predators is widespread, with vultures often becoming unintended victims. The capture and poisoning of vultures for use in traditional medicine is also a major threat. The project will address these factors through community engagement and awareness-building, while also providing alternative livelihood options, recognising that poisoning is, in part, driven by livelihood needs, such as loss of livestock and the income that can be derived from selling vulture parts for belief-based use. (Annex 47).

2. Project stakeholders/ partners

This project is being implemented by BirdLife International in partnership with Nature Kenya (NK) and Nature Tanzania (NT), both of which are part of the BirdLife International (BirdLife) Partnership (27 national Partners in Africa). BirdLife is responsible for project coordination, with national Partners responsible for implementation on the ground.

Peer to peer lesson sharing was conducted during the reporting period where Nature Tanzania visited Kenya to learn about the vulture conservation efforts in Masai Mara by Nature Kenya (Annex 2).

In Tanzania, Nature Tanzania is collaborating with Makao Wildlife Management Area (WMA) in terms of project oversight and consultation and in the capacity building for a Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) to wildlife poisoning incidents, where the Makao WMA Village Game Scouts are monitoring poisoning incidents in the landscape and trained to respond (Annex 3). Engaging with local stakeholders is a core component of the project, for example, both NK and NT conducted community training aimed at building capacity on nature friendly enterprises to improve their livelihoods and reduce pressure on the environment. (Annex 10, Annex 12). Engagement with other NGOs and government ministries active on vulture conservation has been essential and complementary. For example, the development of the Vulture Action Plans in both Kenya and Tanzania illustrates this excellently. Most of these are described in section 3.

3. Project progress

3.1 Progress in carrying out project Activities

During the reporting period, implementing partners carried out activities according to the project outputs as outlined here and in the logframe.

1.1.1: Nature Kenya conducted feedback forums in 19 villages located within the two focal areas in Masai Mara, reaching out to 617 people (270 men and 347 women), validating challenges faced by local communities and identifying solutions that link sustainable livelihood practices and use of natural resources, specifically Human Wildlife Conflict (HWC) and poisoning captured originally identified in the baseline study in year one (Annex 1)

1.1.2: Conducted in year 1, and baselines were established and reported in year 1

1.1.3 This will be carried out at the end of the project.

1.2.1: This activity was completed and reported in year 1.

1.2.2 This will be carried out at the end of the project.

1.3.1: Building on activity in Year 1, BirdLife International supported to Nature Tanzania by providing guidance and advice to ensure that the wildlife poisoning monitoring in Makao WMA was well-designed (Annex 3)

1.3.2: Nature Kenya conducted feedback forums in 19 villages in Masai Mara where 617 participants (270 men and 347 women) were engaged focusing on addressing human-wildlife conflict and poisoning issues identified in the baseline study (Annex 1)

1.4.1: In addition to the site-specific plans made in year 1 in Kenya, Nature Kenya supported the process of developing a national Vulture Multi Species Conservation and Recovery Action Plan which includes the proposed vulture conservation models (Annex 4). With support from BirdLife International, Nature Tanzania developed a vulture conservation model (Annex 6), that accommodates and summarizes various levels of intervention and the relevant approaches for enhancing vulture conservation in Makao WMA, Tanzania like community engagement and reducing the use of vulture parts for belief-based use. Nature Tanzania also supported the development of its Vulture Conservation and Management Plan for Tanzania (Annex 5)

1.5.1: During the reporting period, Nature Kenya conducted a vulture survey in Masai Mara from 19th to 23rd March 2024, building on the baseline survey conducted between 23rd and 27th February 2023. Four species of vulture namely White-backed Vulture *Gyps africanus*, Ruppell's Vulture *Gyps ruepelli*, Hooded Vulture *Necrosyrtes monachus*, and Lappet-faced Vulture *Torgos tracheliotos* were recorded alongside 18 species of other raptors throughout the 325km road transects. Vultures were the most encountered group of raptors (53.7%) out of the 232 individual raptors recorded during the survey. *Gyps africanus* were the most abundant species (47%) and at the same time the most encountered species (33.54 individuals/100km) (Annex 7). Nature Tanzania conducted a vulture population survey in Makao WMA in August 2023 as a build-up on the baseline survey conducted in year 1 comparing two seasons (dry and wet) during wildebeest migration and after wildebeest migration. Four different species of vultures, named the White-backed Vulture (150), Ruppell's Vulture (37), Lappet-faced Vulture (22) and Palm-nut Vulture *Gypohierax angolensis* (4), were recorded during wildebeest migration. During the non-wildebeest migration season, only Ruppell's Vulture (1) and Lappet-faced Vulture (2) were recorded indicating that the movement of wildebeests has significant influence on the movement and distribution of vultures in Makao WMA (Annex 16).

1.5.2: At the inception of the project, Makao WMA was not recognised as an Important Bird Area (IBA). However, following an IBA feasibility assessment by Nature Tanzania, it has been officially designated as a new IBA in Tanzania BirdLife Data Zone. This assessment occurred in two phases of data collection: the first phase took place in the fourth quarter of Year 1, while the second phase occurred in August 2023. The entire IBA assessment process completed in October 2023 (Annex 8), with Makao WMA being formally declared as the 81st IBA in Tanzania. Nature Kenya, collated Key Biodiversity Areas (KBA) Basic Monitoring forms- 2022 Kenya Status and Trend Report published (Link).

1.6.1: Nature Tanzania reviewed the BirdLife criteria (Annex41) for establishing vulture safe zone in relation to Makao WMA. From the review, it was noted that Makao WMA suits for nomination as a vulture safe zone. Nature Kenya conducted discussions/consultations on the viability or applicability of the VSZ concept through the development of the national Vulture Multi Species Action plan (Annex 4).

1.6.2: A draft was developed during the Pan African Ornithological Congress (PAOC) 2022 and was reported in year 1.

2.1.1: Nature Kenya carried out an Organizational Capacity Assessment (OCA) for 26 Community Based Organizations (CBOs) to inform capacity development on conservation friendly business identified during the baseline socio-economic survey completed in year 1(Annex 9). From this assessment, conservation friendly businesses identified for support in capacity building included beekeeping, chicken rearing, and beadwork. A total of 527 households (472F, 55M) organized in 19 Community Based Organizations were trained about conservation friendly business development. In partnership with relevant county government departments, the social services department supported in training on leadership and governance; and Narok county agricultural extension officers provided support with training on poultry and bee keeping enterprises (Annex 10). 80 households reinforced their bomas through installation of lion deterrent lights which contribute predator proofing livestock enclosures, and 700 households approximately were reached with advice on non-lethal predator mitigation and livestock husbandry best practices (Annex 11). We hope this will provide insight into and/or demonstrate the cost effectiveness of different approaches so that local people will be advocates for further take up.

2.2.: Nature Kenya developed a criterion for selecting bomas/enclosures in year 1. It involved identifying bomas that were at a high risk of livestock depredation based on the number of livestock that were killed, as well as determining the willingness of the household to share in the cost of construction.

2.2.2: Additional 10 Predator Proof Bomas were constructed in year 2 (Annex 13) bringing a total of 20 target predator proof bomas under this project. The predator proof bomas were constructed in partnership with the beneficiary household.

2.2.3: Using the 20-pilot predator proof bomas constructed with the support of this project as teaching examples, community level lesson sharing and training on best practices to reproduce the bomas were held. A total of 15 meetings reaching 1300 people (Approximately 163 households) on skills to replicate the bomas were conducted.

2.2.4: Monitoring effectiveness of the bomas has been carried out with support of vulture volunteers as part of the local anti-poisoning groups who maintain surveillance on Human Wildlife Conflict incidents in the landscape. No livestock depredation incident has been recorded in the 20-predator proof bomas which have been constructed. Engaging with local communities, Nature Kenya created a predator proof boma monitoring system where vulture volunteers and the project staff track how well the bomas are working and report any problems encountered by the beneficiaries. So far, this system has been a success there is no predation incident reported in these predator proof bomas.

2.3.1: Nature Kenya conducted 83 community awareness and outreach events (village level barazas), 1 youth forum, and marked 2 global events (World Wildlife Day and International Vulture Awareness Day (IVAD) 2023) reaching out to 6291 participants (3438 women and 2853 men) (Annex 27). 12 roll up banners were produced to support in awareness creation, 6 of the banners were on vulture species (Annex 14) and the other 6 banners were on improved herding practices in local language (Annex 15). Awareness creation was also conducted through through 2 local FM Radio – Mayian FM and Sidai FM, broadcast with an outreach to 10,000 + people (Annex 17). Nature Tanzania produced Awareness-raising materials and has distributed 1831 copies of vulture awareness information posters/stickers/t-shirts to the community including, traditional healers, through different activities such as market outreach events, entrepreneurship trainings, workshops and meetings. Nature Tanzania commemorated the IVAD creating awareness in Mwangudo Primary School where 104 students and 11 teachers reached. A football match for youth was conducted, reaching more than 250 people. (Annex 18). Nature Tanzania also conducted five market outreach events in Makao market, Mbuyuni market, Bukundi market, Mwanhuzi market and Paji market reaching out to more than 10,000 people (Annex 19). Through awareness creation, 36 traditional healers are now aware about the importance vultures in the ecosystem hence participating actively in awareness raising events and educating other traditional healers. (Annex 20). The 36 traditional healers are now

vulture conservation champions, and they are not using vulture body parts in traditional medicine, they are now using/exploring a plant-based alternative.

2.4.1: Nature Tanzania conducted follow-up workshops in the second year focused on collecting more information about the suggested plant alternative. For example, in June 2023, BirdLife and Nature Tanzania met with 8 traditional healers (Annex 22). Through these engagements, the traditional healers provided information on the market chain of an identified plant-based alternative locally known as Viloto. One traditional healer who is a main supplier of traditional medicine in Meatu District volunteered to take Nature Tanzania staff to the location where the plant occurs. The plant samples were collected from Nyakanazi area and near Kigosi Game Reserve in Kigoma for scientific identification at the institute of traditional medicine of Muhimbili University of Health and Applied Sciences and at the herbarium, Botany Department of the University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM). The botanists and taxonomists helped with analysis and identification, and confirmed that the collected specimen was *Biophytum crassipe* (Annex 23) which is well distributed in Miombo woodland vegetation ranging from Northwestern Tanzania to Southern Tanzania in Mbeya region and not listed as threatened.

2.5.1: Nature Tanzania facilitated two entrepreneurship training workshops to small entrepreneurs from villages forming Makao WMA. The first training was conducted in November 2023, attended by 51 participants (29 women) in Meatu town. The second training was conducted in February 2024, attended by 159 participants (80 women, 89 youth) in Mbushi Primary school. The training aimed at capacity building on business implementation to small entrepreneurs to improve their business and livelihood. Both training workshops were facilitated by a consultant, the District Community Development Officer from Itilima District supported by Meatu government officials, representative members of the CRF committee, Makao WMA management, and Nature Tanzania. CRF fund beneficiaries and traditional healers were given first priority for participation in these workshops. (Annex 12, annex 24).

2.6.1: This activity was completed and reported in the annual report for year 1.

2.6.2: This activity was completed and reported in the annual report for year 1.

2.6.3: During the reporting period, the CRF loan application was opened and announced to all 10 villages forming Makao WMA through village respective – Village Executive Officers (VEOs). 20 loan applications were received: 6 from Iramba ndogo, 2 from Mwangudo, 2 from Lukale, 2 from Mwabagimu, 4 from Sapa, 1 from Sungu and 3 from Makao (Annex 25). The applications were reviewed by the CRF committee where 4 applications were successful, they include: Kazi iendelee group from Lukale (Tzs 2,800,000/=), Kazi tu group from Mwabagimu (Tzs 2,200,000/=), Matumaini group from Mwangudo (Tzs 3,000,000/=) and Mbuyuni Women Group (Tzs 2,100,000/=). One group of traditional healers from Mbushi village showed interest but had not registered their group at the district level as per the regulations. This group was encouraged to register and open a bank account to be considered for selection and loan award. Currently there are 62 CRF beneficiaries (29 men, 39 women). About 85% of the loan plus interest has been repaid. Announcements for the second round will be sent out by early April 2024.

2.6.4: Clear guidance on the conservation commitments of the Community Revolving Fund (CRF) are in CRF ToR which was developed and approved in year 1 and in the loan agreement between Makao WMA and the borrower (reported in year 1). The established businesses should reduce pressure to the environment. The beneficiaries have become vulture conservation champions, participating in raising awareness on vulture conservation to their area and to their customers, some of them use posters with vulture conservation mounted to their business premises.

2.6.5: Nature Tanzania has a record of the CRF loans and repayment database in place, recording their income status before the loan and their income status at the end of their loan to measure the impact of the loan to their livelihood. (Annex 28).

2.6.6: Sustainability aspects to put in place structures for CRF implementation even beyond this project. – repaying with interest. It is designed that Makao WMA is taking lead collaborating with Meatu District Council and local village government authorities, in implementation and management support from Nature Tanzania. The CRF Committee is well structured and organized.

3.1.1: Two feedback forums to anti-poisoning groups in the Masai Mara landscape were held, aimed at sharing lessons and strengthening response (Annex 26). 29 members of the anti-poisoning group were trained on field data capture and collection methodologies part of implementation of poisoning rapid response protocol using smart phone application ArcGIS Survey 123. A total of 521 (M-454, F-67) wildlife rangers/scouts from 12 conservancies, 1 conservation project, and the Maasai Mara Reserve (Annex 28) were trained on the application of the national rapid response protocol to wildlife poisoning.

3.1.2: This activity was completed and reported in year 1.

3.2.1: Informed by a needs assessment on preparedness in response to wildlife poisoning, the project supported the KWS Vet department at national and site level in the Masai Mara to have the requisite equipment and materials to support effectiveness in response to wildlife poisoning, following guidelines outlined in the national rapid response protocol to wildlife poisoning incidents. Equipment included bird transport and holding cages, sample collection and storage equipment, wildlife treatment drugs among other materials (Annex 29). Nature Kenya is part of the national network of institutions involved in supporting capacity strengthening in Rapid Response Mechanism to wildlife poisoning.

3.3.1: Training on RRM in the Masai Mara has been replicated in other landscapes in Kenya including, southern rangelands of Kajiado county- training 11 rangers and scouts within the region on their response to wildlife poisoning (Annex 30). As a result, in the past year, 5 wildlife poisoning incidents have been actively responded to, mitigating further wildlife poisoning in the landscape outside the scope of the project.

4.1.1: During the reporting period, project findings and lessons were shared in numerous conferences and workshops. BirdLife International and Nature Tanzania participated in the Mara Day Conference 14th to 15th September 2023 where we did a presentation titled “*Vulture Conservation impacting community livelihoods in Mara-Serengetui*” reaching to more than 200 participants (Annex 31, annex 32). Engagements made at this event have led to interest in integrating vulture conservation from other stakeholders, e.g. Lake Victoria Basin Commission. Nature Tanzania Participated in the 14th TAWIRI International Scientific Conference held in Arusha on 6th to 8th December 2023, where a poster entitled “Ornithological status of Makao WMA Important Bird and Biodiversity Area, in Simiyu region, Tanzania” was presented. This international conference was attended by more than 400 participants from 20 different countries. Nature Tanzania also conducted a webinar on traditional beliefs and bird conservation: a case study of vulture conservation in Makao WMA, where experiences working with traditional healers on vulture conservation were shared (Annex 33). In commemorating the 2024 World Wildlife Day (WWD), Nature Tanzania participated in national events organised by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism. The events included exhibitions in Babati and a national seminar at Ngorongoro Conference Centre in Arusha, where project findings and lessons, such as addressing belief-based killings of vultures, were shared reaching over 1,400 people and 50 officials including Hon. Angella Kariuki, the Minister for Natural Resources and Tourism who was the Guest of Honour. Nature Kenya presented lessons generated from the project at the National Wildlife Conference held between 26th-28th September 2023 (Annex 35) on community level best practices to mitigate human wildlife conflict through innovative approaches like predator proof bomas and eye spots painted on livestock.

4.1.2: Data generated through this project contributed to existing repositories of vulture conservation data in Kenya, Tanzania and beyond supporting the mid-term review of the implementation the CMS Vulture Multispecies Action Plan.

4.1.3: In June 2023, the East Africa Wildlife Poisoning Response Network was established to combat wildlife poisoning in the sub-region. BirdLife International, in collaboration with Nature Tanzania, organized a two-day workshop in Arusha, Tanzania, on the 13th and 14th June 2023. The workshop brought together 21 participants from three countries (Tanzania, Uganda and Rwanda) (Annex 34) Nature Tanzania and Nature Uganda have started the process of establishing in-country poisoning response networks and will benefit from the experience of the Kenyan anti-poisoning network.

4.2.1: In Kenya, lessons learned and project finding and output were disseminated via external media which included- Nature Kenya’s monthly Nature Net which is available to the public ([Link- October 2023 Nature Net](#)) and its website as well as local media platforms- and print media with a wide reach in Kenya (Annex 36), Sayansi Issue No.33 Pg 35-36 highlighted aspects of improved livestock herding practices (Annex 43). Nature Kenya marked International Vulture Awareness Day (IVAD) 2023 in the project site. Nature Tanzania disseminated project updates and findings in one of the local newspapers (Daily News and Habari Leo) on threats of poisoning vultures (Annex 37) and through social medias, blogs, websites and Television channels for awareness raising purposes and reaching more people.

<https://simiyupresstz.blogspot.com/2023/06/nature-tanzania-yatoa-elimu-kuwalinda.html?m=1>

<https://www.instagram.com/p/CtwRHDTqPpX/?igshid=NjZiM2M3MzIxNA==>

Articles by Nature Tanzania “*Nature Tanzania tackles belief-based killing of vultures in Tanzania*” and “*Community Revolving Fund (CRF) support vulture conservation effort in Tanzania*” were published in the BirdLife Africa Newsletter Issue 9 and Issue 10 consecutively and on the [BirdLife Africa website](#).

4.2.2 Nature Kenya marked 2023, International Vulture Awareness Day in the project site through awareness creation events reaching 129 people physically and at least 10000+ members of public through local FM (Sidai FM and Mayian FM) stations that covered the event (Annex 17). Nature Tanzania observed International Vulture Awareness Day by raising awareness at Mwangudo Primary School, reaching a total of 104 students and 11 teachers. More than 250 people were also reached through a youth football match

(Annex 18). BirdlifeLife conducted a digital campaign and a podcast with British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) during IVAD 2023 (Annex 21)

4.3.1: Nature Kenya supported the development of the Kenya National Vulture Multispecies Action Plan consultatively with national stakeholders, integrating recommendations generated by this project on use of poisons to kill wildlife (Annex 4). The plan is only awaiting Ministerial signature. Recommendations generated from this project informed the national Human Wildlife Conflict Strategy (Annex 38). Information generated by this project informed national and county level policy processes which include- Greater Mara Ecosystem Management Plan [GMME-Management-Plan-200320238 compressed.pdf \(narok.go.ke\)](#) (Annex 39).

4.3.2 Nature Tanzania supported the process of developing its Vulture Conservation Management Action Plan for Tanzania which has been approved and signed (Annex 5).

3.2 Progress towards project Outputs

The project is on course to achieving Outputs, based on the delivery of activities largely in line with the proposal. Where data is available on indicators, we believe the project to be on track.

Output 1:

Indicator 1.1: Achieved. Feedback forums conducted by Nature Kenya in 19 villages located within the two focal areas in Masai Mara, reached out to 617 people (270 men and 347 women), validating challenges faced by local communities and identifying solutions that link sustainable livelihood practices and use of natural resources, specifically HWC and poisoning captured in the baseline study in year one (Annex 1)

Indicator 1.2: Achieved. This activity was completed and reported in the annual report year 1.

Indicator 1.3: Achieved. This activity was completed and reported in the annual report year 1.

Indicator 1.4: Achieved. After gathering the information from the baseline survey, vulture population survey and a series of workshops and meetings with different stakeholders, the vulture conservation model in Tanzania was developed (Annex 6) and Nature Kenya reviewed its model, development in year 1, based on feedback workshops. In Kenya, Nature Kenya supported the process of developing a national Vulture Multi Species Conservation and Recovery Action Plan which includes the elements of the proposed vulture conservation models (Annex 4).

Indicator 1.5: Achieved. Vulture monitoring took place, laying the groundwork and capacity for further monitoring. Results are outlined in Activity 1.5.1. (Annex 7 and Annex 16.)

Indicator 1.6: Partly achieved Vulture Safe Zones (VSZ) guidelines (Annex 41) were shared with Nature Tanzania which were used to check if Makao WMA would fit to be a VSZ. It was noted that Makao WMA would be suitable for nomination as a Vulture Safe Zone. Nature Kenya has conducted discussions/consultations on the viability or applicability of the VSZ concept through the development of the national Vulture Multi Species Action plan (Annex 4).

Output 2:

Indicator 2.1 Achieved. Nature Kenya carried out Organizational Capacity Assessment (OCA) for 26 CBOs to inform capacity development on conservation friendly business identified during the baseline socio-economic survey completed in Y1. Conservation friendly businesses were identified for support in capacity building included Beekeeping, chicken rearing, and beadwork. (Annex 9, Annex 10).

Indicator 2.2: On track to achieve. During the reporting period, 10 more predator proof bomas were constructed bringing to a total of 20 predator proof bomas erected in the project areas in Masai Mara, Narok county (Annex 13). Community sensitization on approaches to replicate predator proof bomas has been carried out reaching 1300 community members aimed at replicating lessons on livestock protection.

Indicator 2.3: Exceeded. 80 households reinforced their bomas through installation of lion deterrent lights which strengthen predator proofing for livestock enclosures, and 700 households approximately were reached with advice on non-lethal predator mitigation and livestock husbandry best practices (Annex 11).

Indicator 2.4. a: Achieved. In year 1, six market outreaches were conducted in Kenya, five market outreaches were conducted in year 2 in Makao WMA (Annex 19) bringing to a total of 11 market outreaches in Masai Mara and Makao WMA. Approximately 14,500 people were reached.

Indicator 2.4.b. Exceeded. During the report period, a total of 83 community awareness and outreach events (village level barazas), 1 youth forum, and 2 global events (World Wildlife Day and International Darwin Initiative Main Annual Report Template 2024

Vulture Awareness Day 2023) reaching out to 6291 participants (3438 women and 2853 men) in Masai Mara (Annex 27)

Indicator 2.4.c. Achieved Nature Kenya used local radio stations Mayian FM and Sidai FM; to broadcast within and beyond the project area reaching out to at least 10,000+ community with information on wildlife poisoning (Annex 17). 6 awareness roll up banners on vulture species and 6 banners on improved herding practices in local language (Annex 15) were produced to support education and awareness across project landscape. In Tanzania, 1831 copies of vulture awareness creating materials - posters/stickers/t-shirts were distributed in Makao WMA through different activities such as market outreach event, entrepreneurship trainings, workshops and meetings reaching to more than 10000 people including traditional healers. (Annex 40)

Indicator 2. On track to achieve. Nature Tanzania reached 36 traditional healers who are now vulture conservation champions, and they are not using vulture body parts in traditional medicine only focused on the alternative plant. Through workshops and meetings, they have become aware about vulture conservation, and they have been participating actively in awareness raising events and deliver messages to other traditional healers. (Annex 20).

Indicator 2.6 Almost achieved. In Makao WMA, 210 people (109 women) were trained on sustainable local livelihoods as outlined in Activity 2.6 The training aimed at capacity building on business implementation to small entrepreneurs so that they can improve their businesses and livelihoods in general reducing pressure on the environment and wildlife. (Annex 12)

Indicator 2.7 a Achieved. The CRF operational procedures are in place and more than 250 people have been trained on effective utilization and management of CRF (This activity was completed and was reported in year 1).

Indicator 2.7 b. On track to achieve. Implementation of CRF is ongoing whereby a total of 62 (23 males and 39 females) are direct beneficiaries in the first batch. (Annex 25). More loan award calls are planned in the 3rd year.

Indicator 2.7 c. On track to achieve. The CRF is in operation, and it is structured to continue beyond this project. It is designed that Makao WMA will take a leadership role, collaborating with Meatu District Council and local village government authorities, in implementation and management, with support from Nature Tanzania. The loan repayment is with interest which will gradually grow the fund.

Output 3.

Indicator 3.1 During the reporting period, capacity of two active anti-poisoning groups in the 2 hotspot areas in Masai Mara was strengthened. Two feedback forums to anti-poisoning groups in the Masai Mara landscape were held, aimed at sharing lessons and strengthening response (Annex 26). 29 members of the anti-poisoning group were trained on field data capture and collection methodologies part of implementation of poisoning rapid response protocol using smart phone application ArcGIS Survey 123.

Indicator 3.2: In Masai Mara, total of 521 (M-454, F-67) wildlife rangers/scouts from 12 conservancies, 1 conservation project, and the Masai Mara Reserve (Annex 28) were trained on the application of the national rapid response protocol to wildlife poisoning. The project provided the relevant equipment to the KWS Vet Department at national and site level in the Masai Mara. In Makao WMA, 29 Village Game Scouts (VGS) were trained on responding to poisoning incidents and there are 127 vulture champions (36 traditional healers, 62 CRF beneficiaries' and 29 VGS) who have been instrumental in raising awareness about vultures.

Output 4.

Indicator 4.a: In June 2023, the East Africa Wildlife Poisoning Response Network was established. The platform seek to improve/strengthen responses to wildlife poisoning in the sub-region by sharing lessons from different countries. BirdLife International, in collaboration with Nature Tanzania, organized a two-day workshop in Arusha, Tanzania, on the 13th and 14th June 2023 to establish this network. The workshop brought together 21 participants from three countries (Tanzania, Uganda and Rwanda) (Annex 34) Report. Nature Tanzania and Nature Uganda have started the process of establishing in-country poisoning response networks.

Indicator 4.2: During the reporting period, peer to peer lesson sharing was conducted, Nature Kenya hosted Nature Tanzania in Masai Mara to learn about vulture conservation approaches in the area (Annex 2). Lessons, project findings, and project outputs will be shared with BirdLife Partners at the BirdLife Council of the African Partnership in year 3 and also in the BirdLife Africa Vulture Conservation Forum.

Indicator 4.3: Nature Kenya presented lessons generated from the project in the National Wildlife Conference held between 26th-28th September 2023 (Annex 35) on community level best practices to mitigate human wildlife conflict through innovative approaches like predator proof bomas and livestock eye spots. Nature Tanzania shared findings on the vulture population surveys at Makao (Annex 42) at the 14th Tanzania Wildlife Research Institute International Scientific Conference. The conference was attended by more than 400 participants from 20 different countries. Nature Tanzania also conducted a national lesson sharing and feedback meeting with the President’s Office – Regional Administration Local Government and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism (MNRT) in January 2024 where 17 government officials were reached. BirdLife International and Nature Tanzania Participated in the 12th Mara Day Conference 14th to 15th September 2023 in Mugumu town where project lessons and finding were shared reaching more than 200 participants (Annex 31, Annex 32).

Indicator 4.4: Lesson learned and project findings were disseminated via monthly Nature Net (Nature Kenya monthly newsletter) which is available to public on the their website ([Link- October 2023 Nature Net](#)). Other channels used include print media with wide reach in the Kenya (Annex 36), Sayansi Issue No.33 Pg 35-36 highlighted aspects of improved livestock herding practices (Annex 46). Nature Tanzania conducted a webinar - *Traditional beliefs and bird conservation: a case study of vulture conservation in Makao WMA* was presented sharing experiences working with traditional healer in vulture conservation (Annex 33). Nature Tanzania also shared project findings and updates by publishing via social media platforms, blogs, websites and Television channels for awareness raising purpose and reaching more people. Below are some direct links publishing one of the activities.

<https://simiyupresstz.blogspot.com/2023/06/nature-tanzania-yatoa-elimu-kuwalinda.html?m=1>
<https://www.instagram.com/p/CtwRHDTqPpX/?igshid=NjZiM2M3MzIxNA==>

Nature Tanzania also shared project updates via Nature Tanzania’s Instagram account, Facebook account and Nature Tanzania website. Articles “*Community Revolving Fund (CRF) support vulture conservation effort in Tanzania*” and “*Nature Tanzania tackles belief-based killing of vultures in Tanzania*” were published in the BirdLife Africa Newsletter Issues 9 and 10 in 2023.

Indicator 4.5: Nature Kenya marked IVAD 2023 in the project site, through awareness creation events reaching to 129 people physically and more than 10000 members of public through local FM (Sidai FM and Mayian FM) stations that covered the event – (Annex 17). Nature Tanzania observed IVAD by raising awareness at Mwangudo Primary School, reaching a total of 104 students and 11 teachers. More than 250 people were also reached through a youth football match (Annex 18). BirdLife conducted a digital campaign and a podcast with British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) during IVAD 2023 (Annex 21).

Indicator 4.6: Recommendations concerning vultures generated through this project catalysed the development of Kenya Vulture Multispecies Action Plan (Annex 4). In addition, recommendations informed National Human Wildlife Coexistence Strategy and Action Plan (Annex 38). Information generated by this project informed national and county level policy processes which include- Greater Mara Ecosystem Management Plan (Annex 39). Nature Tanzania supported the process of developing the Conservation and Management Action Plan for Vultures in Tanzania (Annex 5).

3.3 Progress towards the project Outcome

The project is on course to achieving the Outcome on *Community livelihoods in the Mara-Serengeti are improved and pressure on wildlife (particularly vultures) reduced through addressing drivers of poisoning, including income losses, linked to human-wildlife conflict and belief-based use.*

Indicator OI_1. Largely chieved. In Masai Mara a total of 6291 community members (3438 women and 2853 men) were reached through 83 community awareness and outreach events (Annex 27) with information on non-lethal HWC mitigation methods with include improved bomas and better livestock management practices. As a result of construction of 20 pilot predator proof bomas as examples to local communities on improving livestock protection (Annex 13), 1300 community members were directly reached through physical visit and demonstration on predator proof bomas aimed at replication of best practice.

Indicator OI_2. On track to achieve. During the reporting period, 10 more predator proof bomas (PPBs) were constructed, bringing the total to 20 constructed in the projects site. No livestock had been lost to predation in these bomas since they were constructed, achieving 100% efficacy in protecting livestock. Nature Kenya is monitoring the of effectiveness of other preventative measures which include livestock eyespots and lion deterrent lights.

Indicator OI_3. On track to achieve. Nature Kenya continued collecting data on wildlife poisoning incidents in the project site where two suspected poisoning incidents was recorded in the past 1 year. This is below the baseline number of poisoning incidents which was at 4 incidents annually.

Indicator OI_4. There is positive feedback from the communities and traditional healers, especially during meetings and workshops. The traditional healers are showing increased interest in using the plant-based alternative. Communities in Masai Mara are also showing interest to continue protect vultures against poisoning.

Indicator OI_5: This was achieved as there are 124 traditional healers in Makao WMA villages, 36 (29%) were reached who are now vulture conservation champions. The traditional healers have expressed willingness to use plant-based alternatives instead of using vulture body parts (Annex 20).

Indicator OI_6. On target to achieve. Implementation of CRF is ongoing whereby a total of 62 people are direct beneficiaries in the first batch. (Annex 25, Annex 43) More batches for loan award are planned in the 3rd year.

Indicator OI_7. Rangers from Makao WMA continued to monitor vulture poisoning combined with awareness creation in the landscape. No poisoning incidents have been reported in the Makao WMA since the commencement of the project. In Kenya, 521 (M-454, F-67) wildlife rangers/scouts from 12 conservancies, 1 conservation project, and the Masai Mara Reserve (Annex 28) were trained on the application of the National Rapid Response Protocol to Wildlife Poisoning. This was aimed at enhancing stakeholder capacity on response to wildlife poisoning incidents by increasing surveillance and preparedness. It may be difficult to measure the reduction in mortality due to the RRM if there are a low number of incidents. However, the project will review the poisoning incident and mortality data at the end of the project.

3.4 Monitoring of assumptions

National and district governments, park authorities and communities continue to engage on addressing HWC in the Mara-Serengeti ecosystem.

The engagement has been very positive. Through engagement with the National Government through the Kenya wildlife service (KWS) the draft Vulture Action Plan for Kenya was developed (Annex 4).

It is possible to measure change in predator poisoning in a meaningful way not distorted by an increase in reporting.

Assessment remains the same for now. Work is continuing to improve poison data collection and response.

Current economic, social and health factors do not seriously impede progress.

The project is designed to increase resilience to economic and social changes but economic shocks, will be factored in. For instance beneficiaries of the CRF apply for what they need to ensure their business takes off versus a fixed amount, boma construction is done by providing materials which makes sure construction is completed.

Reductions in livestock losses and increases in sustainable livelihoods, coupled with awareness actions lead to the behaviour change anticipated.

This to hold true based on the reduction of livestock loss due to the construction of the 20-predator proof bomas and through awareness creation on safer herding practices which has led to reduced poisoning incidents reported in Masai Mara.

Traditional healers in Makao WMA show willingness to consider using alternatives to animal parts. Plant alternative choices are not threatened species.

This holds true as traditional healers in Makao WMA have started using a plant-based alternative. An assessment was done by scientist from at the Institute of Traditional Medicine of Muhimbili University of Health and Applied Sciences and at the herbarium and Botany Department of the University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM). It was confirmed that the plant is well distributed in Miombo woodland vegetation and not listed as threatened.

The CRF does not support activities damaging to the environment.

This will hold true as the Terms of Reference will include restrictions on what can be funded and the obligations of recipients. Only projects that have been assessed to be not damaging to the environment have been approved.

COVID 19 travel restrictions do not prevent the implementation of the project. Or distort results.

Adaptive management will prepare for and address this. In addition, Nature Kenya and NT have project staff based in the project area who would be able to continue to support project activities in case of movement restrictions. Assessment remains the same.

Project staff are aware of any emerging issues resulting from new, legal bushmeat markets in TZ.

Staff will monitor development of this. Assessment remains the same. Project staff on the ground are in touch with the day-to-day issues in the community that enable them to track or pick up any new trends on information in the villages.

The project results in more capacity, interest and resources for sustainability and scaling up by multiple stakeholders in the region.

This holds true. Through the projects, there has been engagements with the Lake Victoria Basin Commission (LVBC) on scaling up wildlife poisoning response efforts in the basin. The establishment East Africa Wildlife Poisoning Response Network is increasing the wildlife poisoning response capacity in East Africa. Makao WMA Management committed to add funds to the CRF.

Output Assumptions:

Output 1:

Workshops and surveys gather information from a representative sample.

Assessment remains the same. Surveys in year had appropriate representation.

Government agencies in both countries continue willingness to cooperate and engage in addressing illegal wildlife poisoning.

This still holds true due as evidence by the involvement the local government in Meatu where there is a representative in the CRF committee. The Cooperation government agencies like Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) in Kenya in developing the Vulture Multi-species Action Plan for Kenya.

Stakeholders continue willingness to engage in project activities and address drivers for wildlife poisoning.

This holds true. Makao WMA continue to engage in the projects through the CRF Committee village game scouts are monitoring poisoning incident and ready to respond. Assessment remains the same. Maasai Mara National Reserve rangers and conservancy rangers in Masai mara were trained on responding to poisoning incidents.

Output 2:

Local communities are receptive to engagement in non-lethal methods of predator control acknowledging that livelihood improvement methods can help alleviate losses from HWC.

This holds true. In Masai Mara the local communities were engaged in 83 community awareness creation activities informing them on-lethal HWC mitigation methods with including the construction of 20 predator proof bomas and better livestock management practices.

Communities provide accurate information on incidents of livestock predation.

We think this will hold true due to careful selection, training and prep. Assessment remains the same.

Bomas are the primary or preferred method for livestock protection in project areas.

We think this will hold true. There has been no livestock loss from the 20-predator proof bomas since they were constructed.

Boma designs will protect against attacks from all predator species.

We think this will hold true due to boma improvements matched to requirements. Assessment remains the same.

Making communities more aware of vultures, wildlife and poisoning will cause people to reconsider attitudes and behaviours.

We think this will hold true based on experience. The traditional healer in Makao WMA are willing to use a plan-based alternative to vulture heads in traditional belief practices.

Traditional healers show willingness to consider using alternatives to animal parts and/or adopting alternative livelihood practices.

This holds true as the traditional healer identified the plant-based alternative and are willing to use it.

Communities will participate in and sustain the CRF after project duration.

We think this will hold true based on the participating of the community groups in Makao WMA establishing nature friendly businesses and the CRF loan repayment by the beneficiaries. Assessment remains the same for now.

Output 3:

Communities and Governments are willing to take action against wildlife poisoning and its drivers.

This holds true, In Meatu, the local government is willing to take action to reduce HWC as driver to wildlife poisoning. The governments in Kenya and Tanzania have been involved in the development of the vulture action plans for these two countries.

Communities and Governments are willing to consider and provide feedback on piloting alternative new approaches to vulture conservation e.g. VSZs.

We think this will hold true based on feedback forums held by Nature Kenya in Masai Mara.

Output 4:

Lessons learnt will result in rolling out of successful actions to more areas.

This holds true as there is a growing interest of saving vultures from poisoning and belief-based use even in other countries like Uganda and Rwanda.

Lessons learnt are adaptable or applicable to other contexts across the continent and beyond.

This holds true. The lessons learnt can be applied in vulture conservation in other countries like Ethiopia, Rwanda and Uganda.

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

Impact: Integrated and evidence-based approaches reduce wildlife mortality from poisoning and improve livelihoods for communities living adjacent to protected areas in the Mara-Serengeti ecosystem

The achievement of Outcomes to date suggest that the project is contributing to reduced wildlife mortality from poisoning and improving livelihoods. If, as we expect, the approaches are duplicated elsewhere, encouraged by incorporation in national Vulture Action Plans and Human Wildlife Conflict Strategies, we are optimistic that this project will contribute to the achievement of the long-term impact. An analysis of poisoning incident data pre and post the project, adjusted for increased reporting, will be needed. An increase in vulture numbers or status is hoped for. However, their slow reproduction and slow roll-out of mitigation in energy infrastructure and other threats may require a long time to see population level change.

4. Project support to the Conventions, Treaties or Agreements

Kenya and Tanzania are signatories to Conventions, Treaties and Agreements that the project is contributing to. Under the CMS Multi-species Action Plan to Conserve African-Eurasian Vultures (Vulture MsAP), adopted in 2016, the project contributed to Objective 1 and 4. This was through actions implemented towards reducing vulture deaths from toxic substances and engaging traditional healers on stopping the use of vulture parts in traditional medicine. Project staff from BirdLife, Nature Kenya and Nature Tanzania contributed to the Mid-Term Review of the Vulture MsAP (Annex 49). The BirdLife contribution was largely in coordinating responses from Africa and contributing to writing up the report. NK and NT staff provided contributed by providing information at country level on progress towards

implementing the Vulture MsAP. Project staff participated in the United Nations Environment Assembly 6 (UNEA-6) and contributed to the drafting of the resolution on Highly Hazardous Pesticides (HHPs) with concern on their impact wildlife including vultures. BirdLife suggested adding wildlife affected by HHPs to the draft resolution on HHPs submitted by Ethiopia on behalf of the Africa Group. This led to the recognition of Target 7 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework in the draft resolution on HHPs, which aims to reduce pollution risks and negative impacts on biodiversity and ecosystem functions by 2030 (Annex 44) The project is contributing to SDG 1 and 2 – where the project activities aim at decreasing livestock losses in Masai Mara (Annex 13) through the construction of 20 predator proof bomas livestock and implementation of sustainable livelihood intervention such as operating a Community Revolving Fund, supporting environment friendly businesses in Makao WMA (Annex 43)

5. Project support for multidimensional poverty reduction

The project advanced knowledge on the socio-economic condition and challenges facing households in the target areas, including examining motivations for poison use and use of vultures in belief-based use.

The project beneficiaries, in terms of multi-dimensional poverty are two communities in the Masai Mara landscape and communities in Makao WMA.

The communities in Masai Mara and Makao were trained on nature friendly businesses which empowered them, particularly women, to improve their income, livelihoods and reduce pressure on the environment. Some of nature friendly businesses include beekeeping and poultry farming. With support from the Community Revolving Fund (CRF), community groups in Makao WMA established nature friendly businesses like sunflower farming where they will produce sunflower oil and sell. The construction of 20 Predator-proof bomas and awareness creation on safer herding practices supported the reduction of livestock loss hence increasing income to the livestock owners when they sell their livestock.

The project Outcomes and Outputs most related to multi-dimensional poverty are:

OI_2 Livestock losses (in USD) are reduced (livelihoods improved) by 70% in KE for improved bomas compared to unimproved bomas and 20% where other preventive measures are in use. (On target – with zero attacks on livestock in predator proof bomas improved bomas to date, Annex 13)

OI_6 Monthly incomes of 200 people (1,380 household members) including 50% women in project areas in TZ are increased by 20% from the baseline as a result of sustainable livelihood development. (supported by a Community Revolving Fund – CRF). (On target, but too early to say. Four community groups in Makao WMA have benefited (62 (39 women & 23 men) from the CRF and have managed to make full repayment of the loans that amount to 10,100,000 Tanzanian Shillings.

Output 2.1: By end of yr 2, 300 community members (150 per area and at least 50% women) are trained/informed about conservation friendly business development in the Maasai Mara. (Target exceeded. 527 households (472women, 55 men) were trained on nature friendly businesses, Annex 10)

Output 2.2: By EOP, 20 predator-proof bomas (representing 10 % of bomas or 15% of livestock owners) are erected in the 2 project focal areas in Narok County, Masai Mara, Kenya. (Achieved) Promotion encourages an additional 20 livestock owners to commit to installing bomas post project. (10 additional predator proof bomas were constructed in Masai Mara. No predation was recorded in the bomas since they were constructed. (Annex 13)

Output 2.3: 80 households in the 2 project focal areas in Kenya receive advice on non-lethal predator mitigation / husbandry advice – reducing losses from predators. Achieved. 80 households reinforced their bomas through installation of lion deterrent lights which contribute predator proofing livestock enclosures, and 700 households approximately were reached with advice on non-lethal predator mitigation and livestock husbandry best practices (Annex 11).

Output 2.5: >50 traditional healers in Makao and their respective associations are engaged and their awareness raised on the values of vultures, the need to conserve them and find alternatives to using vulture body parts that can be supported by the CRF e.g. using and farming plant-based alternatives. Achievement of this output has multi-dimensional poverty aspects by ensuring that avoiding illegal unsustainable activity doesn't result in loss of income/reputation. (On target Annex 20)

Output 2.6: 2 business support training and advice is provided to 200 people (60% women) from Makao WMA on sustainable local livelihoods that can be supported by the CRF. (On target, 109 women out of a total of 210 people benefited from training on nature friendly businesses. (Annex 12)

Output 2.7 b: A total of 200 people including 100 women, 40 men, 50 youths and 10 traditional healers benefitted from the CRF. Their monthly income will increase by 20% as a result of use of CRF and related advice and support. On target – Four community groups in Makao WMA have benefited (62 (39 women & 23 men) from the CRF and have managed to make full repayment of the loans Tsh 10,100,000. (Annex 25, Annex 43) More batches for loan award are planned in the 3rd year.

Output 2.7 c. By end of project, the CRF is in operation (in line with Terms of Ref) and remains in place and intact beyond the project period. (Anticipate 70 people to receive support from the Fund each year after EOP). On target – discussed in section 3.

6. Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI)

<p>Please quantify the proportion of women on the Project Board¹.</p>	<p>50% of Project Implementation Team and Advisors 25% of Steering Committee, which was only 4 people.</p> <p>Fadzai [REDACTED] (F) Vincent [REDACTED] (M) Lovelater [REDACTED] (F) Dalphine [REDACTED] (F) Paul [REDACTED] (M) Carole [REDACTED] (F) Project Field Officer- Fridah [REDACTED] (F) + Denvas [REDACTED] - NK Finance (M) Edwin [REDACTED] (M) Alpha [REDACTED] (M) +NT other key staff +NT Anita [REDACTED] (F) finance</p> <p>Liz [REDACTED] (Advisory) (F) Susan [REDACTED] (Advisory) (F)</p>
<p>Please quantify the proportion of project partners that are led by women, or which have a senior leadership team consisting of at least 50% women².</p>	<p>None of the partners meet this qualification at Board level.</p> <p>BirdLife Board Level 39% Women. Global Leadership Team: 36% Women</p>

GESI Scale	Description	Put X where you think your project is on the scale
Not yet sensitive	The GESI context may have been considered but the project isn't quite meeting the requirements of a 'sensitive' approach	
Sensitive	The GESI context has been considered and project activities take this into account in their design and implementation. The project addresses basic needs and vulnerabilities of women and marginalised groups and the project will not contribute to or create further inequalities.	

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

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

Empowering	The project has all the characteristics of a 'sensitive' approach whilst also increasing equal access to assets, resources and capabilities for women and marginalised groups	X
Transformative	The project has all the characteristics of an 'empowering' approach whilst also addressing unequal power relationships and seeking institutional and societal change	

The project has ensured that Gender equality/fairness and social inclusion is maximised, acknowledging the traditional roles that persist, and that women tend to earn less, face significant barriers to land ownership, be more often in unpaid employment and be less represented in key decision-making roles. There is also strong policy commitments to reduce inequality for women in both Kenya and Tanzania. Risks of violence against women remains a major concern.

The problem of multidimensional poverty in the project areas impacts women and girls equally, if not more. During consultations in the earlier stages of the project, the project reached out to a range of stakeholder groups. For community consultations, the participation of women was over 50% except for specific stakeholder groups, such as traditional healers, who had a higher proportion of men. E.g. Nature Kenya conducted feedback forums in 19 villages in Masai Mara where 617 participants (270 men and 347 women) focused on addressing human-wildlife conflict and poisoning issues identified in the baseline study.

Awareness raising activities in general reached an equal or higher proportion of women as men.

The entrepreneurial and business training activities attracted a high percentage of women, as intended. E.g. A total 527 households (472F, 55M) organized in 19 Community Based Organizations were trained about conservation friendly business development.

Women are expected to benefit equally from the activities aimed at reducing predation and the resulting benefits in term of reduction of livestock losses and safety when tending to animals.

Where decision making bodies have been set up, for example, for the Community Revolving Fund, there is a need to have representation from the different governing entities in the region so that the fund can be owned and managed within the community. The downside is that this limits our ability to ensure that women are equally represented on all the governing bodies. Training on the workings of the CRF attracted a lower percentage of women that would have been ideal.

Women and women focused groups were very well represented by the loans provided.

7. Monitoring and evaluation

During the reporting period, a project steering committee was formed consisting of representatives from BirdLife International, Nature Tanzania and Nature Kenya. This committee monitors progress of the project using the project logframe and project partner workplans as the M&E template. The project implementing partners submitted quarterly reports, including evidence and financial reports where reviews were done and communicated to the partners. The partners also submitted annual reports that have been consolidated to produce this report.

Key members of the BirdLife project team conducted four field visits to Makao WMA and Masai Mara as part of the M&E process verifying activities in the project site.

The team reviewed the theory of change and the project assumptions to evaluate whether the project activities would lead to the anticipated outputs and outcomes. On the whole, the project theory of change appears to be working as planned and the timely performance of activities has helped to ensure that the Outcomes will be achieved.

The project has a large number of indicators, which may be confusing. However, these were considered necessary to adequately capture the key components.

There are a few M&E activities that need to be reviewed in the final year to ensure that the means of verification are available for key indicators. E.g. We should design a survey or sampling method to find out whether project activities have led to more positive attitudes towards vultures and that more households in the Masai Mara intend to invest in predator proof bomas as a result of demonstration of its effectiveness and training.

8. Lessons learnt

The timely delivery of activities has worked well, with good attention to detail.

The Community Revolving Fund has taken off and is working properly because of the institutional arrangements that represent key stakeholders (Makao WMA and village representatives, Local Government, Nature Tanzania,) This has enabled the CRF to be inclusive in terms of gender issues, representation of government support and biodiversity conservation. Inclusion of the government representatives is a way of building sustainability into CRF.

The level of interest and participation has been very positive, with many engagement activities exceeding expectations. The project's engagement with traditional healers in Makao WMA has been very productive, especially as this was a new area of work for the Partner and an innovation for Tanzania as a whole. One particularly good result has been the commitment of 36 traditional healers, some of whom represent others, to the project and to stop using vulture parts. A number have displayed project posters in their storefronts.

Application of data driven decision making was applied in selectin the predator proof boma beneficiaries. The construction of bomas was excellently and according to plan. We are very pleased to report that no incidents of predation have happened at any of the installed bomas. The participation of the household in the construction of the bomas was an important component to ensure the buy-in of the household.

There was very high participation in training in how to construct the bomas, awareness raising activities, and the testing of alternative/additional predation reduction methods, including Lion-Deterrent lighting and the painting of fake eyes on the rumps of cattle to deter predators. We hope that this will contribute to a wide acceptance of the methods, resulting in fewer HWC incidents.

There was good progress on policies related to vultures.

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

1. **How was the partnership managed in year 1 since a Project Steering Group was not formed. (This will be formed in year 2)** – BirdLife has carried out projects with Nature Kenya and Tanzania in the past. Typically, the focal team from the secretariat coordinates with the focal teams from the partners. Whilst no formal steering group was in place in the first year, the project followed this typical arrangement. In addition to this, meetings were held in year 1 and minutes were taken and were shared, partner to partner forum discussions were conducted, for example – meeting between Nature Kenya and Nature Tanzania on sharing lessons on developing poisoning response protocol. In year 2, the Project steering Group was formally formed.
2. **The formation of the East Africa Wildlife Poisoning Response Network was not initiated in year 1.** – This was initiated in year 2, the EAWPRN workshop was conducted in Arusha from 13th to 14th June 2023 with 21 participants from Uganda, Rwanda and Tanzania. The draft ToR of the network were shared with the participants for review and feedback.
3. **Challenge in Tanzania to engage women in leadership** – The situation in the project site in Tanzania is that culturally, women are not having some leadership positions. The project has been encouraging women to participate in in project activities like training on nature friendly businesses. One of the CRF beneficiary groups is a women focused group that are doing tailoring business.
4. **A dedicated M&E officer for Nature Tanzania** – The program officer in Nature Tanzania is engaged as the M&E contact person. In addition, Nature Tanzania is also supported in its Monitoring and Evaluation by the BirdLife staff.
5. The project has a risk register and did not encounter any unanticipated risks or incidents in year one or two. The risk register was updated April 2024.
6. A clear exit strategy for all outputs of the project had been developed (Annex 45)

10. Risk Management

No new risks have arisen in the last 12 months that were not previously accounted for.

However, given the increased attention to Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Harassment policies from the UK government, BirdLife will review the Risk Register to see if additional items should be added to the Risk Register (and workplans) to ensure that risks are minimised and that project beneficiaries are aware of their rights.

BirdLife will review the adequacy of our own and Partners' policies to identify any areas for improvement or needs for training.

A revised Risk Register is attached.

10. Sustainability and legacy

Good participation in all project activities.

Good progress towards vulture species action plans and HWC management.

Expected investment in the Community Revolving Fund by the Makao WMA (Annex 45)

The exit strategy for the project is documented in Annex 1.

11. Darwin Initiative identity

The Darwin Initiative was publicised and acknowledged in meetings, workshops, and training sessions in the Masai Mara and Makao WMA. Nature Tanzania produced awareness creation materials such as T-shirts, posters, stickers, banners, and brochures with logos (BirdLife International, the Darwin Initiative/UK Aid, and Nature Tanzania). Darwin Initiative has also been acknowledged in posts and publications on official social media accounts and the Nature Tanzania website. Nature Kenya ensured appropriate branding using the Darwin Initiative logo in publicity was done. In addition, Nature Kenya tagged Darwin Initiative Twitter when communicating @UKBFs. The project did not refer explicitly to UK Aid during year 1 and it is our understand that this is not needed.

12. Safeguarding

Has your Safeguarding Policy been updated in the past 12 months?	Yes/No
Have any concerns been reported in the past 12 months	Yes/No
Does your project have a Safeguarding focal point?	<p>Yes/No <i>[If yes, please provide their name and email]</i></p> <p>BirdLife International: The Legal and Risk Manager, Georgie [REDACTED] is the safeguarding lead for BirdLife. Safeguarding contacts at project level would be the Project Lead or a described set of alternates (Line Manager, Human Resources Manager, Member of the Global Leadership Team):</p> <p>Nature Kenya; Carol [REDACTED] Nature Tanzania: Emmanuel [REDACTED]</p>
Has the focal point attended any formal training in the last 12 months?	<p>Yes/No <i>[If yes, please provide date and details of training]</i></p> <p>Past: 7% [at least 2 in Year 1] Planned: 17% [3] in Year 3</p> <p>Project Steering Group members have been taken through BirdLife's safeguarding policy. However, formal training will be provided to more members of the project team and to new staff in year 3 (planned for year 2).</p>
What proportion (and number) of project staff have received formal training on Safeguarding?	<p>Past: [2] Planned: [3]</p>

Has there been any lessons learnt or challenges on Safeguarding in the past 12 months? Please ensure no sensitive data is included within responses.

Within the implementation period, there have been no safeguarding issues related to the project to report. The project partners are required by their subcontract and encouraged to make sure any such issues are reported and dealt with in a timely and effective manner.

Ensuring that these policies are understood and fully complied with requires cascading to staff, partners, volunteers etc. and training. For the project, there was a plan to devote time in the second year to examining this issue to ensure that the policies are well understood, and that key project staff are appropriately trained.

With the introduction of more guidance and requirements for Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Harassment (SEAH) from Darwin, this training has been delayed until Year 3.

Does the project have any developments or activities planned around Safeguarding in the coming 12 months? If so please specify.

There is a plan to explore how best to integrate SEAH policies in line with UK standards and BirdLife aspirations in this and future projects.

Please describe any community sensitisation that has taken place over the past 12 months; include topics covered and number of participants.

Within the implementation period, there have been no safeguarding issues related to the project to report. The project partners are required by their subcontract and encouraged to make sure any such issues are reported and dealt with in a timely and effective manner.

Ensuring that these policies are understood and fully complied with requires cascading to staff, partners, volunteers etc. and training. For the project, there was a plan to devote time in the second year to examining this issue to ensure that the policies are well understood, and that key project staff are appropriately trained. Sadly, this did not happen. However, we do plan to do this in year 3. This may be late for this project, but from an organizational capacity perspective, this will have great value.

Have there been any concerns around Health, Safety and Security of your project over the past year? If yes, please outline how this was resolved.

No.

13. Project expenditure

Table 1: Project expenditure during the reporting period (1 April 2023 – 31 March 2024)

Project spend (indicative since last Annual Report)	2023/24 Grant (£)	2023/24 Total Darwin Costs (£)	Variance %	Comments (please explain significant variances)
Staff costs (see below)				
Consultancy costs				
Overhead Costs				
Travel and subsistence				
Operating Costs				

Capital items (see below)				
Others (see below)				
TOTAL	174,003	174,003	0%	

Table 2: Project mobilised or matched funding during the reporting period (1 April 2023 – 31 March 2024)

	Secured to date	Expected by end of project	Sources
Matched funding leveraged by the partners to deliver the project (£)			
Total additional finance mobilised for new activities occurring outside of the project, building on evidence, best practices and the project (£)			

11. Other comments on progress not covered elsewhere

12. 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 to edit and use the following for various promotional purposes (please leave this line in to indicate your agreement to use any material you provide here).

The Darwin Initiative funded project being delivered by BirdLife International and its partners, Nature Kenya and Nature Tanzania has completed its second year and the project has achieved or exceeded the vast majority of its planned activities designed to deliver scalable approaches to address the crisis facing African vultures.

The project is working towards an overall goal of delivering *Integrated and evidence-based approaches to reduce wildlife mortality from poisoning and improve livelihoods for communities living adjacent to protected areas in the Mara-Serengeti ecosystem.*

We are particularly pleased with the level of engagement of traditional healers in the Makao Wildlife Management Area, as working on belief-based use of vultures in Tanzania is a new area of work.

Another significant step forward has been the implementation of a Community Revolving Fund for the project, which is providing a community-managed mechanism to support nature friendly business development. This tool was developed by Nature Tanzania in another Darwin Initiative project in Lake Natron and we are pleased to be applying the same technique to this project.

We are pleased that the approach to addressing poisoning of wildlife through addressing Human-Wildlife Conflict by the construction of the project’s predator-proof bomas (enclosures) has been very successful in preventing carnivore attacks. We are optimistic that the positive results and widespread awareness raising and training will encourage a widespread uptake of these approaches – with reductions in wildlife poisoning incidents.

A particularly welcome addition to the conservation of vultures in the past year has been the development of two vulture conservation action plans in Kenya and Tanzania. Both plans offer a great opportunity to scale up and to integrate vulture conservation into other policies and sectors.

Image, Video or Graphic Information:

File Type (Image / Video / Graphic)	File Name or File Location	Caption including description, country and credit	Social media accounts and websites to be tagged (leave blank if none)	Consent of subjects received (delete as necessary)
Radion recording	Annex 17	Nature Kenya		Yes
Power point presentation	Annex 32	Mara Day Conference – BirdLife International		Yes
Image	Annex 50	Natue Tanzania – IVAD 2023		Yes
Image	Annex 22	Engaging traditional healers		Yes
Image	Annex 40	Awareness creation material – Nature tanzania		Yes
Image	Annex 48	Nature Tanzania – Awareness creation		Yes

Annex 1: Report of progress and achievements against logframe for Financial Year 2023-2024

Project summary	Progress and Achievements April 2023 - March 2024	Actions required/planned for next period
<p>Impact</p> <p>Integrated and evidence-based approaches reduce wildlife mortality from poisoning and improve livelihoods for communities living adjacent to protected areas in the Mara-Serengeti ecosystem</p>	<p>(Report on any contribution towards positive impact on biodiversity or positive changes in the conditions of human communities associated with biodiversity e.g. steps towards sustainable use or equitable sharing of costs or benefits)</p>	
<p>Outcome:Community livelihoods in the Mara-Serengeti are improved and pressure on wildlife (particularly vultures) reduced through addressing drivers of poisoning, including income losses, linked to human-wildlife conflict and belief based use</p>		
<p>Outcome indicator 0.1</p> <p>OI_1 ~50% of households (being 100 households/1200 people) in focal area (Narok County) KE are aware of and using alternative, non-lethal HWC mitigation methods e.g. new or improved bomas and better livestock management practices.</p> <p>20 additional households (240 people) in focal area report intention to install or reinforce bomas.</p>	<p>During the report period, a total of 83 community awareness and outreach events reaching out to 6291 participants (3438 women and 2853 men) were conducted (Annex 27) with information on non-lethal HWC mitigation methods particularly on improved bomas and better livestock management practices. As a result of construction of 20 pilot predator proof bomas as examples to local communities on improving livestock protection (Annex 13); 1300 community members were directly reached through learning visits and demonstration on predator proof bomas aimed at replication of best practice.</p>	<p>(Highlight key actions relevant to this indicator planned for next period)</p>
<p>Outcome indicator 0.2</p> <p>OI_2 Livestock losses (in USD) are reduced (livelihoods improved) by 70% in KE for improved bomas compared to unimproved bomas and 20% where other preventative measures are in use.</p>	<p>No livestock losses from households with improved predator proof bomas has been recorded since the bomas were constructed. Nature Kenya is also monitoring the effectiveness of other preventative measures which include livestock eyespots and lion deterrent lights..</p>	<p>An assessment of the value of reduced losses for the households with improved bomas will be made by EOP.</p> <p>Based on average livestock losses in previous years.</p>
<p>OI_3 Incidents of predator poisoning are reduced by 40% in project focal areas in KE from the baseline.</p>	<p>Data collection and collation on wildlife poisoning is ongoing. In Year 2, a total of 2 wildlife poisoning incidents were recorded. To assess the reduction of wildlife poisoning incidents effectively, this will be done at the EOP.</p>	

<p>OI_4 50% of sampled households in focal areas in KE and TZ report greater awareness of and appreciation for vultures and awareness of the risk of poison use, and 30% report reduced likelihood to use poison.</p>	<p>We are receiving positive feedback from the communities and traditional healers especially during meetings and workshops. The traditional healers are showing increased interest in using the plant-based alternative. Communities in Masai Mara are also showing interest to continue to protect vultures against poisoning.</p>	<p>The quantitative information related to attitude change will be more formally collated and shared by EOP.</p>
<p>OI_5 Information on the extent and drivers of belief-based use of vultures in Makao WMA, TZ is increased. A significant proportion (25%) of healers willing to consider using plant-based alternatives.</p>	<p>This was achieved as there are 124 traditional healers in Makao villages, 36 (29%) were reached who are now vulture conservation champions. They have committed to not using vulture body parts in traditional medicine and are positive about the potential for using plant-based alternatives, including the plant identified by the project. (Annex 20)</p>	<p>Further engagement in the third year will help to analyse the sustainability of this commitment.</p>
<p>OI_6 Monthly incomes of 200 people (1,380 household members) including 50% women in project areas in TZ are increased by 20% from the baseline as a result of sustainable livelihood development. (supported by a Community Revolving Fund – CRF).</p>	<p>Implementation of CRF is ongoing whereby a total of 62 people are direct beneficiaries in the first batch. (Annex 25, Annex 43)</p>	<p>More loan awards are planned in the 3rd year. Detailed information on incomes will be contained in the Final Report.</p>
<p>OI_7 30% Reduction in vulture (and other wildlife) deaths from poisoning incidents due to implementation of rapid response mechanisms (RRM) in focal areas in KE and TZ</p>	<p>Rangers from Makao WMA continue to monitor vulture poisoning combined with awareness creation in the landscape. No poisoning incident has been reported in the Makao WMA since the commencement of the project. In Kenya, 521 (M-454, F-67) wildlife rangers/scouts from 12 conservancies, 1 conservation project, and the Maasai Mara Reserve (Annex 28) were trained on the application of the national rapid response protocol to wildlife poisoning. This was aimed at enhancing stakeholder capacity on response to wildlife poisoning incidents by increasing surveillance and preparedness.</p>	<p>The effectiveness of the RRM in reducing mortality will be assessed at the end of the project.</p>
<p>Output 1 Socio-economic drivers and impacts of wildlife poisoning in Mara-Serengeti are understood and inform a range of community-focused interventions.</p>		
<p>Output indicator 1.1 Before the end of year 1 Workshops in each project area (2 in KE, 1 in TZ) attended by 50 community representatives e.g. local business owners and village chiefs (at least 50% female participants) identify problems faced by local communities and identify solutions that link sustainable livelihood practices and use of natural resources, specifically HWC and poisoning,</p>	<p>Feedback forums were conducted in 19 villages located within the two focal areas in Masai Mara, reaching out to 617 people (270 men and 347 women), validating challenges faced by local communities and identifying solutions that link sustainable livelihood practices and use of natural resources,</p>	

	specifically HWC and poisoning captured in the baseline study in year one (Annex 1)	
Output indicator 1.2, Before the end of year 1, Outreach surveys conducted in ~50% of households in project areas (KE) (approx. 100 households/ 1200 people per site with at least 50% female participants) identify key drivers of wildlife poisoning specific to project areas to align with key socio-economic solutions identified in consultation workshops	Achieved in Y1	
Output indicator 1.3 Before the end of year 1, Outreach surveys conducted in Makao WMA, TZ with 4 stakeholder groups (traditional healers, community members, local government authorities and the private sector) covering 20% of the population within the WMA (~500 people), gather socio-economic data, attitudes towards wildlife and extent of and attitudes to belief-based use of vulture parts.	Achieved in Y1	
Output indicator 1.4 By end of year 1, start of year 2, Vulture conservation models for each focal area (KE and TZ) are developed based on analysis of surveys and workshops.	In Kenya the process of developing a national Vulture Multi Species Conservation and Recovery Action Plan which includes proposed vulture conservation models was completed (Annex 4). Nature Tanzania developed a vulture conservation model (Annex 6), that accommodates and summarizes various levels of intervention and the relevant approaches for enhancing vulture conservation in Tanzania. Nature Tanzania also supported the development of Vulture conservation and management plan for Tanzania (Annex 5) Nature Kenya used model that combined the use of Predator proof bomas, awareness creation on best herding practices, use of eye-spots , deterrent lights, trained rangers and scouts in responding to wildlife poisoning and improving livelihoods through engagements in nature friendly. BirdLife International, Nature Tanzania developed a vulture conservation model (Annex 6), that accommodates and summarizes various levels of intervention and the relevant approaches for enhancing vulture conservation in Makao	

	WMA, Tanzania like community engagement and reducing the use of vulture parts for belief-based use	
Output indicator 1.5 Vulture monitoring is in place. Status of the Important Bird and Key Biodiversity Areas in focal area is updated.	In Kenya, Nature Kenya conducted vulture survey in Masai Mara from 19 th to 23 rd March 2024 as a build-up on the baseline survey conducted between 23 rd and 27 th February 2023. (Annex 7). Collated KBA Basic Monitoring forms- 2022 Kenya Status and Trend Report published (Link). In Tanzania, Nature Tanzania conducted a vulture population survey in Makao WMA in August 2023 as a build-up on the baseline survey conducted in year 1 comparing two seasons during wildebeest migration and after wildebeest migration. (Annex 16). Following an IBA feasibility assessment, it has been officially designated as a new IBA in Tanzania. (Annex 8)	
Output indicator 1.6 By start of year 2, Feasibility of establishment of Vulture Safe Zones (VSZs) in project area is assessed and a set of criteria established.	Nature Tanzania reviewed the guiding criteria for establishing vulture safe zone in relation to Makao WMA. From the review, it was noted that Makao WMA suits for nomination as a vulture safe zone. Nature Kenya conducted discussions/consultations on the viability or applicability of the VSZ concept through the development of the national Vulture Multi Species Action plan (Annex 4).	
Output 2. Vulture conservation models, incorporating livelihood improvements are implemented in the focal areas in Maasai Mara, Kenya and Makao WMA, Tanzania.(directly benefitting ~1,700 people, reaching 15,000).		
Output indicator 2.1. 2.1 By end of yr 2, 300 community members (150 per area and at least 50% women) are trained/informed about conservation friendly business development in the Maasai Mara.	This has been achieved. By end of Y2, a total 527 households (472F, 55M) organized in 19 Community Based Organizations were trained and informed about conservation friendly business development. In partnership with relevant county government departments–Social services department supported in training on leadership and governance; and Narok county agricultural extension officers provided support with training on conservation friendly business which included poultry and bee keeping enterprises (Annex 10)	
Output indicator 2.2. By EOP, 20 predator-proof bomas (representing 10 % of <i>bomas</i> or 15% of livestock owners) are erected in the 2 project focal areas in Narok County, Maasai Mara, Kenya. Promotion	Achieved. By end of Y2, a total of 20 predator proof bomas have been erected in the project areas in Masai Mara, Narok county (Annex 13). Community sensitization on approaches to replicate the predator proof bomas has been carried out reaching 1300 community members aimed at replicating lessons on livestock protection. Further to 80 households reinforced their bomas through installation of lion deterrent	We will continue monitoring the effectiveness of the predator proof bomas and encourage the community to install predator proof bomas

encourages an additional 20 livestock owners to commit to installing bomas post project.	lights which contribute predator proofing livestock enclosures.	
Output indicator 2.3. By EOP 3, 80 households in the 2 project focal areas in Kenya receive advice on non lethal predator mitigation / husbandry advice	80 households reinforced their bomas through installation of lion deterrent lights which contribute predator proofing livestock enclosures, and 700 households approximately were reached with advice on non-lethal predator mitigation and livestock husbandry best practices (Annex 11).	
Output indicator 2.4.a By end of year 2, 8 market outreach events in 2 hotspot areas in Maasai Mara, Kenya and in Makao WMA, Tanzania, reaching out to >50% of households in both sites (~15,000 people) to raise awareness of value of vultures and stop/reduce wildlife poisoning.	This was achieved by the end of year 2. In year 1, six market outreaches were conducted in Kenya, five more market outreaches were conducted in year 2 in Makao WMA (Annex 19) bringing to a total of 11 market outreaches in Masai Mara and Makao WMA. Approximately 14,500 people were reached.	
Output indicator 2.4.b By EOP, 20 community/village level barazas and 5 village general assemblies are held, reaching at least 500 people with key messages/topics for vulture conservation about their value and key threats.	During the report period, a total of 83 community awareness and outreach events (village level barazas), 1 youth forum, and marked 2 global events (world wildlife day and International Vulture Awareness Day 2023) reaching out to 6291 participants (3438 women and 2853 men) in Masai Mara (Annex 27)	
Output indicator 2.4.c By EOP, 1000 copies of vulture awareness information posters/leaflets are shared with schools and posted in public areas etc. reaching ~10,000 people. Radio broadcasts reaching very large audience.	Nature Kenya used local FM Radio Mayian FM and Sidai FM; to broadcast information within and beyond the project area reaching out to at least 10,000+ community on information to stop wildlife poisoning (Annex 17- <i>FM radio recording</i>). 6 awareness roll up banners on vulture species and 6 banners on improved herding practices in local language (Annex 15) were produced to support education and awareness across project landscape. In Tanzania, 1831 copies of vulture awareness creatin materials - posters/stickers/t-shirts were distributed in Makao WMA through different activities such as market outreach event, entrepreneurship trainings, workshops and meetings reaching to more than 10000 people including traditional healers. (Annex 40)	
Output indicator 2.5 By EOP, >50 traditional healers in Makao and their respective associations are engaged and their awareness raised on the values	We have reached 36 traditional healers who are now vulture conservation champions, and they are not using vulture body parts in traditional medicine only focused on the alternative plant. Through workshops and meetings, they have become	

<p>of vultures, the need to conserve them and find alternatives to using vulture body parts that can be supported by the CRF e.g. using and farming plant-based alternatives.</p>	<p>aware about vulture conservation, and they have been participating actively in awareness raising events and deliver massages to other traditional healers. (Annex 20).</p>	
<p>Output indicator 2.6</p> <p>By the end of year 2 business support training and advice is provided to 200 people (60% women) from Makao WMA on sustainable local livelihoods that can be supported by the CRF, linked to biodiversity /environmental commitments. To include basic small business skills, examination of options: poultry, bees, micro renewables, crafts, and support to develop chosen options)</p>	<p>In Makao WMA, 210 people were trained on sustainable local livelihoods. Nature Tanzania conducted a two times entrepreneurship training workshop to small entrepreneurs from villages forming Makao WMA. There were 51 participants (29 females) in the first training conducted on 28th – 29th November 2023 in Meatu town, and 159 participants (80 women) in the follow up training on 17th and 18th February 2024 in Mbushi Primary school. The training aimed at capacity building on business implementation to small entrepreneurs so that they can improve their business and livelihood in general reducing pressure on the environment and wildlife. (Annex 12)</p>	
<p>Output indicator 2.7.a.</p> <p>By end of yr 2, CRF operational procedures are in place (at least 250 people including 50 men, 100 women, 70 youths and 30 traditional healers trained in effective utilization and management of the CRF and its link with/requirements for sustainable resource use.</p>	<p>The CRF operational procedures are in place and more than 250 people trained on effective utilization and management of CRF (This activity was completed and was reported in year 1).</p>	
<p>Output indicator 2.7.b.</p> <p>By EOP, a total of 200 people including 100 women, 40 men, 50 youths and 10 traditional healers benefitted from the CRF. Their monthly income will increase by 20% as a result of use of CRF and related advice and support.</p>	<p>Implementation of CRF is ongoing whereby a total of 62 people are direct beneficiaries in the first batch. (Annex 25) More batches for loan award are planned in the 3rd year.</p>	
<p>Output indicator 2.7.c.</p> <p>By EOP, the CRF is in operation (in line with Terms of Ref) and remains in place and intact beyond the project period. (Anticipate 70 people to receive support from the Fund each year after EOP)</p>	<p>As we were sub granted the CRF fund to Makao WMA, being involved in each stage the whole loaning process the Makao management is now mastered how to operate the CRF. To commit themselves on management of the CRF as they observe the challenge of the limited amount of CRF compared to the demand they are planning to add the fund from their income sources and fundraising more.</p>	

<p>Output 3. The impact of poisoning incidents is mitigated by the set up, training and equipping of three Rapid Poison Response Mechanism (RRM) anti-poisoning groups in Kenya and Tanzania</p>		
<p>Output indicator 3.1</p> <p>Two active anti-poisoning groups (with >25 members each) with 1 in each of the 2 hotspot areas in Maasai Mara, Kenya, and 100% of the existing Makao WMA ranger group (50) provided with a 2-day training workshop, response kits and handbooks on implementing the protocol.</p>	<p>During the reporting period, capacity of the two active anti-poisoning groups in the 2 hotspot areas in Masai Mara was strengthened. Two feedback forums to anti-poisoning groups in the Masai Mara landscape were held, aimed at sharing lessons and strengthening response (Annex 26). 29 members of the anti-poisoning group were trained on field data capture and collection methodologies part of implementation of poisoning rapid response protocol using smart phone application ArcGIS Survey 123.</p>	
<p>Output indicator 3.2</p> <p>80 vulture champions/ rangers/enforcement officers from community/conservancy rangers/Makao WMS are supplied with equipment to assist with implementation of Rapid Poison Response Mechanism (RRM) and are trained in the protocol.</p>	<p>In Masai Mara, total of 521 (M-454, F-67) wildlife rangers/scouts from 12 conservancies, 1 conservation project, and the Maasai Mara Reserve (Annex 28) were trained on the application of the national rapid response protocol to wildlife poisoning. This was aimed at enhancing stakeholder capacity on response to wildlife poisoning incidents by increasing surveillance and preparedness In Makao WMA, there are 127 vulture champions (36 traditional healers, 62 CRF beneficiaries' and 29 Village Game Scouts (VGS)). The village game scouts were trained on responding to poisoning incidents.</p>	
<p>Output indicator 3.3</p> <p>Three active anti-poisoning groups are operational by EOP, two in Narok County, KE, one in Makao WMA, TZ.</p>	<p>Achieved in year 1</p>	
<p>Output 4. Results and lessons are synthesised, shared and promoted to raise NGO capacity for vulture conservation in Africa and to influence practice at national levels in Kenya and Tanzania and pan-African levels.</p>		
<p>Output indicator 4.1</p> <p>Capacity for vulture conservation is increased through mentoring and sharing of experience between NGOs and joint fundraising including the formation of a BirdLife Vulture Forum and the foundation laid for an East African Poison Network</p>	<p>In June 2023, the East Africa Wildlife Poisoning Response Network was establishing to combat wildlife poisoning in the sub-region. BirdLife International, in collaboration with Nature Tanzania, organized a two-day workshop in Arusha, Tanzania, on the 13th and 14th June 2023 to establish this network. The workshop brought together 21 participants from three countries (Tanzania, Uganda and Rwanda) (Annex 34). Nature</p>	

	Tanzania and Nature Uganda have started the process of establishing in-country poisoning response networks.	
<p>Output indicator 4.2</p> <p>Lessons learnt, project findings, and project outputs shared with BirdLife Partners at annual BirdLife Council of the African Partnership with around 100+ participants and with ornithologists at the Pan-African Ornithological Conference (PAOC 16) in 2022 with ca. 250 participants, as well as in at least 2 regional and international forums (e.g. BirdLife World Congress and 100-year anniversary in 2022)</p>	During the reporting period, peer to peer lesson sharing was conducted where Nature Kenya hosted Nature Tanzania in Masai Mara to learn about vulture conservation approached in Masai Mara by Nature Kenya (Annex 2)	We plan to share lessons, project findings, and project outputs shared with BirdLife Partners at annual BirdLife Council of the African Partnership in year 3 and also through the BirdLife Africa Vulture Conservation Forum
<p>Output indicator 4.3</p> <p>Lessons learnt, project findings and project outputs shared with relevant national and regional government authorities including wildlife department, conservancies and Wildlife Management Areas, livestock and agriculture, environment and tourism in Kenya and Tanzania as well as the Sectoral Committee responsible for wildlife and agriculture of the East African Community reaching 300 people.</p>	Nature Kenya presented lessons generated from the project in the national Wildlife Conference held between 26th-28th September 2023 (Annex 35) on community level best practices to mitigate human wildlife conflict through innovative approaches like predator proof bomas and livestock eye spots. Nature Tanzania shared findings on the vulture population surveys at Makao (Annex 42) in the 14th Tanzania Wildlife Research Institute (TAWIRI). Nature Tanzania also conducted a national lesson sharing and feedback meeting with the President's Office – Regional Administration Local Government and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism (MNRT) in January 2024 where 17 government officials were reached. BirdLife International and Nature Tanzania Participated in the 12th Mara Day Conference 14th to 15th September 2023 in Mugumu town where project lessons and findings were shared reaching more than 200 participants (Annex 31, Annex 32)	
<p>Output indicator 4.4</p> <p>Lessons learnt, project findings and project outputs disseminated through internal BirdLife communication channels e.g. remote meetings and web-platforms and via external media channels e.g. Darwin newsletter, websites, social media, radio etc reaching 100,000 people in both countries and internationally</p>	Lesson learned and project finding and output were disseminated via external media which include-monthly Nature Net which is available to public and website (Link- October 2023 Nature Net) and local media platforms- print media with wide reach in the Kenya (Annex 36), Sayansi Issue No.33 Pg 35-36 highlighted aspects of improved livestock herding practices (Annex 46). Nature Tanzania conducted a webinar where traditional beliefs and bird conservation: a case study of vulture conservation in Makao WMA was	

	<p>presented sharing experiences working with traditional healer in vulture conservation (Annex 15). Nature Tanzania also shared project findings and updates by publishing them in social media platforms, blogs, websites and Television channels for awareness raising purpose and reaching more people. Below are some direct links publishing one of the activities. https://simiyupresstz.blogspot.com/2023/06/nature-tanzania-yatoa-elimu-kuwalinda.html?m=1 https://www.instagram.com/p/CtwRHDTqPpX/?igshid=NjZiM2M3MzlxNA==</p> <p>Nature Tanzania also shared project updates via Nature Tanzania's Instagram account, Facebook account and Nature Tanzania website and also publish articles "Community Revolving Fund (CRF) support vulture conservation effort in Tanzania" to BirdLife Africa Newsletter Issue 10 in December 2023, "Nature Tanzania tackles belief-based killing of vultures in Tanzania" to BirdLife Africa Newsletter Issue 9 in October 2023.</p>	
<p>Output indicator 4.5</p> <p>Lessons learnt, project findings and project outputs disseminated through celebrations for International Vulture Awareness Day in project countries reaching 2,000 people.</p>	<p>Marked 2023, International Vulture Awareness Day in the project site, through awareness creation events reaching to 129 people physically and more than 10000 people through local FM (Sidai FM and Mayian FM) stations that covered the event – (Annex 17) Nature Tanzania observed International Vulture Awareness Day by raising awareness at Mwangudo Primary School, reaching a total of 104 students and 11 teachers. More than 250 people were also reached through a youth football match (Annex 18).</p>	
<p>Output indicator 4.6</p> <p>Recommendations for improvement in policy and legislation concerning vultures and wildlife poisoning provided to the Kenya Wildlife Service and to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism, TZ. In KE, this will include suggestive amendment for substance controls/bans and support for development of National Vulture Conservation Action Plan</p>	<p>Recommendations concerning vultures generated through this project catalysed the development of Kenya Vulture Multispecies Action Plan (Annex 4). In addition, recommendations informed national Human Wildlife Conflict Strategy (Annex 38). Information generated by this project informed national and county level policy process which include- Greater Mara Ecosystem Management Plan (Annex 39). Nature Tanzania supported the process of developing the vulture conservation management action plan for Tanzania (Annex 5)</p>	

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
<p>Impact: Integrated and evidence-based approaches reduce wildlife mortality from poisoning and improve livelihoods for communities living adjacent to protected areas in the Mara-Serengeti ecosystem</p>			
<p>Outcome: Community livelihoods in the Mara-Serengeti are improved and pressure on wildlife (particularly vultures) reduced through addressing drivers of poisoning, including income losses, linked to human-wildlife conflict and belief based use</p>	<p>By End of Project (EOP):</p> <p>OI_1 ~50% of households (being 100 households/1200 people) in focal area (Narok County) KE are aware of and using alternative, non-lethal HWC mitigation methods e.g. new or improved bomas and better livestock management practices.</p> <p>20 additional households (240 people) in focal area report intention to install or reinforce bomas.</p> <p>OI_2 Livestock losses (in USD) are reduced (livelihoods improved) by 70% in KE for improved bomas compared to unimproved bomas and 20% where other preventive measures are in use.</p> <p>OI_3 Incidents of predator poisoning are reduced by 40% in project focal areas in KE from the baseline.</p> <p>OI_4 50% of sampled households in focal areas in KE and TZ report greater awareness of and appreciation for vultures and awareness of the risk of poison use, and 30% report reduced likelihood to use poison.</p>	<p>OI_1 Report on number and % of households adopting alternative mitigation measures supported by the project, including description of methods used. Baseline on primary mitigation methods used at beginning of project required.</p> <p>Survey to gather evidence of intention/wish to install bomas.</p> <p>OI_2 Economic surveys including livestock losses at the start and end of the project.</p> <p>(Appropriate baseline measures to be assessed for focal areas, but average loss of \$1,870 per annum for unfortified bomas in similar location reported. Loss reduced to 492 USD per annum for fortified bomas. Typical loss to predation is +/- 14% of stock per year.</p> <p>OI-3 Baseline and EOP surveys on predator poisoning incidences and HWC plus African Wildlife Poisoning Database.</p> <p>OI-4 Questionnaires and surveys of samples of participants / recipients of education and awareness actions.</p>	<p>National and district governments, park authorities and communities continue to engage on addressing HWC in the Mara-Serengeti ecosystem.</p> <p>We think this will hold true based on support expressed, community engagement and success in other areas.</p> <p>It is possible to measure change in predator poisoning in a meaningful way not distorted by an increase in reporting.</p> <p>The Poisoning Database is already proving a valuable tool, but gaps in data and increased reporting will skew data. A quantitative assessment may be a challenge over 3 years, but a qualitative assessment can help address the impact of increases in reporting.</p> <p>OI-3 Baseline and EOP surveys on predator poisoning incidences and HWC plus African Wildlife Poisoning Database. changes. but economic shocks, such as COVID will be factored in.</p> <p>Reductions in livestock losses and increases in sustainable livelihoods, coupled with awareness actions lead to the behaviour change anticipated.</p> <p>We expect this to hold true based on similar initiatives elsewhere but must be prepared to adapt.</p> <p>Traditional healers in Makao WMA show willingness to consider using alternatives</p>

	<p>OI_5 Information on the extent and drivers of belief-based use of vultures in Makao WMA, TZ is increased. A significant proportion (25%) of healers willing to consider using plant-based alternatives.</p> <p>OI_6 Monthly incomes of 200 people (1,380 household members) including 50% women in project areas in TZ are increased by 20% from the baseline as a result of sustainable livelihood development. (supported by a Community Revolving Fund – CRF).</p> <p>OI_7 30% Reduction in vulture (and other wildlife) deaths from poisoning incidents due to implementation of rapid response mechanisms (RRM) in focal areas in KE and TZ</p>	<p>OI-5 Belief-based use survey and analysis report (current state) and report on engagement in reduction or mitigations (future intention).</p> <p>OI-6 Economic surveys including income / wealth measures and wellbeing indicators at the start and end of the project. (Baseline to be updated for focal area, but is ~\$22/mo/household, \$17 men, \$9 women. Household size is 6.9)</p> <p>OI-7 Poisoning incident reports where RRM is used compared to where it is not. Poisoning data mortalities per incident for Kenya and TZ (~38 deaths (14 vultures) per incident versus mortalities per incident within RRM operation.</p> <p>OI-3 and 7 will contribute to and access the following:</p> <p>Data from the African Wildlife Poisoning Database (AWPD) and also from national records of poisoning incidents. Data from other</p>	<p>to animal parts. Plant alternative choices are not threatened species.</p> <p>We think this will hold true based on success in Nigeria – but this is very much an information gathering and pilot action, so we must be prepared to adapt. Reach out to botanist experts/Red Lists to check threatened species.</p> <p>The CRF does not support activities damaging to the environment. This will hold true as the Terms of Reference will include restrictions on what can be funded and the obligations of recipients.</p> <p>COVID 19 travel restrictions do not prevent the implementation of the project or distort results.</p> <p>Adaptive management will prepare for and address this. The focus on in-country staff also reduces this risk. Measurement of indicators may need to factor in economic impacts.</p> <p>Project staff are aware of any emerging issues resulting from new, legal bushmeat markets in TZ.</p> <p>Staff will monitor development of this.</p> <p>The project results in more capacity, interest and resources for sustainability and scaling up by multiple stakeholders in the region.</p> <p>We think the training, provision of resources, awareness raising and dissemination will support this. Ongoing participation in AWPD. WhatsApp group, and the emerging East African Poisoning Network will help to mainstream this approach.</p>
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<p>Output 1</p> <p>Socio-economic drivers and impacts of wildlife poisoning in Mara-Serengeti are understood and inform a range of community-focused interventions.</p>	<p>1.1 Before the end of year 1 Workshops in each project area (2 in KE, 1 in TZ) attended by 50 community representatives e.g. local business owners and village chiefs (at least 50% female participants) identify problems faced by local communities and identify solutions that link sustainable livelihood practices and use of natural resources, specifically HWC and poisoning,</p> <p>1.2 Before the end of year 1, Outreach surveys conducted in ~50% of households in project areas (KE) (approx. 100 households/ 1200 people per site with at least 50% female participants) identify key drivers of wildlife poisoning specific to project areas to align with key socio-economic solutions identified in consultation workshops.</p> <p>1.3 Before the end of year 1, Outreach surveys conducted in Makao WMA, TZ with 4 stakeholder groups (traditional healers, community members, local government authorities and the private sector) covering 20% of the population within the WMA (~500 people), gather socio-economic data, attitudes towards wildlife and extent of and attitudes to belief-based use of vulture parts.</p> <p>1.4 By end of year 1, start of year 2, Vulture conservation models for each focal area (KE and TZ) are developed based on analysis of surveys and workshops.</p> <p>1.5 Vulture monitoring is in place. Status of the Important Bird and Key Biodiversity Areas in focal area is updated.</p>	<p>1.1 Workshop reports (disaggregated by location, occupation and gender).</p> <p>1.2 Outreach survey reports (disaggregated by location, occupation and gender).</p> <p>Survey reports (disaggregated by location, stakeholder group and gender), to include a map of hotspot areas for belief-based use if feasible.</p> <p>1.4 Proposal document with models for socio-economic improvement and vulture conservation interventions in project areas (Kenya and Tanzania).</p> <p>1.5 Monitoring data report. IBA/KBA Report (and World Bird Database)</p>	<p>Workshops and surveys gather information from a representative sample.</p> <p>Workshops may be split into smaller groups to meet COVID restrictions and encourage participation of women and other groups.</p> <p>Government agencies in both countries continue willingness to cooperate and engage in addressing illegal wildlife poisoning.</p> <p>We think this will hold true due to advocacy experience of national partners and govt. strategies</p> <p>Stakeholders continue willingness to engage in project activities and address drivers for wildlife poisoning.</p> <p>We think this will hold true if project outputs are achieved.</p> <p>Traditional healers are willing to provide information on belief-based use. (See earlier comment. Also, surveys will be conducted in such a way as to maintain trust – involve community members, anonymizing, using small groups or individual interviews, backed up by market surveys).</p>
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	<p>1.6 By start of year 2, Feasibility of establishment of Vulture Safe Zones (VSZs) in project area is assessed and a set of criteria established</p>	<p>1.6 Feasibility report for developing VSZs in project focal areas and draft of criteria for VSZs in East Africa.</p>	
<p>Output 2 Vulture conservation models, incorporating livelihood improvements are implemented in the focal areas in Maasai Mara, Kenya and Makao WMA, Tanzania.(directly benefitting ~1,700 people, reaching 15,000).</p>	<p>2.1 By end of yr 2, 300 community members (150 per area and at least 50% women) are trained/informed about conservation friendly business development in the Maasai Mara.</p> <p>2.2 By EOP, 20 predator-proof bomas (representing 10 % of bomas or 15% of livestock owners) are erected in the 2 project focal areas in Narok County, Maasai Mara, Kenya. Promotion encourages an additional 20 livestock owners to commit to installing bomas post project.</p> <p>2.3 By EOP 3, 80 households in the 2 project focal areas in Kenya receive advice on non lethal predator mitigation / husbandry advice</p> <p>2.4 a. By end of year 2, 8 market outreach events in 2 hotspot areas in Maasai Mara, Kenya and in Makao WMA, Tanzania, reaching out to >50% of households in both sites (~15,000 people) to raise awareness of value or vultures and stop/reduce wildlife poisoning.</p> <p>b. By EOP, 20 community/village level barazas and 5 village general assemblies are held, reaching at least 500 people with key messages/topics for vulture conservation about their value and key threats.</p> <p>c. By EOP, 1000 copies of vulture awareness information posters/leaflets are shared with schools and posted in</p>	<p>2.1 Workshop report (disaggregated by location, occupation and gender), including details of priority business opportunities.</p> <p>2.2 Criteria for boma selection. Database of bomas receiving interventions, including location, criteria match evaluation, demographic information of household members, (inc. gender), description of boma improvement technique applied and incidents of livestock predation for each boma (occurring at night when livestock are inside boma).</p> <p>2.3 Reports of guidance provided and audience, including feedback.</p> <p>2.4 a. b. Reports from 8 market outreach events, 20 barazas, 5 village general assemblies and 20 school visits from both project sites. Reports will include location information, photos, signed participant list (inc. gender) and curriculum details/key messages</p>	<p>Local communities are receptive to engagement in non-lethal methods of predator control acknowledging that livelihood improvement methods can help alleviate losses from HWC.</p> <p>We think this will hold true if project outputs are achieved.</p> <p>Communities provide accurate information on incidents of livestock predation.</p> <p>We think this will hold true due to careful selection, training and prep. Will need to adjust for increasing in reporting.</p> <p>Bomas are the primary or preferred method for livestock protection in project areas.</p> <p>We think this will hold true due to focal area selection.</p> <p>Boma designs will protect against attacks from all predator species.</p> <p>We think this will hold true due to boma improvements matched to requirements.</p> <p>Making communities more aware of vultures, wildlife and poisoning will cause people to reconsider attitudes and behaviours.</p> <p>We think this will hold true based on experience.</p> <p>Training in business entrepreneurship will lead to community members implementing ideas and improving</p>

	<p>public areas etc. reaching ~10,000 people. Radio broadcasts reaching very large audience.</p> <p>2.5 By EOP, >50 traditional healers in Makao and their respective associations are engaged and their awareness raised on the values of vultures, the need to conserve them and find alternatives to using vulture body parts that can be supported by the CRF e.g. using and farming plant-based alternatives.</p> <p>2.6 By the end of year 2 business support training and advice is provided to 200 people (60% women) from Makao WMA on sustainable local livelihoods that can be supported by the CRF, linked to biodiversity /environmental commitments. To include basic small business skills, examination of options: poultry, bees, micro renewables crafts, and support to develop chosen options)</p> <p>2.7 a. By end of yr 2, CRF operational procedures are in place (at least 250 people including 50 men, 100 women, 70 youths and 30 traditional healers trained in effective utilization and management of the CRF and its link with/requirements for sustainable resource use.</p> <p>b. By EOP, a total of 200 people including 100 women, 40 men, 50 youths and 10 traditional healers benefitted from the CRF. Their monthly income will increase by 20% as a result of use of CRF and related advice and support..</p> <p>c. By EOP, the CRF is in operation (in line with Terms of Ref) and remains in place and intact beyond the project period. (Anticipate 70 people to receive support from the Fund each year after EOP)</p>	<p>c. Awareness poster/leaflets and children's educational materials.</p> <p>Programme description and audience estimates for radio broadcasts.</p> <p>2.5 Workshop reports from traditional healer workshops (disaggregated by location and gender).</p> <p>2.6 Workshop reports from business support workshops (disaggregated by location and gender)</p> <p>2.7 a. Developed and approved procedures and guidelines for the CRF scheme; signed participant lists and training reports.</p> <p>b. Beneficiary reports (disaggregated by gender, age and occupation)</p>	<p>livelihoods in ways that do not negatively impact wildlife.</p> <p>We think this will hold true based on previous experience, aided by an intention to maintain a relationship with the communities to support further intervention.</p> <p>Traditional healers show willingness to consider using alternatives to animal parts and/or adopting alternative livelihood practices.</p> <p>See earlier comment</p> <p>Communities will participate in and sustain the CRF after project duration.</p> <p>We think this will hold true based on previous experience (e.g. in Lake Natron, TZ)</p>
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		c. Final report on CRF and ongoing plan of operation	
Output 3	3.1 Two active anti-poisoning groups (with >25 members each) with 1 in each of the 2 hotspot areas in Maasai Mara, Kenya, and 100% of the existing Makao WMA ranger group (50) provided with a 2-day training workshop, response kits and handbooks on implementing the protocol.	3.1 Report on Rapid Poison Response Mechanism (RRM) for Kenya and report of pilot RRM in Tanzania. Map of area coverage of Rapid Response network including specific locations of hotspots, trainings and placement of response kits	Communities and Governments are willing to take action against wildlife poisoning and its drivers. Government authorities are willing to integrate Rapid Poison Response into their policies.
	3.2 80 vulture champions/rangers/enforcement officers from community/conservancy rangers/Makao WMS are supplied with equipment to assist with implementation of Rapid Poison Response Mechanism (RRM) and are trained in the protocol. 3.3 Three active anti-poisoning groups are operational by EOP, two in Narok County, KE, one in Makao WMA, TZ.	3.2 No. of issued certifications from 2-day Rapid Response training and list of people recruited into RRM/anti-poisoning groups. 3.3 Detail of group members, follow up and activities (including recording and attendance at poisoning events)	Rapid Response Groups continue to reduce vulture and other wildlife deaths at poisoning incidents. We think this will hold true as it works elsewhere, including in other parts of the project area. Communities and Governments are willing to consider and provide feedback on piloting alternative new approaches to vulture conservation e.g. VSZs. We think this will hold true based on experience elsewhere
Output 4	By EOP: 4.1 Capacity for vulture conservation is increased through mentoring and sharing of experience between NGOs and joint fundraising including the formation of a BirdLife Vulture Forum and the foundation laid for an East African Poison Network. 4.2 Lessons learnt, project findings, and project outputs shared with BirdLife Partners at annual BirdLife Council of the African Partnership with around 100+ participants and with ornithologists at the Pan-African Ornithological Conference (PAOC 16) in 2022 with ca. 250 participants, as well as in at least 2 regional and international forums (e.g.	4.1 Number of vulture initiatives in Tanzania (+2), number of staff in Nature Tanzania with vulture experience (+3). New vulture networks and structures functioning (+2). 4.2 Presentations, audience and report of BirdLife Africa CAP meeting, from PAOC 16, from World Congress and other forums.	Lessons learnt will result in rolling out of successful actions to more areas. We think this will hold true as there is a growing audience for this material Lessons learnt are adaptable or applicable to other contexts across the continent and beyond. We think this will hold true although adaptations will likely be needed BirdLife and Partners are in a position to influence government into adopting policies and laws to support vulture conservation.

	<p>BirdLife World Congress and 100 year anniversary in 2022)</p> <p>4.3 Lessons learnt, project findings and project outputs shared with relevant national and regional government authorities including wildlife department, conservancies and Wildlife Management Areas, livestock and agriculture, environment and tourism in Kenya and Tanzania as well as the Sectoral Committee responsible for wildlife and agriculture of the East African Community reaching 300 people.</p> <p>4.4 Lessons learnt, project findings and project outputs disseminated through internal BirdLife communication channels e.g. remote meetings and web-platforms and via external media channels e.g. Darwin newsletter, websites, social media, radio etc reaching 100,000 people in both countries and internationally.</p> <p>4.5 Lessons learnt, project findings and project outputs disseminated through celebrations for International Vulture</p>	<p>4.3 Online repository with documented results and learnings from the project and distribution list.</p> <p>4.4 Media report on coverage and reach.</p> <p>4.5 Report on Vulture Awareness Day</p>	<p>We think this will hold true due to track record although we recognise that policy changes can take time and implementation (resources) will also be needed.</p>
<p>Activities (each activity is numbered according to the output that it will contribute towards, for example 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 are contributing to Output 1)</p> <p>1.1.1 Conduct outreach surveys to target households in project areas in Maasai Mara, Kenya to obtain information on key drivers of wildlife poisoning and socioeconomic situation.</p> <p>1.1.2 Use surveys and desk research to establish baselines for incidents of livestock predation and poisoning incidences in Maasai Mara, Kenya, and repeat surveys at end of project to measure impact. BLI and technical assistance consultant to advise on survey content, requirements to meet monitoring needs, other project needs and safeguarding as well as gender and cultural issues. National Partners to implement with project staff.</p> <p>1.1.3 End of project surveys will be carried out with a sampling of participants. Details to be developed with advice from monitoring and evaluation consultant and relevant staff.</p> <p>1.2.1 Conduct stakeholder surveys at the beginning of the project in Makao Wildlife Management Area (WMA), Tanzania on the belief-based use of vultures, believed to be the key driver of vulture poisoning in project area. NT to lead with input from BLI and Nigerian Conservation Foundation and BirdLife Zimbabwe (who have conducted similar surveys) and technical assistance on effective survey design from a consultant.</p> <p>End of project surveys will be carried out with a sampling of participants. Details to be developed with advice from monitoring and evaluation consultant and relevant staff.</p> <p>1.3.1 BLI and consultants (one for TZ and one for KE/or combine) advise on survey content, requirements to meet monitoring needs, other project needs and safeguarding as well as gender and cultural issues. BirdLife to support survey design and National Partners to implement with project staff.</p>			

1.3.2 Convene workshops in project areas in Kenya and Tanzania to promote discussion with key stakeholders to identify impacts of living with wildlife and to develop activities that the project can support to benefit communities and vultures.

1.4.1 Consolidate outputs from workshops and surveys in each project country to develop a site-specific model for priority anti-poisoning and vulture conservation interventions that has strong buy-in from communities. BLI to coordinate so that models are coherent and comparable, but National Partners to design.

1.5.1 Conduct baseline and follow up vulture population surveys in the project area. These will include nesting vulture census and road counts.

Feed data into BirdLife Database and share with other interested parties. These will supplement existing monitoring undertaken by The Peregrine Fund and Kenya Birds of Prey Trust – adding to the body of data. This is particularly lacking in Tanzania.

1.5.2 Conduct an update assessment of the Important Bird Area/Key Biodiversity Area (IBAs/IBAs) in the focal area (both are IBAs) to assess status and update relevant species data.

1.6.1 Scope potential for establishing Vulture Safe Zones (VSZs) that could be established e.g. focal areas that integrate anti-poisoning - RRM and other threat mitigation actions, thus creating safe havens for vultures.

1.6.2 Develop criteria for VSZs in East Africa during RRM workshops and training, and community engagement using criteria developed for southern Africa as an adaptive model. BLI Vulture Manager to draft this, in consultation with Partners and with advice from other regions and external experts.

Establishment of VSZ, if feasible, would be outside the scope of this project.

2.1.1 Conduct focused entrepreneurial workshops in the project focal areas in the Maasai Mara to promote voluntary investment in livestock protection and supplemental businesses that are compatible with wildlife management.

This will include advice on herd size, daytime herd supervision, deterrents, high risk areas, best practices used elsewhere. It will also demonstrate cost benefits of boma strengthening (fully fortified and cheaper partially fortified option). Use local people as advocates.

2.2.1 Apply the criteria for boma selection, which include that the boma is in an area at high risk for predation and where the household is willing to contribute a share of the cost and labour to install it (to encourage ownership) and to make a commitment to not use poison illegally or inappropriately, and to participate in awareness raising/monitoring activities.

2.2.2 Identify 20 bomas, and implement improvement methods at selected boma sites in partnership with beneficiary household.

2.2.3 Provide training so that others can reproduce bomas.

2.2.4 Put in place boma effectiveness monitoring.

2.3.1 Organise awareness-raising market outreach events, radio broadcasts, and print communication materials to reach out to key stakeholders to reduce poisoning behaviours and influence negative attitudes towards wildlife and vultures. Using the project's vulture volunteers, village elders and popular local figures and the Masai Mara Wildlife Ambassadors.

2.4.1 Conduct workshops with traditional healers in Makao WMA, Tanzania to discuss how to best address the use of vulture parts for belief-based use, including potential alternatives e.g. plant-based products and livelihood alternatives. These may be eligible for CRF financing.

2.5.1 Conduct business support and entrepreneurship training workshops in Makao WMA to build communities' capacity (especially women) to develop sustainable local livelihoods, including those that could be supported by the CRF.

Topics will depend on the outcome of the earlier workshops and surveys, but will likely include livestock husbandry techniques to reduce predation (and increase incomes) plus small business ideas and planning e.g. poultry rearing, micro solar and cookstove enterprises, and local craft development.

2.6.1 Establish, through extensive awareness raising and consultation the Terms of Reference for a Community Revolving Fund (CRF) to support conservation friendly livelihoods activities with small loans at low interest.

2.6.2 Recruit and train the representative management body and the Loan Advisory Group.

2.6.3 Issue loans to support the creation of sustainable alternative livelihood initiatives such as development of plant based alternatives to vulture/wildlife parts in belief based practice, women's beadwork, poultry farming, production of biogas etc.

conservation focused business or to participate in an agreed set of conservation actions).

2.6.5 Maintain excellent records on loans and repayments, but also the impact on livelihoods.

2.6.6 Continue operation of the CRF after the project end.

3.1.1 Implement a Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) in 2 hotspots in Maasai Mara where coverage is currently poor through the establishment of local anti-poisoning groups.

3.1.2 Pilot a small-scale RRM in Makao WMA with an existing ranger group, for responding to wildlife poisoning with the provision of resources and support for implementation e.g. training, response kits, motorbikes, and handbooks.

3.2.1 In Kenya, provide RRM training to KWS law enforcement officers to strengthen the mechanism and mainstream into operational policies.

3.3.1 Liaise with other initiatives outside the scope of this project who are involved with training and support RRM capacity in Kenya and TZ so as to target training to hotspot areas where training and resources are not available.

4.1.1 Present project findings and lessons learned in national, regional, and relevant international forums. At least one webinar. Advocacy with MEAs, COP meetings, outreach to funders etc. Attendance and presentations by partners on their activities at the BirdLife Council for the African Partnership meeting and Pan African Ornithological Conference, discussions and presentations to the BirdLife Africa Vulture Conservation Forum (BAVCF) and publication on the HATCH learning platform.

4.1.2 Develop or populate existing repositories of vulture conservation data with documented results and learnings from the project

4.1.3 Support the development of an East African Anti-Poisoning Network and the continued and improved operation of the African Wildlife Poisoning Database and associated working groups which have been supported by the Band Foundation.

4.2.1 Disseminate project updates and findings internally and via national and international media channels (newspapers, radio and newsletters). Big push on social media, development of articles and materials, press releases in regional and international media. National level actions as well.

4.2.2 Work with NGOs, communities and government to integrate project outputs into celebrations of International Vulture Awareness Day (<http://www.vultureday.org/>).

4.3.1 Develop policy recommendations on use of poisons to kill wildlife including suggestive amendment for substance controls/bans and support Kenya Wildlife service to draft and approve National Vulture Action Plan.

4.3.2 Develop a brief review of gaps in existing legislation in Tanzania and develop recommendations for future policy and legislative change concerning vultures and wildlife poisoning alongside advocating for stricter control or banning of substances/chemicals used in wildlife poisoning.

Coordination Activities:

Project management activities are not included as a Project Output. However, the following activities will take place.

- Establishment of Project Steering Group composed of representatives from BirdLife International, Nature Kenya and Nature Tanzania. Set up an Monitoring and Evaluation Sub Group. An informal Advisory Group will be identified including BirdLife Head of Preventing Extinctions Programme and IUCN Vulture Specialist Group and a dialogue will be maintained with other raptor conservation groups (Peregrine Fund, Kenya Birds of Prey Trust, North Carolina Zoo). The group will not meet or be constituted formerly. However, we will keep them informed as to progress, invite them to events, share findings, and seek guidance as needed.

- Staff recruited

- Project Kick-Off Meeting with Steering Group and most members of the Project Implementation Team.

- Semi-annual Steering Group meetings will be held in addition to more frequent subgroup meetings with the Project Manager and key members of the Project Implementation Team. Most meetings will be held virtually although key members of the project team will meet in-person to gather knowledge and experience.

- Detailed workplans developed. Incorporated into Subcontracts with BirdLife.

- Monitoring and Evaluation Plan will be developed, sub team to meet regularly offline, plus 1 or more site visits.

- Gender and Safeguarding Plan will be developed.

- Risk assessment and management plan will be updated, as needed.

- Project implementation

- Project interim and final report.

- Mid-Term Mini Evaluation
- End of Project Evaluation

Annex 3: Standard Indicators

The Biodiversity Challenge Funds (BCFs) use high quality and accessible Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) to enable scaling, replication and increase the impact of the funds and the projects we support.

By asking project teams to report against a minimum of three Darwin Initiative Standard Indicators, we aim to increase our contribution to the global evidence base for activities that support biodiversity conservation, poverty reduction and capability & capacity.

The tables below are provided to assist project teams in reporting against Standard Indicators. Please report against the Standard Indicators that you have selected specifically for your project in Table 1 below. Refer to the Standard Indicator Guidance & Menu available on the [Darwin Initiative](#) website for guidance on how to select indicators, as well as how to disaggregate reporting within your chosen indicators.

For projects submitting their first Annual Report, you should complete the Y1 column and also indicate the number planned during the project lifetime. Older projects should copy and paste the information from previous years and add in data for the most recent reporting period.

We recognise that the Standard Indicators in our menu are by nature general. We also ask you to develop your own Project Indicators. These should be more specific and relevant to your project. See our BCF MEL guidance on best practices for selecting and developing Project Indicators.

Table 1 Project Standard Indicators

DI Indicator number	Name of indicator	Units	Disaggregation	Year Total 1	Year Total 2	Year Total 3	Total to date	Total during project	planned the
DI-C05	Number of projects contributing data, insights, and case studies to national Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) related reporting processes and calls for evidence	Number	New	2	2		4		
DI-B01	Number of new/improved habitat management plans available and endorsed	Number	Habitat		1		1		
DI-A04	Number of people reporting that they are applying new capabilities (skills and knowledge) 6 (or more) months after training	People		10	108		118		
DI-A11	Number of sustainable livelihood enterprises that are profitable (at least a year after establishment).	Number		4			4		
DI-A10	Proportion sustainable livelihood enterprises established that are functioning at project end (at least a year after establishment)	Proportion							

In addition to reporting any information on publications under relevant standard indicators, in Table 2, provide full details of all publications and material produced over the last year that can be publicly accessed, e.g. title, name of publisher, contact details, cost. You should include publications as supporting materials with your report. Mark with an asterisk (*) all publications and other material that you have included with this report.

Table 2 Publications

Title	Type (e.g. journals, best practice manual, blog post, online videos, podcasts, 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)

Annex 4: Onwards – supplementary material (optional but encouraged as evidence of project achievement)

This may include outputs of the project but need not necessarily include all project documentation. For example, the abstract of a conference would be adequate, as would be a summary of a thesis rather than the full document. If we feel that reviewing the full document would be useful, we will contact you again to ask for it to be submitted.

It is important, however, that you include enough evidence of project achievement to allow reassurance that the project is continuing to work towards its objectives. Evidence can be provided in many formats (photos, copies of presentations/press releases/press cuttings, publications, minutes of meetings, questionnaires, reports etc.) and you should ensure you include some of these materials to support the Annual Report text.

If you are attaching separate documents, please list them here with an Annex reference number so that we can clearly identify the correct documents.

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?	Yes
Is the report less than 10MB? If so, please email to BCF-Reports@niras.com putting the project number in the Subject line.	Yes
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.	Yes
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.	Yes
If you are submitting photos for publicity purposes, do these meet the outlined requirements (see Section 16)?	Yes
Have you involved your partners in preparation of the report and named the main contributors	Yes
Have you completed the Project Expenditure table fully?	Yes
Do not include claim forms or other communications with this report.	