

Darwin Initiative Capability & Capacity Annual Report

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

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

Submission Deadline: 30th April 2023

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

Darwin Initiative Project Information

Project reference	DARCC001
Project title	Mainstreaming livelihoods, health, poverty, and wellbeing into EDGE species conservation
Country/ies	Nepal, India, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Malawi, Madagascar, Kenya, Nigeria (+ more TBC in Q2-2)
Lead Partner	ZSL EDGE of Existence
Project partner(s)	NA
Darwin Initiative grant value	£156,272
Start/end dates of project	20 th Apr 2022 – 31 st Mar 2024
Reporting period (e.g. Apr 2022 – Mar 2023) and number (e.g. Annual Report 1, 2, 3)	Annual Report 1 (Apr 2022 – Apr 2023)
Project Leader name	Paul Barnes
Project website/blog/social media	https://www.edgeofexistence.org Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/zsledgeofexistence/ Twitter: https://twitter.com/EDGEofExistence
Report author(s) and date	Paul Barnes (30 th April 2023)

1. Project summary

This project addresses a gap in the capability and capacity of early-career conservationists outside high-income countries to implement effective poverty-biodiversity projects. The EDGE of Existence Programme has supported early-career conservationists for 16 years to build in-country capacity to conserve Evolutionarily Distinct and Globally Endangered (EDGE) species that typically receive low conservation attention. Every year, the programme offers several two-year Fellowship opportunities too between eight and 16 early-career conservationists (EDGE Fellows), enhancing their knowledge, skills, resources, and decision-making power to conserve EDGE species and their habitats. However, evidence and our experience have shown that the EDGE Fellows often lack capability and capacity in the social sciences, leaving them ill-equipped to deal with the multidisciplinary requirements of implementing effective conservation projects. In response, the EDGE Programme employed a Social Dimensions

Specialist in 2018 who subsequently integrated training on conservation history; designing social research; and quantitative, qualitative, and participatory methods in the social sciences. This Darwin project, “*Mainstreaming livelihoods, health, poverty, and wellbeing into EDGE species conservation*”, builds on this foundational training in the social sciences with a new module on livelihoods, health, poverty, and wellbeing, explicitly designed to fit within the context of biodiversity conservation. This project aims to equip Fellows with the skills, knowledge, and contacts to become future Darwin Initiative grantees who can effectively plan and implement projects at the biodiversity-poverty nexus.

2. Project stakeholders/ partners

Consultation with EDGE Fellows and alums: Past EDGE Fellows are best placed to share their knowledge of the gaps in their knowledge and training regarding LHPWC. As such, the project team consulted 12 EDGE Fellows and alums about their LHPWC training requirements. This included four in-depth interviews online with EDGE Fellow alums from Asia, Africa and Latin America, who had engaged with LHPWC issues during their work, and whose projects and ongoing work are in areas with a high incidence of poverty. Through face-to-face interviews, we also interviewed eight current EDGE Fellows about their current and future training needs regarding LHPWC. The information gathered during these consultations and interviews was combined with the project teams' understanding of existing gaps in the EDGE training courses to identify priority areas for developing a new module for LHPWC for EDGE Fellows.

External experts: The project developed draft learning objectives and a training schedule based on consultations with six LHPWC experts, three who participated in the training (Dr Juliette Wright, Dr Micaela Camino (Proyecto Quimilero), and Dr Leejah Dorward (Bangor University)) and three consultants (Prof Katherine Homewood (UCL Anthropology), Dr Tim Baird (Virginia Tech), and Jamie Copsey (IUCN-SSC Conservation Planning Specialist Group)). All six experts advised and commented on the draft learning objectives and training schedule. This ensured that the capacity-strengthening requirements of the EDGE Fellows were met with the most engaging training methods and up-to-date science available.

3. Project progress

3.1 Progress in carrying out project Activities

Output 1: All activities related to the first output have been successfully executed in the manner and time planned. Our team has diligently consulted with various stakeholders, including the EDGE Team, external LHPWC experts, external training partners, and the EDGE alums, to develop key learning objectives and a comprehensive training schedule for the LHPWC training module (Annex 5). Furthermore, we have meticulously crafted and finalised all the training materials for the 6-day module, which includes presentations, guided discussions, and group and individual activities.

Output 2: All activities related to the second output have been successfully executed in the manner and time planned. The 6-day LHPWC module has been delivered online as a stand-alone course to eight EDGE Fellows from countries across Asia (Nepal (x3), India (x3), Malaysia (x1), and Sri Lanka (x1)). The team has also taken great care in updating our standardised evaluation and feedback processes to incorporate the sessions in the new LHPWC module and has implemented an additional in-depth feedback and evaluation process dedicated to the trial run of the module. We have analysed all the feedback and evaluation results (see 3.2. for details of the results) and have incorporated the suggestions and learnings into the final version of the learning objectives, schedule, and training materials, in consultation with the external trainers.

Output 3: All activities related to the third output are proceeding as planned, with three activities completed, three in progress, and one yet to commence. We have made good progress within the expected timeframe updating the advertisement, review, and selection process to include a focus on LHPWC for the 2023 Africa and 2024 Latin America EDGE Fellowships (Annex 7). We also successfully delivered the updated LHPWC module during the four-week Conservation Tools course in Ghana in

January and February 2023, and implemented standardised evaluation mechanisms for all LHPWC sessions during that course (see Section 3.2 for results).

Output 4: All the activities related to output four are being carried out in the manner and time planned. All the activities under output four are aligned with each annual intake of EDGE Fellows and related to our team's support of the EDGE Fellows' project delivery. Therefore, progress on each activity varies by cohort, and these activities will remain in progress until the end of the project. For example, the 2022-2024 Asia cohort of EDGE Fellows are now halfway through their project period and for them, activity 4.1 (*Support EDGE Fellows from the 2022 Asia, 2023 Africa, and 2024 Latin America cohorts to develop detailed project plans that include LHPWC objectives*) is complete, and 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, and 4.5 (all related to EDGE Fellow project delivery) are in progress until the end of their Fellowship in April 2024. For the Africa 2023-2025 cohort, activity 4.1 is currently underway, and they are expected to finalise their project plans by mid-May 2023. For the 2024-2026 Latin America cohort, activity 4.1 will not start until January 2024, as planned.

3.2 Progress towards project Outputs

Output 1: For 16 years, the EDGE of Existence program has provided training courses to early-career conservationists outside G7 countries, South Korea, Australia, New Zealand. The aim is to equip them with the necessary skills and knowledge to implement successful and sustainable conservation projects. However, before this project, our training lacked detailed information on livelihoods, health, poverty, and well-being - all critical elements for EDGE Fellows working in contexts at the poverty-biodiversity nexus. In the first year of this project, we successfully created a new training module for LHPWC. We have fully achieved indicators 1.2, 1.4, and 1.5 and partially achieved indicators 1.1 and 1.3. For indicator 1.1, we consulted 12 EDGE Fellows and alums (target was 24) about their LHPWC training requirements; four EDGE alums through in-depth interviews online across Asia, Africa and Latin America (MoV 1.1.1), and eight current EDGE Fellows (from the 2021-2023 Latin America and Caribbean cohort) through face-to-face interviews (MoV 1.1.2). We found it unnecessary to administer a quantitative questionnaire to all the EDGE alums as planned because we quickly reached saturation from information received during the in-depth interviews about the module content (see Section 7: Lessons Learnt). Additionally, we consulted three external experts in LHPWC (I1.2) and three external trainers (I1.3). The trainers later delivered sessions in the training module. Following these initial consultations, we developed a report detailing the full learning objectives and a training schedule for the 6-day module (I1.4; Annex 5). The EDGE of Existence team and the external trainers were invited to comment and contribute to the development of this document. Once the learning objectives and training schedule were agreed upon, we collaboratively produced all the training materials required to deliver the course (I1.5).

Output 2: Before this project, the training programme did not include LHPWC content and detailed feedback and evaluation mechanisms. In the project's first year, we have fully achieved all seven indicators under this objective. All eight fellows from the 2022 Asia cohort completed the LHPWC module as a stand-alone online course in Q2-1 (I2.2; MoV 2.2.1 and 2.2.2; Annex 6). We have updated all our standardised feedback and evaluation mechanisms to incorporate the new LHPWC module. In the second quarter of the year, all eight fellows underwent pre-training confidence assessments (I2.1; MoV 2.1.1) and completed feedback and standardised evaluations for each session of the LHPWC training module achieving an overall average score of 9.1 out of 10 across the ten sessions that make up the module (I2.3; MoV 2.3.1). After the training, all eight fellows updated their post-training confidence assessments scoring a 250% increase (target 50%) from an average rating of 0.95 ('no confidence') to 3.36 between 'quite confident' and 'confident' on a six-point scale (I2.4; MoV 2.4.1). In addition to our standard feedback and evaluation mechanisms, we had 1-2-1 feedback discussions with each of the eight fellows (I2.5; MoV 2.5.1). In Q2-1, we held a debriefing workshop with all trainers and produced a report summarizing the feedback and evaluation and any required changes (I2.6). Following this, the module learning objectives and materials were adapted based on the feedback and evaluation by Q4-1 (I2.7). This finalised training module was delivered during the in-person Conservation Tools Course in Q4-1 with the Africa 2023-2026 cohort of EDGE Fellows (Output 3).

Output 3: Because LHPWC hadn't been taught until this project, LHPWC was also not included in any of our calls or application processes or our feedback and evaluation processes that sit alongside the rest of our training modules. EDGE Fellows, alums, their in-country networks and ZSL staff had few opportunities to partake in similar training that was freely available. In the project's first year, we incorporated LHPWC into the fellowship call and application process for Africa in the first quarter (I3.1; MoV 3.1.1; Annex 7) and mainstreamed LHPWC into our standardized feedback and evaluation processes in the fourth quarter. We also delivered the LHPWC module to eight EDGE Fellows in the Africa cohort in Q4-1 (I3.2; MoV 3.2.1 and 3.2.2). The course was delivered in person in Ghana to eight EDGE Fellows from Nigeria (x1), Tanzania (x3), Kenya (x1), Malawi (x1), and Madagascar (x2) and two early-career conservationists from Ghana outside of the EDGE cohort. We have yet to deliver the module to the Latin America cohort, which is planned for completion in Q4-2 (I3.3; MoV 3.3.1 and 3.3.2). We have not achieved indicators 3.5 and 3.6, with activities scheduled for Q2-2 and Q4-2.

Output 4: Before this project, EDGE Fellows were required to have at least one objective in their project plans related to the social dimensions of conservation. However, these objectives were often focused on Conservation Education and Public Awareness (CEPA), due in part to the existing expertise of the EDGE team and the priorities of their host in-country organisations. When EDGE Fellows did aim to implement objectives related to LHPWC, they faced numerous challenges. Particularly, they often lacked the necessary knowledge in social sciences to effectively navigate the complexities of the situations they faced and struggled with achieving their objectives.

Since this project began, eight EDGE Fellows from Asia have completed detailed project plans with support from the EDGE programme and begun their projects. The fourth output of this Darwin C&C project is to enhance the EDGE Fellows' confidence and skills in integrating LHPWC objectives into their projects. Specifically, the indicators detail having two EDGE Fellows projects with 60-80% of their objectives related to LHPWC (I4.1, 4.3, and 4.5) and six EDGE Fellows projects with at least 25% of their objectives related to LHPWC (I4.2, 4.4, and 4.6), in each cohort. In the first year, the EDGE Fellows projects included three projects with >80% of their objectives related to LHPWC, one with 25%, one with 20% and three with no objectives related to LHPWC. Overall, this equates to 43% of objectives related to LHPWC as opposed to the >34% target. Accepting that EDGE Fellows have ultimate control over the objectives, there will be variation in the degree to which they incorporate LHPWC objectives into their projects. Therefore, it is more beneficial to aggregate the indicator scores as above and as described in Section 7.

3.3 Progress towards the project Outcome

Before this project, the EDGE of Existence programme had incorporated foundational material into its training courses on the social sciences related to conservation. However, it lacked any training content on LHPWC, leaving the training recipients, EDGE Fellows, ill-equipped to deal with the multidisciplinary requirements of implementing effective and successful conservation projects in their home countries in contexts at the poverty-biodiversity nexus.

We have made good progress against the outcome indicators in the first year of this project, and the progress is broadly in line with what was expected. Relating to indicator one, we have mainstreamed LHPWC into all the programme's documents and processes. These include our application calls, project planning documents, standardised feedback and evaluation mechanisms, and reports (Annex 7). The activities relating to indicator two have only recently started and are due to be fully implemented in Q2-2. Concerning indicator three, we delivered the LHPWC module to 18 conservationists and analysed the increased knowledge/confidence for eight (250% increase (target 50%) from an average rating of 0.95 ('no confidence') to 3.36 between 'quite confident' and 'confident' on a six-point scale; although see Section 7). Regarding indicator four, EDGE Fellows have incorporated LHPWC issues into 43% of their objectives (see Section 7). Concerning indicator five, no EDGE alum has yet submitted a Darwin main grant application, but we are in discussions with two alums about possible projects, one in Argentina and one in Ghana.

3.4 Monitoring of assumptions

Assumption 1: EDGE has the resources to deliver Fellowships, including internal capacity and funding.

Comments: The EDGE of Existence Programme has had the resources to offer Fellowships critical to the delivery of this programme, offering eight fellowships for the Asia 2022-2024 cohort and eight fellowships for the Africa 2023-2025 cohort. We are confident we will secure funding for at least eight fellowships in the Latin American and the Caribbean 2024-2026 cohort.

Assumption 2: Suitable early-career conservationists are interested and apply for EDGE Fellowships.

Comments: We received more than 100 applications for each Asia 2022-2024 and Africa 2023-2025 cohorts. We have recently opened the call for Latin America and the Caribbean 2024-2026 cohort and are confident we will again receive enough applications from suitable early-career conservationists.

Assumption 3: The advertisement and selection process identifies suitable Fellows / LHPWC issues that are relevant and appropriate in the Fellows' projects and the context of their focal EDGE species.

Comments: This assumption continues to represent a risk. While we work very closely with EDGE Fellows to develop their project plans, they ultimately, and rightly, have control over what their project entails and its objectives. This is evident from the varying degree to which EDGE Fellows have incorporated objectives related to LHPWC into their projects (see section 3.2, output 4). One possible way to mitigate this risk would be to actively select EDGE Fellows based on the degree to which they plan to incorporate objectives related to LHPWC, as evidenced in their applications to the fellowship. However, as a programme, we remain committed to offering fellowships to those who will benefit the most, and this needs to be balanced carefully against other priorities when selecting applicants.

Assumption 4: Covid-19 does not restrict the delivery of in-person Conservation Tools courses.

Comments: Although there is still a risk involved, we were able to successfully hold the 2023 Conservation Tools course in Q4-1 in Ghana as planned. The upcoming course in Q4-2 is scheduled to take place in Brazil and currently shows no sign of being affected by COVID-19.

Assumption 5: Covid-19 does not restrict Fellows application of training (esp. in context of LHPWC objectives).

Comments: Despite the ongoing risk, COVID-19 has not resulted in restrictions for EDGE Fellows during the project's first year.

Assumption 6: Fellows' in-country networks desire training / uptake of webinars / materials are disseminated by Fellows.

Comments: The LHPWC module has been extremely well received by the 18 early career conservationists who have received the training. During the trial of our online course, we conducted one-to-one feedback interviews with the trainees. We asked them if they thought their in-country networks would be interested in the training, and they responded positively. However, there is still a risk involved, and we will continue to ensure that the training, webinars, and materials are engaging and accessible to their networks.

3.5 Achievement of positive impact on biodiversity and poverty reduction

This project aims to improve the capability and capacity of early-career conservationists from outside higher-income countries to implement successful and effective conservation projects that reduce poverty and increase well-being. It specifically addresses the lack of available training on LHPWC to early-career conservationists who apply to the EDGE Fellowship.

The short-term beneficiaries of the project included 24 early-career conservationists (Fellows) from up to 20 countries outside the G7, South Korea, Australia and New Zealand. The project aims to benefit these conservationists through improved knowledge and skills related to LHPWC gained from a training module delivered alongside an existing four-week Conservation Tools training course. These beneficiaries remain the same, and in the first year of the project, we delivered the LHPWC module to 18

early career conservationists from Nepal, India, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Nigeria, Tanzania, Kenya, Malawi, Madagascar, and Ghana.

Additionally, we aim to make the training materials available online to 385 conservationists. These 385 include 24 Fellows from the 2022-2024 Asia, 2023-2025 Africa, and 2024-2026 Latin America cohorts, 121 EDGE Fellow alums, 20 conservationists from the in-country networks of the Asia and Africa cohorts, and 220 of ZSL's UK (120) and international staff (100). These short-term beneficiaries also remain the same, and the training materials will be made available in Q3-2 (Activity 3.6). By providing access to the most up-to-date and engaging training on LHPWC for early-career conservationists, recipients will be better able to understand, design, implement and measure joint poverty-biodiversity projects in their home countries and collaborate with UK-based organisations in the development of future Darwin initiative projects (or at least be able to better account for and include LHPWC-related aspects in projects supported by other UK donors, which many EDGE Fellows go on to apply to). The improved access to training is being further embedded for at least 44 conservationists, 24 through the support and mentorship during their 28-month Fellowship, and 20 through interactive webinars with the EDGE Programme. These short-term beneficiaries also remain the same, and we are currently mentoring 16 EDGE Fellows who have received the LHPWC training module. The remaining conservationists will be engaged in the second year of the project (Activities 3.4, 3.7, 4.2, and 4.3). Other short-term beneficiaries include any people who are the target of LHPWC objectives and activities in the EDGE Fellows projects. In the project's first year, 43% of objectives in EDGE Fellows projects dealt with LHPWC issues.

In the long term, because EDGE Fellows work in various organisations and the Fellowship typically launches Fellows into higher-level positions, the project will embed the knowledge and skills gained into organisations and the countries where the Fellows work. The beneficiaries and long-term impact goals of the project remain the same.

4. Project support to the Conventions, Treaties or Agreements

Goal D of the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework seeks to ensure 'adequate means of implementation' to achieve the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity. To achieve this goal, capacity building is essential. Target 20 explicitly mentions the need to strengthen capacity building, improve access to and transfer of technology, scientific innovation, and cooperation between the global north and south countries. This project and the EDGE of Existence programme directly support the goals and targets of the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, primarily through an explicit lens of species conservation and strengthening capacity. One advantage of this focus is that global targets related to species conservation (such as current Aichi Target 12) are among those most frequently reflected in national targets in National Biodiversity Strategy Action Plans (NBSAPs) (see UNEP, 2018). EDGE Fellow's projects focus on one or more highly threatened species that are not receiving adequate conservation attention, so the projects themselves (led as they are by in-country champions) directly contribute towards supporting countries to achieve these targets in their NBSAPs, while the programme more broadly works to provide adequate means of implementation through a focus on capacity building and skills transfer. Post-2020 NBSAPs are expected to focus increasingly on poverty-biodiversity issues and sustainable development (a trend already observed in 2nd generation NBSAPs; UNEP 2018). As such, this project and the LHPWC capacity it develops are directly equipping conservationists in the global south to account for these linkages more directly in conservation projects.

5. Gender equality and social inclusion

Supporting women from outside higher-income countries working in conservation is a core value and priority for the EDGE programme. We are actively addressing gender (in)equity through several means in this project. First, we aim for gender balance across the EDGE Fellowship cohorts in this project. Since 2017 the programme has achieved gender balance across the Fellowship cohorts (28 women and 29 men). This project actively recruits women for the fellowship to promote gender equity and increase their representation in decision-making processes related to natural resources at all levels. As a result, more

women are equipped to take on leadership roles at the national and international levels. In the first year of this project, we have awarded fellowships to eight women and eight men. Second, the project board (three women, three men), external trainers (two women, one man), and external experts (one woman, two men) overall have an equal number of women and men. Third, there is an equal gender split between the EDGE fellows implementing projects with objectives focussed on LHPWC issues (three women and two men). Fourth, they receive ongoing support and mentorship in designing and implementing EDGE Fellows' two-year projects. Their project objectives and activities are carefully developed to consider people's views and lived experiences and how these are differentiated on social axes, gender being one of particular importance. Emphasis is placed on how data are gathered, participation is achieved, and activities or interventions are implemented related to gender.

Please quantify the proportion of women on the Project Board ¹ .	0.5 – Three women, three men
Please quantify the proportion of project partners that are led by women, or which have a senior leadership team consisting of at least 50% women ² .	NA

6. Monitoring and evaluation

Progress toward the project outcome is monitored continuously throughout the activities of this project, and project monitoring has been aligned with the EDGE programme's wider M&E. The M&E process for the new LHPWC module is monitored and evaluated through standardised pre/post-confidence assessments, individual session feedback and evaluation (quantitative and qualitative), one-to-one post-training qualitative assessments, and a post-training debrief report distributed to all trainers. This information is used to adapt the training as required. Furthermore, as part of the EDGE Fellows project activities, they must adhere to standardised reporting processes that involve submitting monthly update reports and narrative and financial reports at six-month, 12-month, and 18-month intervals. We can monitor and evaluate the progress of this project through these mechanisms.

7. Lessons learnt

We have learnt several important lessons over the project's first year and propose adaptations to build on these. First, the consultation process for establishing the LHPWC module's content was most effective through discussions, meetings, qualitative interviews, and document reviews. We initially delayed the questionnaire design to gather further data about what content to include in the module. But given the saturation of information that was promptly achieved through the in-depth interviews, we no longer felt that a questionnaire was an appropriate or justifiable use of respondents' time. We had ample information to begin designing the module and do not believe it would have further improved its design.

Second, the meticulous planning required to implement the international online course to a tight deadline was very useful in establishing the core content required for the new module. Namely, the efficiency required in the schedule to deliver the module to a specific timeframe and keep it engaging for an online audience taught us a lot. We also learnt that teaching styles must change significantly between online and in-person. This also emphasised previous assertions about the importance of tailoring the pedagogy for trainees from different regions of the world with different cultural norms.

Third, the mechanism we have used to measure a change in knowledge is through pre- and post-confidence assessments. Together with our previous assessments for other modules in our training inventory, we have found this metric to be inconsistent and sometimes unreliable when cross-referencing

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.

its results with more qualitative measures such as interviews and informal discussions with our training recipients. This is because someone can feel confident in a topic, but when they learn more about it, they realise significant gaps in their knowledge and understanding. This sometimes leads to surprising results where confidence has decreased after training, but when the team follow up with the Fellow, it has been because the trainee was over-confident about their knowledge of the topic before the training was given. We are now exploring methods to enhance the evaluation of knowledge and comprehension before and after training sessions. We aim to utilize quantitative measures when conducting evaluations because in-depth interviews are not always feasible due to time constraints. We are working with an M&E specialist at ZSL and hope to improve the method before the training module is released online (Activity 3.6).

The appropriateness of the indicators for output four are in question. Having two indicators per cohort disaggregated between the EDGE Fellows (2 at 60-80%; 6 at 25%) fails to capture the overall success against the output (see section 3.2). In this case, it is better to aggregate across the cohorts' EDGE Fellows, effectively combining indicators 4.1 with 4.2, 4.3 with 4.4, and 4.5 with 4.6. Therefore, we may update the indicators as follows:

4.1 EDGE Fellows from the 2022 Asia cohort incorporate LHPWC issues into at least 35% of their project objectives.

4.2 EDGE Fellows from the 2023 Africa cohort incorporate LHPWC issues into at least 35% of their project objectives.

4.3 EDGE Fellows from the 2024 Latin American cohort incorporate LHPWC issues into at least 35% of their project objectives.

4.4 All EDGE Fellows receive close technical supervision and mentorship from the EDGE Team during the project period.

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

NA

9. Risk Management

No new risks have been identified in the first year.

10. Other comments on progress not covered elsewhere.

NA

11. Sustainability and legacy

The sustainability and legacy of the project remain aligned with those outlined in the project proposal. The Fellowship is a catalyst for early career conservationists and their in-country networks. Through our EDGE Fellow alums survey, the programme has successfully demonstrated its capacity strengthening and conservation benefits over the last 16 years. The survey results showed that all alums continue to work in conservation, with 84% still working on their focal species and with the associated project stakeholders. The programme has also enabled its Fellows to win conservation awards, become leaders of large conservation NGOs, take up positions in government and secure significant long-term investments to scale their work. The investment in training and mentorship has provided a platform for EDGE Fellows to grow and mature into successful conservation leaders. The skills and knowledge this

project builds are critical for these conservation leaders' professional development and the work they will implement over their careers.

The LHPWC module will continue beyond this project's end and be fully integrated into the EDGE training curriculum for future cohorts of EDGE Fellows. By 2030, at least 50 new EDGE Fellows will receive the LHPWC training, increasing their confidence to implement poverty-biodiversity projects and apply for funding opportunities. The investment will also enhance the capacity of their employers and the networks they are part of, where the skills and knowledge they have gained will cascade outward and transfer to peers and colleagues.

In year two, the training module will be shared beyond the target cohorts and in-country organizations to increase its impact, reaching 121 EDGE alumni across 46 countries in Asia, Africa, and Latin America. Pre- and post-evaluation will be undertaken to measure the change in knowledge of LHPWC issues. The module will also be shared across ZSL, reaching around 220 employees within the science and conservation departments, including ZSL regional offices in four countries.

12. Darwin Initiative identity

We have publicised the project through social media making several references on Twitter and Instagram (Annex 8). We have also acknowledged the project and the Darwin initiative as supporters on our website, training, and reports. In addition, we talk about the Darwin Initiative in the fundraising training we provide to EDGE Fellows.

13. Safeguarding

Has your Safeguarding Policy been updated in the past 12 months?	Yes
Have any concerns been investigated in the past 12 months	No
Does your project have a Safeguarding focal point?	Yes - either: 1) The respective regional project managers for Asia, Africa, or Latin America and the Caribbean 2) Paul Barnes (ZSL Edge of Existence Programme Manager) 3) Craig Thomsett (ZSL Health and Safety Advisor)
Has the focal point attended any formal training in the last 12 months?	Yes - Annual training course (last attended January 2021, and planned again for May 2023)
What proportion (and number) of project staff have received formal training on Safeguarding?	Past: 100% [6] Planned: 100% [6]
Has there been any lessons learnt or challenges on Safeguarding in the past 12 months? Please ensure no sensitive data is included within responses.	
EDGE Fellows receive training in safeguarding as part of the conservation tools course. However, due to trainer illness the training for the Africa 2023 EDGE Fellows did not take place during the tools course in Ghana in January and February 2023 as planned. Instead, we are organising an online training course that will be delivered in Q1-2.	
Does the project have any developments or activities planned around Safeguarding in the coming 12 months? If so please specify.	
We will hold safeguarding training for all the EDGE team and the 2023 Africa EDGE Fellows in Q1-2. Training will also be held for the EDGE team and the 2024 Latin America EDGE Fellows in Q3-2.	

14. Project expenditure

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

Project spend (indicative) since last Annual Report	2022/23 Grant (£)	2022/23 Total Darwin Initiative Costs (£)	Variance %	Comments (please explain significant variances)
Staff costs (see below)				
Consultancy costs				
Overhead Costs				
Travel and subsistence				
Operating Costs				
Capital items (see below)				
Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E)				
Others (see below)				
TOTAL	76184	73903	2.99	NA

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

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

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

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

File Type (Image / Video / Graphic)	File Name or File Location	Caption, country and credit	Online accounts to be tagged (leave blank if none)	Consent of subjects received (delete as necessary)
				Yes / No
				Yes / No
				Yes / No
				Yes / No
				Yes / No

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

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2022 - March 2023	Actions required/planned for next period
<p>Outcome: Livelihoods, Health, Poverty, and Wellbeing in Conservation (LHPWC) is mainstreamed into the EDGE Fellowship programme, so Fellows and their networks have increased capability to understand, implement, and measure LHPWC interventions.</p>	<p>0.1 LHPWC is mainstreamed into the EDGE Fellowship programme by Q2-2</p> <p>0.2 Three-hundred and eighty-five conservationists have access to LHPWC training materials online by Q2-2</p> <p>0.3 One-hundred and sixty-five conservationists (24 Fellows, 20 from Fellows in-country networks, and 121 Fellow alumni) from outside high-income countries increase their knowledge of LHPWC by 50%, by Q4-2</p> <p>0.4 Twenty-four Fellows (eight from Asia, eight from Africa, and eight from Latin America) incorporate LHPWC issues into their conservation project objectives by Q4-2</p> <p>0.5 One member of the EDGE alumni develops a Darwin main grant application, by Q4-2</p>	<p>0.1 Achieved – LHPWC has been fully mainstreamed into the EDGE Fellowship programme</p> <p>0.2 Not achieved – Training materials will be made available online in Q2-2</p> <p>0.3 Partially achieved – 16 EDGE Fellows and two early career conservationists have completed the training. We have calculated the % change in knowledge/confidence for the first cohort of eight EDGE Fellows, which amounts to a 250% increase from an average rating of 0.95 ('no confidence') to 3.36 between 'quite confident' and 'confident' on a six-point scale.</p> <p>0.4 Partially achieved – In Y1, five EDGE Fellows incorporated LHPWC issues into their objectives.</p> <p>0.5 Not achieved.</p>	<p>0.1 None</p> <p>0.2 Ensure all training materials are available online in an accessible format (Activity 3.6)</p> <p>0.3 For everyone who has access to the course, ensure that they complete pre-post-tests of knowledge/confidence (although see Section 7: Lessons Learnt)</p> <p>0.4 Continue to monitor LHPWC issues incorporated in EDGE Fellows' projects.</p> <p>0.5 Continue the discussion with two EDGE alums about applications to the Darwin Initiative and hold additional discussions with other EDGE alums where appropriate.</p>
<p>Output 1: LHPWC training module is developed with the EDGE Regional Project Managers, four external project partners, three external LHPWC experts, and at least 24 EDGE alumni.</p>	<p>1.1 At least 24 EDGE alumni consulted about LHPWC training requirements in Q1-1</p> <p>1.2 At least three external experts in LHPWC consulted about training by Q1-1</p> <p>1.3 At least four external trainers consulted about LHPWC training by Q1-1</p> <p>1.4 LHPWC module learning objectives and training schedule completed in Q1-1</p> <p>1.5 Draft training materials produced by Q2-1</p>	<p>1.1 Partially achieved - Six EDGE alums and eight EDGE Fellows consulted. The indicator is moderately appropriate. We found saturation relatively quickly with the information we received about the content for the training module. It was an inefficient use of EDGE alums' time to be completing an unnecessary questionnaire (see section 3.2)</p> <p>1.2 Achieved - Three external experts in LHPWC consulted.</p> <p>1.3 Partially achieved – Three external trainers were consulted and delivered training on the training module.</p> <p>1.4 Achieved</p> <p>1.5 Achieved – The indicator could be improved to detail the number of sessions and/or days of training and disaggregated by the types of content produced.</p>	

<p>Activity 1.1 Consult EDGE Regional Project Managers, external LHPWC experts, training partners, and EDGE alumni to develop key learning objectives and training schedule for the LHPWC training module.</p>	<p>Complete</p>	<p>NA</p>
<p>Activity 1.2 Elaborate learning objectives and draft training schedule.</p>	<p>Complete</p>	<p>NA</p>
<p>Activity 1.3 Produce training materials.</p>	<p>Complete</p>	<p>NA</p>
<p>Output 2: LHPWC training module is trialled online with eight Fellows from the 2022 Asia cohort, and detailed feedback and evaluation is used to adapt the module as required.</p>	<p>2.1 Pre-training confidence assessments are updated to include LHPWC module topics and completed by eight fellows in Q2-1</p> <p>2.2 Eight fellows from Asia successfully complete LHPWC module as a stand-alone online course in Q2-1</p> <p>2.3 Feedback and standardised evaluation is completed by every Fellow for every session of the LHPWC training module in Q2-1</p> <p>2.4 Post-training confidence assessments updated and completed by eight fellows in Q2-1</p> <p>2.5 Individual feedback discussions with each of the eight Fellows, completed in Q2-1</p> <p>2.6 Debrief workshop held with all trainers and report produced summarising data and required changes by Q4-1</p> <p>2.7 Module learning objectives and materials adapted based on feedback and evaluation by Q4-1</p>	<p>2.1 Achieved – we updated the pre-training confidence assessments to include LHPWC module topics and they were completed by eight EDGE Fellows from Asia in Q2-1 (see section 3.2 and Annex 7)</p> <p>2.2 Achieved - Eight fellows from Asia successfully complete LHPWC module as a stand-alone online course in Q2-1. (see section 3.2 and Annex 6)</p> <p>2.3 Achieved - Feedback and standardised evaluation completed by eight EDGE Fellows from Asia for every session of the LHPWC training module in Q2-1 (see section 3.2).</p> <p>2.4 Achieved - Post-training confidence assessments updated and completed by eight EDGE Fellows in Q2-1 (see section 3.2 and Annex 7)</p> <p>2.5 Achieved – Eight 1-2-1 discussions with all eight EDGE Fellows who completed the new training module</p> <p>2.6 Achieved - Debrief workshop completed with all trainers and report produced summarising data and required changes in Q4-1 (see section 3.2)</p> <p>All indicators appropriate.</p>
<p>Activity 2.1 Update the standardised before-course confidence assessments to include LHPWC module and send out to Fellows.</p>	<p>Complete</p>	<p>NA</p>
<p>Activity 2.2. Deliver 6-day LHPWC training module online to the 2022 Asia EDGE Fellows cohort as a stand-alone course.</p>	<p>Complete</p>	<p>NA</p>

2.3 Implement the standardised feedback process that is applied to every session of the annual tools course to evaluate each session in the 2022 trial LHPWC training module.	Complete	NA
2.4 Implement additional feedback and evaluation processes dedicated to 2022 trial LHPWC training module.	Complete	NA
2.5 Incorporate feedback and evaluation to adapt the LHPWC training module learning objectives and training materials where required.	Complete	NA
<p>Output 3: LHPWC training module delivered in person to the 2023 Africa and 2024 Latin America EDGE Fellowship cohorts, and the training materials are disseminated through ZSL's and Fellows' in-country networks.</p>	<p>3.1 LHPWC incorporated into fellowship call and application process for Africa and Latin America by Q1-1 and Q1-2</p> <p>3.2 LHPWC module delivered to eight fellows for the Africa cohort in Q4-1</p> <p>3.3 LHPWC module delivered to eight fellows for the Latin America cohort in Q4-2</p> <p>3.4 LHPWC mainstreamed into standardised feedback and evaluation processes by Q4-1</p> <p>3.5 LHPWC training module materials available online for at least 385 conservationists, including existing Fellows, EDGE alumni, ZSL's staff, and Fellows' in-country networks by Q2-2</p> <p>3.6 Two LHPWC webinars delivered to 20 conservationists (10 in each) from the Fellows' in-country networks (e.g., conservationists from NGO's, universities, local government), by Q4-2</p>	<p>3.1 Achieved – LHPWC has been incorporated into fellowship call and application process for Africa and Latin America in Q1-1 and Q4-1 (scheduled for Q1-2) (see section 3.2 and Annex 7)</p> <p>3.2 Achieved - LHPWC module has been delivered to eight EDGE Fellows from Nigeria, Tanzania, Kenya, Malawi, and Madagascar in Q4-1 (see section 3.2)</p> <p>3.3 Not achieved – Activity 3.4 scheduled for Q4-2</p> <p>3.4 Achieved – LHPWC has been mainstreamed into the standardised feedback and evaluation processes and aligned with other training modules delivered by the programme.</p> <p>3.5 Not achieved – Activity 3.6 planned for Q2-2.</p> <p>3.5 Not achieved – Activity 3.7 planned for Q4-2.</p>
3.1 Update the advertisement, review, and selection process to include LHPWC focus for the 2023 Africa and 2024 Latin America EDGE Fellowships.	Complete	NA
3.2 Deliver updated LHPWC module during the four-week Conservation Tools field course held in Africa in January 2023.	Complete	NA

<p>3.3 Implement standardised evaluation mechanisms for four-week Conservation Tools field course held in Africa that now include LHPWC module (pre-confidence, session feedback, post confidence).</p>	<p>Complete</p>	<p>NA</p>
<p>3.4 Deliver updated LHPWC module during the four-week Conservation Tools field course held in Latin America in January 2024.</p>	<p>In progress – we have begun planning the 2024 EDGE Conservation Tools Course. The course is four-weeks long, of which between four and five days will be dedicated to the LHPWC module.</p>	<p>Delivery of the course will take place in Brazil in January and February 2024.</p>
<p>3.5 Implement standardised evaluation mechanisms for four-week Conservation Tools field course held in Latin America that now include LHPWC module (pre-confidence, session feedback, post confidence).</p>	<p>Not started</p>	<p>Standardised evaluation mechanisms will be implemented in Q3-2 and Q4-2 before, during and after the Conservation Tools Course.</p>
<p>3.6 Make LHPWC training module available online to EDGE Fellow alumni, existing EDGE Fellows, Fellows’ in-country networks, and ZSL’s science and conservation staff.</p>	<p>In progress – we have all the training materials and video recordings completed, most of which in their final version.</p>	<p>We are exploring the best platform on which to host the training module and how to provide easy accessibility to audiences around the world. We plan to have available online in Q2-2.</p>
<p>3.7 Deliver two LHPWC webinars to conservationists from the existing Fellows in-country networks.</p>	<p>In progress – we have gauged interest amongst several of the EDGE Fellow alums about delivering webinars to their teams on the content in the LHPWC module.</p>	<p>We plan to deliver the two webinars in Q4-2 after EDGE Fellows from the 2024 Latin America and Caribbean cohort have completed the Conservation Tools training course in January and February 2023.</p>
<p>Output 4: Fellows from the 2022 Asia, 2023 Africa, and 2024 Latin America cohorts incorporate LHPWC objectives into their conservation projects and they receive technical supervision and mentorship during their fellowship.</p>	<p>4.1 Two Fellows from the Asia cohort incorporate LHPWC issues, accounting for at least 60-80% of their project objectives, by Q2-1</p> <p>4.2 Six Fellows from Asia cohort (remainder of cohort) incorporate LHPWC issues, accounting for 25% of their project objectives, by Q2-1</p> <p>4.3 Two Fellows from the Africa cohort incorporate LHPWC issues, accounting for at least 60-80% of their project objectives, by Q1-2</p>	<p>4.1 Achieved – Three EDGE Fellows incorporated LHPWC issues into >80% of their project objectives.</p> <p>4.2 Not achieved – Two of the remaining EDGE Fellows incorporated LHPWC issues into at least 20% of their objectives but the remaining three did not incorporate any LHPWC issues into their objectives.</p> <p>Indicators 4.7 is in progress as planned and 4.3, 4.4, 4.5, and 4.6 are yet to be achieved.</p> <p>We have determined that indicators 4.1-4.6 are inappropriate (see Section 7: Lessons Learnt)</p>

	<p>4.4 Six Fellows from Africa cohort (remainder of cohort) incorporate LHPWC issues, accounting for 25% of their project objectives, by Q1-2</p> <p>4.5 Two Fellows from the Latin American cohort incorporate LHPWC issues, accounting for at least 60-80% of their project objectives, by Q4-2</p> <p>4.6 Six EDGE Fellows from Latin American cohort (remainder of cohort) incorporate LHPWC issues, accounting for 25% of their project objectives, by Q4-2</p> <p>4.7 All Fellows receive close technical supervision and mentorship from the EDGE Team during the project period</p>		
<p>4.1 Support EDGE Fellows from the 2022 Asia, 2023 Africa, and 2024 Latin America cohorts to develop detailed project plans that include LHPWC objectives.</p>	<p>In progress</p>	<p>Support EDGE Fellows from the 2023 Africa, and 2024 Latin America cohorts to develop detailed project plans that include LHPWC objectives.</p>	
<p>4.2 Provide technical support and mentorship via regular calls (monthly as a minimum) with the EDGE Social Dimensions Specialist and/or the relevant Regional Project Manager.</p>	<p>In progress</p>	<p>Continue to provide close mentorship throughout the project period.</p>	
<p>4.3 Carry out project visits to Fellows from relevant staff member to provide support.</p>	<p>In progress</p>	<p>Project visits to Tanzania, Kenya and Madagascar are planned in Q1-2 and to Nigeria in at a time TBC in Y2.</p>	
<p>4.4 Provide distribution and financial oversight of project grants for Fellows to enable Fellowship objectives to be achieved.</p>	<p>In progress</p>	<p>Continue to provide oversight.</p>	
<p>4.5 Review the Fellows' progress and monthly reports.</p>	<p>In progress</p>	<p>Continue to review reports as they are submitted.</p>	

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

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Means of verification
<p>Outcome: Livelihoods, Health, Poverty, and Wellbeing in Conservation (LHPWC) is mainstreamed into the EDGE Fellowship programme, so Fellows and their networks have increased capability to understand, implement, and measure LHPWC interventions.</p>	<p>0.1 LHPWC is mainstreamed into the EDGE Fellowship programme by Q2-2</p> <p>0.2 Three-hundred and eighty-five conservationists have access to LHPWC training materials online by Q2-2</p> <p>0.3 One-hundred and sixty-five conservationists (24 Fellows, 20 from Fellows in-country networks, and 121 Fellow alumni) from outside high-income countries increase their knowledge of LHPWC by 50%, by Q4-2</p> <p>0.4 Twenty-four Fellows (eight from Asia, eight from Africa, and eight from Latin America) incorporate LHPWC issues into their conservation project objectives by Q4-2</p> <p>0.5 One member of the EDGE alumni develops a Darwin main grant application, by Q4-2</p>	<p>0.1.1 All EDGE documents and process have incorporated LHPWC training and activities.</p> <p>0.2.1 Webpage with LHPWC training module materials</p> <p>0.2.2 Module downloads.</p> <p>0.3.1 Subjective self-assessment for pre- and post-training results for Fellows.</p> <p>0.3.2 Post-webinar feedback and evaluation results for in-country conservationists.</p> <p>0.3.3 Subjective self-assessment for pre- and post-access to training materials for Fellow alumni.</p>
<p>Output 1: LHPWC training module is developed with the EDGE Regional Project Managers, four external project partners, three external LHPWC experts, and at least 24 EDGE alumni.</p>	<p>1.1 At least 24 EDGE alumni consulted about LHPWC training requirements in Q1-1</p> <p>1.2 At least three external experts in LHPWC consulted about training by Q1-1</p> <p>1.3 At least four external trainers consulted about LHPWC training by Q1-1</p> <p>1.4 LHPWC module learning objectives and training schedule completed in Q1-1</p> <p>1.5 Draft training materials produced by Q2-1</p>	<p>1.1.1 In-depth qualitative interview findings from at least three alumni (representing each region).</p> <p>1.1.2 Results from a quantitative survey with at least 24 alumni.</p> <p>1.2.1 List of experts who were consulted.</p> <p>1.2.2 List of suggested learning objectives with justification and comments on drafts.</p> <p>1.3.1 List of external trainers who were consulted.</p> <p>1.3.2 List of suggested learning objectives and justification and comments on drafts.</p> <p>1.4.1 Interim report outlining results from 1.1, 1.2, and 1.3, learning objectives, and training schedule.</p> <p>1.5.1 Training videos recorded.</p> <p>1.5.2 Supporting materials for training activities and exercises completed</p>

<p>Output 2: LHPWC training module is trialled online with eight Fellows from the 2022 Asia cohort, and detailed feedback and evaluation is used to adapt the module as required.</p>	<p>2.1 Pre-training confidence assessments are updated to include LHPWC module topics and completed by eight fellows in Q2-1</p> <p>2.2 Eight fellows from Asia successfully complete LHPWC module as a stand-alone online course in Q2-1</p> <p>2.3 Feedback and standardised evaluation is completed by every Fellow for every session of the LHPWC training module in Q2-1</p> <p>2.4 Post-training confidence assessments updated and completed by eight fellows in Q2-1</p> <p>2.5 Individual feedback discussions with each of the eight Fellows, completed in Q2-1</p> <p>2.6 Debrief workshop held with all trainers and report produced summarising data and required changes by Q4-1</p> <p>2.7 Module learning objectives and materials adapted based on feedback and evaluation by Q4-1</p>	<p>2.1.1 Results from fellows' pre-training confidence assessment for LHPWC module topics.</p> <p>2.2.1 Session attendance lists.</p> <p>2.2.2 LHPWC training module graduation certificates.</p> <p>2.3.1 Feedback and standardised evaluation scores compiled into database.</p> <p>2.4.1 Results from Fellows' post-training confidence assessment for LHPWC module topics.</p> <p>2.5.1 Qualitative summary of key points from one-to-one feedback.</p>
<p>Output 3: LHPWC training module delivered in person to the 2023 Africa and 2024 Latin America EDGE Fellowship cohorts, and the training materials are disseminated through ZSL's and Fellows' in-country networks.</p>	<p>3.1 LHPWC incorporated into fellowship call and application process for Africa and Latin America by Q1-1 and Q1-2</p> <p>3.2 LHPWC module delivered to eight fellows for the Africa cohort in Q4-1</p> <p>3.3 LHPWC module delivered to eight fellows for the Latin America cohort in Q4-2</p> <p>3.4 LHPWC mainstreamed into standardised feedback and evaluation processes by Q4-1</p> <p>3.5 LHPWC training module materials available online for at least 385 conservationists, including existing Fellows, EDGE alumni, ZSL's staff, and Fellows' in-country networks by Q2-2</p> <p>3.6 Two LHPWC webinars delivered to 20 conservationists (10 in each) from the Fellows' in-country networks (e.g., conservationists from NGO's, universities, local government), by Q4-2</p>	<p>3.1.1 Fellowship call advert.</p> <p>3.1.2 EDGE fellowship application form.</p> <p>3.2.1 LHPWC session attendance lists for Africa tools course.</p> <p>3.2.2 Africa tools course graduation certificates.</p> <p>3.3.1 LHPWC session attendance lists for Latin America tools course.</p> <p>3.3.2 Latin America tools course graduation certificates.</p> <p>3.4.1 Results from tools course pre-confidence, session feedback, post confidence assessments.</p> <p>3.5.1 Recipient list of organisations, individuals and their job titles.</p> <p>3.5.2 Module materials downloaded.</p> <p>3.6.1 Webinar recordings.</p> <p>3.6.2 Webinar participant list.</p>

<p>Output 4: Fellows from the 2022 Asia, 2023 Africa, and 2024 Latin America cohorts incorporate LHPWC objectives into their conservation projects and they receive technical supervision and mentorship during their fellowship.</p>	<p>4.1 Two Fellows from the Asia cohort incorporate LHPWC issues, accounting for at least 60-80% of their project objectives, by Q2-1</p> <p>4.2 Six Fellows from Asia cohort (remainder of cohort) incorporate LHPWC issues, accounting for 25% of their project objectives, by Q2-1</p> <p>4.3 Two Fellows from the Africa cohort incorporate LHPWC issues, accounting for at least 60-80% of their project objectives, by Q1-2</p> <p>4.4 Six Fellows from Africa cohort (remainder of cohort) incorporate LHPWC issues, accounting for 25% of their project objectives, by Q1-2</p> <p>4.5 Two Fellows from the Latin American cohort incorporate LHPWC issues, accounting for at least 60-80% of their project objectives, by Q4-2</p> <p>4.6 Six EDGE Fellows from Latin American cohort (remainder of cohort) incorporate LHPWC issues, accounting for 25% of their project objectives, by Q4-2</p> <p>4.7 All Fellows receive close technical supervision and mentorship from the EDGE Team during the project period</p>	<p>4.1.1 Asia Fellows final project plans.</p> <p>4.1.2 Monthly project update reports for Fellows from the Asia cohort.</p> <p>4.2.1 Asia Fellows final project plans.</p> <p>4.2.2 Monthly project update reports for Fellows from the Asia cohort.</p> <p>4.3.1 Africa Fellows final project plans.</p> <p>4.3.2 Monthly project update reports for Fellows from the Africa cohort.</p> <p>4.4.1 Africa Fellows final project plans.</p> <p>4.4.2 Monthly project update reports for Fellows from the Africa cohort.</p> <p>4.5.1 Latin America Fellows final project plans.</p> <p>4.5.2 Monthly project update reports for Fellows from the Latin America cohort.</p> <p>4.5.1 Latin America EDGE Fellows final project plans.</p> <p>4.5.2 Monthly project update reports for EDGE Fellows from the Latin America cohort.</p> <p>4.7.1 Report of project visits by the Asia and Africa Regional Project Managers or appropriate EDGE technical specialist.</p> <p>4.7.1 Calls between Fellows and the EDGE Social Dimensions Specialist and/or relevant Regional Project Manager.</p>
<p>Activities</p> <p>Output 1: LHPWC training module is developed with the EDGE Regional Project Managers, four external project partners, three external LHPWC experts, and at least 24 EDGE alumni.</p> <p>1.1 Consult EDGE Regional Project Managers, external LHPWC experts, training partners, and EDGE alumni to develop key learning objectives and training schedule for the LHPWC training module.</p> <p>1.2 Elaborate learning objectives and draft training schedule.</p> <p>1.3 Produce training materials.</p>		

Output 2: LHPWC training module is trialled online with eight Fellows from the 2022 Asia cohort, and it includes detailed feedback and evaluation which is used to adapt the module as required.

2.1 Update the standardised before-course confidence assessments to include LHPWC module and send out to Fellows.

2.2 Deliver 6-day LHPWC training module online to the 2022 Asia EDGE Fellows cohort as a stand-alone course.

2.3 Implement the standardised feedback process that is applied to every session of the annual tools course to evaluate each session in the 2022 trial LHPWC training module.

2.4 Implement additional feedback and evaluation processes dedicated to 2022 trial LHPWC training module.

2.5 Incorporate feedback and evaluation to adapt the LHPWC training module learning objectives and training materials where required.

Output 3: LHPWC training module delivered in person to the 2023 Africa and 2024 Latin America EDGE Fellowship cohorts, and the training materials are further disseminated through their in-country networks.

3.1 Update the advertisement, review, and selection process to include LHPWC focus for the 2023 Africa and 2024 Latin America EDGE Fellowships.

3.2 Deliver updated LHPWC module during the four-week Conservation Tools field course held in Africa in January 2023.

3.3 Implement standardised evaluation mechanisms for four-week Conservation Tools field course held in Africa that now include LHPWC module (pre-confidence, session feedback, post confidence).

3.4 Deliver updated LHPWC module during the four-week Conservation Tools field course held in Latin America in January 2024.

3.5 Implement standardised evaluation mechanisms for four-week Conservation Tools field course held in Latin America that now include LHPWC module (pre-confidence, session feedback, post confidence).

3.6 Make LHPWC training module available online to EDGE Fellow alumni, existing EDGE Fellows, Fellows' in-country networks, and ZSL's science and conservation staff.

3.7 Deliver two LHPWC webinars to conservationists from the existing Fellows in-country networks.

Output 4: EDGE Fellows from the 2022 Asia, 2023 Africa, and 2024 Latin America cohorts incorporate LHPWC objectives into their conservation projects and they receive technical supervision and mentorship during their fellowship.

4.1 Support EDGE Fellows from the 2022 Asia, 2023 Africa, and 2024 Latin America cohorts to develop detailed project plans that include LHPWC objectives.

4.2 Provide technical support and mentorship via regular calls (monthly as a minimum) with the EDGE Social Dimensions Specialist and/or the relevant Regional Project Manager.

4.3 Carry out project visits to Fellows from relevant staff member to provide support.

4.4 Provide distribution and financial oversight of project grants for Fellows to enable Fellowship objectives to be achieved.

4.5 Review the Fellows' progress and monthly reports.

Important Assumptions

A1 EDGE have the resources to deliver Fellowships, including internal capacity and funding.

A2 Suitable early-career conservationists are interested and apply for EDGE Fellowships.

A3 The advertisement and selection process identifies suitable Fellows / LHPWC issues are relevant and appropriate in the Fellows' projects and the context of their focal EDGE species.

A4 Covid-19 does not restrict the delivery of in-person Conservation Tools courses.

A5 Covid-19 does not restrict Fellows application of training (esp. in context of LHPWC objectives).

A6 Fellows' in-country networks desire training / uptake of webinars / materials are disseminated by Fellows.

Annex 3: Standard Indicators

Table 1 Project Standard Indicators

DI Indicator number	Name of indicator using original wording	Name of Indicator after adjusting wording to align with DI Standard Indicators	Units	Disaggregation	Year 1 Total	Year 2 Total	Year 3 Total	Total to date	Total planned during the project
DI-A01	0.3 One-hundred and sixty-five conservationists (24 Fellows, 20 from Fellows in-country networks, and 121 Fellow alumni) from outside high-income countries increase their knowledge of LHPWC by 50%, by Q4-2	Number of people from key national and local stakeholders completing structured and relevant training	People	Men	10		NA	10	82.5
DI-A01	0.3 One-hundred and sixty-five conservationists (24 Fellows, 20 from Fellows in-country networks, and 121 Fellow alumni) from outside high-income countries increase their knowledge of LHPWC by 50%, by Q4-2	Number of people from key national and local stakeholders completing structured and relevant training	People	Women	8		NA	8	82.5
DI-A03	0.3 One-hundred and sixty-five conservationists (24 Fellows, 20 from Fellows in-country networks, and 121 Fellow alumni) from outside high-income countries increase their knowledge of LHPWC by 50%, by Q4-2 0.5 One member of the EDGE alumni develops a Darwin main grant application, by Q4-2	Number of local/national organisations with improved capability and capacity as a result of the project.	Number of organisations	Country (TBC in Y2)	0		NA	0	3
DI-B03	0.4 Twenty-four Fellows (eight from Asia, eight from Africa, and eight from Latin America) incorporate LHPWC issues into their conservation project objectives by Q4-2	Number of new/improved community management plans available and endorsed	Number	Country - India	0		NA	0	1
DI-B03	0.4 Twenty-four Fellows (eight from Asia, eight from Africa, and eight from Latin America) incorporate LHPWC issues into their conservation project objectives by Q4-2	Number of new/improved community management plans available and endorsed	Number	Country - Nepal	0		NA	0	2

DI Indicator number	Name of indicator using original wording	Name of Indicator after adjusting wording to align with DI Standard Indicators	Units	Disaggregation	Year 1 Total	Year 2 Total	Year 3 Total	Total to date	Total planned during the project
DI-C13	<p>0.3 One-hundred and sixty-five conservationists (24 Fellows, 20 from Fellows in-country networks, and 121 Fellow alumni) from outside high-income countries increase their knowledge of LHPWC by 50%, by Q4-2</p> <p>3.6 Two LHPWC webinars delivered to 20 conservationists (10 in each) from the Fellows' in-country networks (e.g., conservationists from NGO's, universities, local government), by Q4-2</p>	Number of webinar attendees	Number	Men			NA		
DI-C13	<p>0.3 One-hundred and sixty-five conservationists (24 Fellows, 20 from Fellows in-country networks, and 121 Fellow alumni) from outside high-income countries increase their knowledge of LHPWC by 50%, by Q4-2</p> <p>3.6 Two LHPWC webinars delivered to 20 conservationists (10 in each) from the Fellows' in-country networks (e.g., conservationists from NGO's, universities, local government), by Q4-2</p>	Number of webinar attendees	Number	Women					

Table 2 Publications

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

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

Checklist for submission

	Check
Different reporting templates have different questions, and it is important you use the correct one. Have you checked you have used the correct template (checking fund, type of report (i.e. Annual or Final), and year) and deleted the blue guidance text before submission?	X
Is the report less than 10MB? If so, please email to BCF-Reports@niras.com putting the project number in the Subject line.	X
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.	NA
Have you included means of verification? You should not submit every project document, but the main outputs and a selection of the others would strengthen the report.	X
Do you have hard copies of material you need to submit with the report? If so, please make this clear in the covering email and ensure all material is marked with the project number. However, we would expect that most material will now be electronic.	NA
If you are submitting photos for publicity purposes, do these meet the outlined requirements (see section 15)?	NA
Have you involved your partners in preparation of the report and named the main contributors	NA
Have you completed the Project Expenditure table fully?	X
Do not include claim forms or other communications with this report.	