

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	DIR29CC\1086
Project title	Bolstering Príncipe's resilience to marine plastics through strengthened community capacity
Country/ies	São Tomé and Príncipe
Lead Partner	Fundação Príncipe
Project partner(s)	-
Darwin Initiative grant value	£197,900.00
Start/end dates of project	Apr 2023/ Mar 2025
Reporting period (e.g. Apr 2022 – Mar 2023) and number (e.g. Annual Report 1, 2, 3)	Apr 2023 – Mar 2024 Annual Report 1
Project Leader name	Litoney ██████████
Project website/blog/social media	Website: https://fundacaoprincipe.org/en/homepage Instagram: @fundacaoprincipe @EmilyDuncan34
Report author(s) and date	Emily ██████████, Asiem ██████████ 30 th April 2024

Note:

- **Please ensure you have selected the correct template for your project and please remove the blue guidance notes from all sections before submission.**
- **Your report will be published on the Darwin Initiative website. If there is any confidential or sensitive information within the report that you do not wish to be shared on our website, please ensure you clearly highlight this.**

All Annual Reports are reviewed by a Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) consultant. They will use your original application and indicators of success (or the most recent approved indicators of success) as a basis of their review. Therefore, it is important that you refer back to this document when writing this report. The review acts as an independent viewpoint of whether the project is making the progress it states based upon the report and associated evidence submitted. **Therefore, it is strongly recommended that you submit the means of verification listed alongside your indicators of success to support your assertions of progress.**

When making statements of progress or impact please ensure you refer as much as possible to sources of evidence including the indicators of success and their associated means of verification. For example, when reporting training events, some measure of effectiveness is required as well as the numbers participating and duration. In order to comment on quality of work it is useful to share with the reviewer project documentation such as training manuals, meeting reports, training feedback etc.

Please note: Major changes in the indicators of success (e.g., Output and Outcome level changes) must be approved. You can do this through submission of a Change Request form which can be found [here](#).

Submission of changes to the project design in the Annual Report does not constitute notification. Changes requiring formal approval include, but are not restricted to: a delay or change in project implementation causing a re-budget; staff changes (relating to CVs provided at application stage); changes in Outputs or Outcome; project termination. If not clear whether a change requires formal approval please check with BCF-Reports@niras.com.

Report formats: This report should be sent in MS Word only (if you have concerns about layout you may submit a PDF but this is in addition to a Word version). If you have already answered a question in one section, do not repeat the information in another section, but refer back to the section number.

Each section contains questions to guide the completion of the report.

Not all guiding questions have to be answered - Project Leaders should exercise judgement as to those most relevant to the project.

The assumption is that project partners will play an active role in writing the report.

1. Project summary

Please provide a brief overview of your project and what the project is aiming to achieve. For this section you should consider the following:

- What capability and capacity need is the project designed to address?
- Why is this relevant, and for whom?
- What biodiversity challenges and human development and wellbeing challenges (poverty reduction) is the project also intended to address?
- How did you identify these problems?
- Briefly describe the location (with a map if possible) of the project.

You may find it helpful to refer to your original application form, and you may use text from your application form to provide information in this section.

This project aims to build community capacity to monitor marine plastic in the coastal and marine habitats of Príncipe Island and introduce alternative revenue opportunities to tackle existing plastic waste on the island. In doing this the project will seek to allay the negative socio-economic impacts on the island's small-scale fisheries, safeguarding food security and helping women and young mothers to explore diversified incomes, as well as contributing to Fundação Príncipe's long-standing work with the success of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) and sea turtle conservation through diminishing the threats posed by the presence of plastic pollution.

Príncipe Island is a small autonomous region within the country of São Tomé and Príncipe, situated in the Gulf of Guinea, approximately 200 km off the western coast of Gabon (please see map attached). A largely agrarian-based economy sees much of its population reliant on subsistence farming, fisheries, and forest products for their livelihood. Approximately 58.5% of the country's population lives below poverty line, with women being disproportionately affected, having lesser access to education and jobs than men. In 2012, Príncipe was designated as a World Biosphere Reserve by UNESCO, in recognition of its high degree of endemism of terrestrial fauna and flora, and its unique culture and communities. It also boasts great marine biodiversity, including threatened billfish, sharks and rays, five of the world's seven species of sea turtles (hawksbill, green, leatherback, loggerhead and olive ridley), seabirds, and

cetaceans. Since 2010, the regional government has made efforts to protect the marine environment, in particular sea turtles, by passing a regional law prohibiting the hunting and consumption of turtles. However, the government lacks the resources and capacity to effectively ensure enforcement; Fundação Príncipe's (FP) marine conservation programme has supported these efforts by addressing threats to sea turtles such as illegal hunting, nest predation and coastal erosion due to illegal sand extraction. Recently, FP and Fauna & Flora International (FFI) led the creation of the country's first network of marine protected areas.

Through its ongoing work on the island, FP has been privy to the increasing threat of marine plastic pollution and its effect on marine biodiversity – turtles have increasingly been found with ingested plastics within their systems each season, and video-tagged turtles have revealed plastic in the formerly pristine waters around the island. Additionally, this plastic has the potential to affect the productivity, viability, profitability, and safety of the island's small-scale fisheries [1], through impacts caused by marine litter and plastics caught in nets, damage to boats and fishing gear [2], physical entanglement, as well as the degradation and eventual destruction of marine habitats [3] and a decrease in fisheries' resources as a result of entanglement or ingestion by various marine species [4-8]. Combined with other factors such as climate change, this potentially positions the island's fisheries at a very vulnerable state.

There is now an immediate need to strengthen regional and national capacity for effective marine biodiversity conservation, while safeguarding prevalent fishing traditions and establishing sustainable alternatives to tackle a steadily growing and pervasive anthropogenic problem. Regional authorities are in favour of approaches to engage communities in participatory marine monitoring and prioritising the identification and piloting of economic incentive-based interventions that demonstrate viable livelihood benefits to the local population through conservation [9]. The identification of these problems and priority action areas has taken place through in-depth discussions with fishers and other community members on Príncipe Island as well as government agencies, led by FP's São Tomé and expatriate personnel based on the island.

2. Project stakeholders/ partners

Darwin Initiative projects are required to be collaborative.

Please describe the support or engagement between all formal partners and key stakeholders and this project, and how this has developed over the last year of the project. You should focus on:

- Whether partnerships were based on demand stemming from the host country/ies and the extent to which all partners are involved in project planning, monitoring and evaluation and decision making.
- Particular achievements, lessons, strengths or challenges with the partnership(s), and how have the latter been met. Describe how relevant local institutions (including, where relevant, British embassies and high commissions), local communities and technical specialists who are not formally partners in the project have been involved as appropriate.
- How participants have been identified and selected to directly benefit from the capability and capacity building activities.

Please support comments with evidence.

The past year has been particularly strongly focused on developing stronger collaboration between the different people/ groups involved in the project. Through public training, the project has brought together people such as the Fisheries minister, the technical specialist (ED), and different FP staff members to build capacity (for example, FP team and the wider community benefited from learning techniques and awareness, while Belzamiel Umbelina particularly furthered skills in data management, and conducting socio-economic surveys).

3. Project progress

This section (3.1- 3.5) is the main narrative report on project progress in the last year, and should be a flowing paragraphed presentation written in a formal style. Sub-sections reflect the progress against the project's indicators of success. We do not require a summary at the start, just clear reporting under 3.1 to 3.5. Please ensure that you clearly refer to evidence to support the narrative.

Annex 1 requires you to provide a condensed version of this narrative against the indicators of success. In this section and in Annex 1 please report against the latest approved version of the indicators of success. Please also include your full project indicators of success in Annex 2. If there have been changes to the indicators of success please indicate where these are, and please note that, as described above, major changes to the indicators of success must be submitted for approval by separate email.

The following section provides a summary of the key activities completed under each project output to date during the reporting period 1st April 2023 – 31st March 2024:

3.1 Progress in carrying out project Activities

Briefly, please report on progress in implementing the project's Activities for this year. **You should report the progress of Activities under the Outputs to which they relate.** Have the Activities been carried out in the manner and time planned?

Please support comments with evidence to support progress towards Activities.

Output 1: Local stakeholders (FP, government, coastguard, communities) have increased capacity and capability to monitor plastic pollution at beaches, in-water and river mouths and knowledge of marine plastic pollution distribution across Príncipe

Training and capacity workshops for local stakeholders and more members of the FP team have been conducted on the established beach monitoring methodology during FP's previous project with the Whitley Conservation Awards (**activity 1.1**). In addition, FP team members Estrela Matilde and Belzamiel Umbelina alongside technical consultant Dr. Emily Duncan were involved in the successful publication of beach plastic pollution data entitled "Plastic pollution on remote islands: A baseline study of Príncipe, Gulf of Guinea" published in Marine Environmental Research in September 2023. During technical consultant visit to the island in August-September 2023 training and capacity building activities were conducted for the core FP team and FP marine guard's teams on in-water sampling (**activity 1.2**; Figure 1.). This involved active participation into developing the methodology and trialling the plastic trawl equipment (26 people; 17 men and 9 women). A net constructed on the island using old mosquito netting material has provided a low-cost alternative to traditional plankton sampling, bypassing import and boat capacity issues. Replicates can also be constructed in the future for potential expansion of sampling and could provide a low-cost sampling solution for other areas within the region. The in-water methodology was established; 10 minute trawls with a specific datasheet has now been created for the use by the FP team. FP team members also received capacity building and training in database management and construction with the collaborative creation of a summary database for data collected using the in-water sampling methodology (**activity 1.6**). Following this consultation consultations with technical consultant and the FP team decided on 6 in-water/river mouth sites (1x1km squared) were identified and decided upon (Annex 4.) from a previous participatory map from fisher interviews about sightings of marine turtle foraging and resting activities (**activity 1.4**). These are equally spread in different coastal directions, river mouth sites and also important marine turtle nesting beaches. Although (as specified in Indicator 0.2 and 1.2) 10 of each site were to be aimed sampled it was under certain constraints and to keep sampling consistent (see section 7) that it would be reduced. In-water monitoring has been implemented monthly in selected sites around the island of Príncipe since October 2023 (**activity 1.5**).



Figure 1. FP team receiving training and trialling in-water sampling methodologies; example of plastic sampled from marine turtle foraging sites around Príncipe

The FP team and other stakeholders (including members of the ‘Plastic Re-use Hub’) received training workshops and laboratory guide materials on standardised plastic pollution categorisation in Jan 2024 (delayed due to cancelled flights of technical consultant Nov 2023) (22 people; 13 women, 9 men) (**activity 1.3**). This increases the capacity of the FP to contribute to globally data on plastic pollution with the addition of internationally recognised classification for in-water and ingested plastic pieces with the established OSPAR beach protocol (Annex 4).



Figure 2. FP staff and other local partners attending the plastic categorisation workshop in January 2024 co-ran by technical consultant and key FP project staff member Belzamiel Umbelina

Output 2: There is a centralised reporting mechanism for local stakeholders to record ingestion/entanglement events and marine turtle interactions in Príncipe

The FP team has been liaising with technical consultant for material in which to learn about the current knowledge of the impact of plastic pollution on marine turtles. A public presentation was conducted (14/09/2023; 26 attendees) where FP staff Belzamiel and Jormicilesa on the plastic pollution and marine turtles for theoretical training for the wider FP team and local stakeholders (**activity 2.1**). Due to a lack of stranded marine turtle occurrences since the project commenced in April 2023 a physical training workshop on necropsy methodology and sample analysis for plastic ingestion therefore a theoretical marine turtle stranding sampling protocol workshop was conducted by the technical consultant ED for the FP team and local stakeholder using fish gastrointestinal tracts (GI) with guidance materials in Portuguese (**activity 2.2**).

Participants got to understand the concept of separating the different section of the GI as well as the methods to filter and search its content for ingested plastic, which can then be practising should a stranded marine turtle occur on the island. A questionnaire was developed to understand the current level of marine turtle entanglement around the island and behaviour around discarding fishing nets on local beaches (which can contribute largely to the presence of the risk of entanglement). This was developed collaboratively, piloted by the FP team and received ethical approval from the University of Exeter Ethics Board. The questionnaire contains questions about net use, opinions and perceptions about discarding behaviours and the frequency of entanglement events (Annex 4). Due to the observation of old or broken nets being discarded on beaches a section of the questionnaire has taken inspiration from the 'Theory of Planned Behaviour' to aid in the understanding behind the drivers of behaviour and provide ideas for solutions. This has begun to be implemented within the communities (1st round of questionnaires finished in 8 fishing communities; 52 people in total translating to 10.4% of the approximate total number of fishers on the island) (**activity 2.3**).

Output 3: The local communities are empowered to monitor, and have increased awareness of, the issue of plastic pollution via the deployment of citizen science tools and knowledge exchange presentations

A unique 'list' on the citizen science app Marine Debris Tracker (MDT) has now been set-up for Fundação Príncipe specifically. The FP team worked with the technical consultant to translate a list of litter items into local names and add new items to the existing MDT list that were identified from previous beach plastic pollution studies for Príncipe Island (Ramilo-Henry et al 2023). Technical training was conducted on how to use the app with FP staff (Figure 3.) Subsequently, the FP team launched a campaign in each community (Abade, Burra, Campanha, Hospital Velho & Santo António praia) called "Jovens pelo planeta" in the for young people in local community focal groups to invite them to take part in being a citizen science monitor of the beaches within their community using the application (**activity 3.1**). Now five 'Jovens pelo planeta' have been chosen and trained by FP staff on the guideline, the MDT app and monitoring methodology. However, recent updates to the MDT application (Jan 2024) meant it no longer works on the operating system of the phones that were purchased for the 'Jovens pelo planeta'. The FP team overcame these issues by printing the unique MDT list on the paper and then manually uploading this onto the MDT website database.



Figure 3. Technical consultant Dr. Emily Duncan training FP team member Belzamiel Umbelina on the use of MDT app

Outreach events were conducted via the Captain Fanplastic framework with school children (2000 primary and 700 secondary aged children across the island). This educational organisation has created a book and teaching materials to raise environmental literacy and foster behavioural change amongst youth groups, this involved; school programmes, storytelling and clean-up events. The Fisheries Director was taken out on in-water sampling activity (**activity 3.3**; Annex 4), as well as the Coast Guard team, to understand the methodology. Standard data to collect during entanglement events were given to tour operators from the major hotels on the island. Meetings with local fisher groups to provide training in the use of citizen science tools to monitor in-water plastics and entanglement events (**activity 3.3**) have been planned to be moved to year 2 due to the importance of not influencing or changing knowledge, opinions or perceptions of discarded fishing gear or entanglement events within the questionnaire data.

Output 4: Young women and mothers at risk have established enterprises supported by the “Plastic Re-use Hub” which generate alternative income streams and improve local livelihoods

At the beginning of the project a total of 3 meetings were held with 5 women, which are now the main team that will manage the Plastic Re-use hub (**activity 4.1**). This initial group of 5 women managed the functional running of the hub and contacting further members, especially targeting young mothers and women who are unemployed. The group voted on Anilta as the person which will be the leader of the group. Anilta is a seamstress who won a previously run FP competition, with the development of a reusable nappies. In further, meetings the group decided on the layout of the new designated space. There are now a total of 5 women working full-time at the Plastic Re-use hub. Most of the equipment and materials have now arrived on the island. During the series of meetings, the group was also introduced to Adnei Tavares, who is a consulting specialist on finance training. Adnei will support the group and their business developments by assessing their needs and skill levels which in turn aided in proposing a budget for training. The machinery and equipment arrived on the island November 2023 and the group received substantial training on using the machines. During this time targeted beach and community litter collection were established for plastic waste to supply material for the Plastic Reuse Hub products (**activity 4.2**). Alongside the group also had training on business management. Some members of the group were already involved in the business management training done during with Whitley Awards project, with the 5 plastic business ideas already piloted by FP. The initial group of 5 women then invited a further 7 women to receive the training on the machinery and equipment to make waste-based products (**activity 4.3**).



Figure 4. A member of the 'Plastic Re-use Hub'

3.2 Progress towards project Outputs

Report on how overall progress has been made towards the project Outputs and how likely the project is to achieve them by its close. Address each Output in turn, identifying the baseline condition, change recorded to date, and the source of evidence for this change. Please comment on how you are measuring the Output indicators. Please support comments with evidence and use indicators to support progress towards Outputs.

Output 1: Local stakeholders (FP, government, coastguard, communities) have increased capacity and capability to monitor plastic pollution at beaches, in-water and river mouths and knowledge of marine plastic pollution distribution across Príncipe

Output 2: There is a centralised reporting mechanism for local stakeholders to record ingestion/entanglement events and marine turtle interactions in Príncipe

Output 3: The local communities are empowered to monitor, and have increased awareness of, the issue of plastic pollution via the deployment of citizen science tools and knowledge exchange presentations

Output 4: Young women and mothers at risk have established enterprises supported by the "Plastic Re-use Hub" which generate alternative income streams and improve local livelihoods

Green shading represents evidence of completion, blue represents indicator still valid with evidence of substantial progress, and orange represents indicator still valid, but too early to assess with ongoing activities being implemented (see Annex 1 for more detailed information)

Output 1:	Increased capacity and capability to monitor plastic pollution			Comments
	Baseline	Change recorded	Evidence	
Indicator 1.1 A minimum of 50 hours of training delivered on monitoring methodologies in different habitat sites to at least 6 FP staff members, 2 coast guard members and 1 regional government staff, in the first year of the project	1 FP staff member and 1 intern previously trained in beach monitoring for plastic pollution	Practical training on beach and in-water methodologies: 26 people (17 men, 9 women) Workshop attendance for plastic classification: 22 people (9 men, 13 women)	Annex 4 - training photographs, field survey data, workshop attendance register	Indicator still valid
Indicator 1.2 By the end of the project, a comprehensive year-long baseline database of plastic pollution distribution on the island exists, covering at least 10 nesting beaches, 10 in-water sampling sites and 10 river mouths	Data collection for 11 beaches on the island of Príncipe in the Gulf of Guinea between September 2022 and April 2023 performed on the Whitley Awards Project	The same 11 beaches have continued to be monitored and baseline data established for 6 in-water/ river mouth sites	Annex 4 - training photographs, field survey data	A comprehensive baseline can be established by the end of the project however the number of sites isn't feasible. This indicator needs adjusting a change request has been submitted
Output 2:	Centralised reporting mechanism of plastic pollution and marine turtle interactions			Comments
	Baseline	Change recorded	Evidence	

Indicator 2.1 A minimum of 25 hours of training are delivered to at least 6 FP staff members, 2 coast guard members and 1 regional government staff on turtle necropsy and plastic ingestion analysis, by the first year of the project	1 FP staff member already had basic knowledge of turtle necropsy	Workshop attendance for gut content analysis: 22 people (9 men, 13 women) utilising fish as an example as no stranded turtles present	Annex 4 - training photographs, workshop attendance register	Indicator valid
Indicator 2.2 At least 50% of fishers on the island are interviewed and provide insights on the regional occurrence of entanglement incidents	0 = no fishers yet interviewed about occurrence of entanglement incidents	52 questionnaires completed (10.4% fishers interviewed)	Annex 4 - survey developed & implemented, number of surveys completed	Indicator still valid and on target for delivery in year 2
Output 3:	Increased community awareness and empowerment			Comments
	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Change recorded</i>	<i>Evidence</i>	
Indicator 3.1 By the end of the project, 70% of attendees of focal groups are using the citizen science tools	0 = no members of focal groups are using citizen science tools	5 committed 'Jovens pelo Planeta' Captain Fanplastic events: 2000 primary, 700 secondary aged children	Annex 4 -data collected on MDT online portal	Indicator still valid with outreach activities and creation of dissemination materials to be implemented in year 2
Indicator 3.2 By the end of the project, and as a result of information sharing through events and media outlets, at least 50% of engaged stakeholders demonstrate an increase in awareness of the impacts of plastic pollution	0 = no stakeholders are demonstrating an increase in awareness of the impacts of plastic pollution	2 FP staff delivered public presentation to 26 attendees	Annex 4 - presentation photographs & attendance register	Indicator still valid and on target for delivery in year 2
Output 4:	Generate alternative income streams and improve local livelihoods			Comments
	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Change recorded</i>	<i>Evidence</i>	
Indicator 4.1 By the third quarter of year two, there is a viability assessment of at least 20 women and young mothers' needs and ideas for alternative income initiatives from plastic re-use products	0 = no viability assessments completed	12 women are now members of the 'Plastic Re-use Hub'	Annex 4 - photographs & attendance registers for meetings	Indicator still valid and on target for delivery in year 2
Indicator 4.2 By the end of the project, at least 4 sustainable enterprise ideas focused on the	0 = no sustainable enterprise ideas for business in existence	12 women received training on plastic re-use product machines	Annex 4- photographs & attendance registers training events	Indicator still valid and on target for delivery in year 2

plastic issue and supported by participatory business plans have been successfully implemented through the 'Plastic Re-use Hub'				
Indicator 4.3 By the end of the project, at least 20 female members of the 'Plastic Re-use Hub' will report an increase of 20% in their monthly income	0 = no female members receiving income from an alternative source	N/A	N/A	Indicator still valid with viability assessments and development of participatory business plans in year 2

3.3 Progress towards the project Outcome

Please report on progress made towards the project Outcome. You should make specific reference to the Outcome indicators including baseline condition and progress to date, and provide evidence against them. Consider the following:

- Are the indicators adequate for measuring the intended Outcome?
- Is the project likely to achieve the Outcome by end of funding? If not, what action will you take to ensure the situation can be improved?

The impact of plastic pollution on the communities and biodiversity of Príncipe is mitigated through long-term monitoring, increased awareness and equitable and sustainable community-driven solutions

0.1 At least 6 FP staff members, 2 coast guard members and 1 regional government staff are trained in monitoring and standardised reporting in the first year of the project.

Progress: To date the project has provided extensive training in country to 48 individuals across numerous different sectors of the local partners. This has increased institutional and local capacity to collect data for monitoring and standardised reporting for plastic pollution that can be used to provide baseline data and inform decisions for solutions on the Príncipe.

Evidence: Increased knowledge and awareness on different monitoring and standardised reporting mechanisms. The register of attendance of individuals at public presentations and training workshops with photographic evidence.

Comments: This indicator remains valid.

0.2 At least 10 beach, 10 in-water and 10 river mouth habitats receive monthly monitoring and standardised reporting of marine turtle impact events during the lifetime of the project.

Progress: Throughout the first year of this project, it became apparent through increased knowledge of the number of sites and the time constraints on capacity for visiting in-water/ river mouth sites that for consistency and to reduce the fatigue around monitoring activities that a total of 6 in-water/ river mouth sites is the optimal number. However, 11 beach sites are already receiving monthly monitoring. The FP team and other partners have now been educated in the protocols to investigate ingested plastic and entanglement events.

Evidence: Consistent monitoring of selected sites is now in the present in database entry records. The register of attendance of individuals at public presentations and training workshops with photographic evidence.

Comments: This indicator has been adjusted and a change request has been approved.

0.3 At least four sustainable women and young mother-led alternative livelihoods businesses based on plastic re-use products are in place on the island, with a minimum of 20 women and young mothers increasing their monthly income by 20% until the end of the project.

Progress: Good progress has been made towards alternative livelihoods businesses using plastic re-use products. 12 women and young mothers have now been trained on the machine to make the plastic re-use products. The 'Plastic Re-use Hub' now has a dedicated space for production but also a space for a shop alongside a chosen leader for the group. The members have also agreed for products to be displayed in the major hotels on the island to have access to selling to visiting tourists.

Evidence: Minutes of the meetings of the 'Plastic Re-use Hub'. Reports from consultant on business management training.

Comments: It is early to assess as business development activities are to be implemented in year 2, however, indicator remains valid.

0.4 At least 50% of the island's population (~4000 people) has increased awareness regarding plastic pollution by the end of the project.

Progress: To date the project is on a good trajectory to increase the awareness of plastic pollution to the island's population for examples via training of the FP staff and wider stakeholders, women at the 'Plastic Re-use Hub', children involved in 'Joven pelo Planeta' and more will be reached in year 2 via knowledge dissemination and outreach events.

Evidence: The register of attendance of individuals at public presentations and training workshops with photographic evidence.

Comments: It is early to assess this as many outreach events to the wider community will occur in year 2 but this indicator remains valid.

3.4 Monitoring of assumptions

Monitoring of critical conditions (risks and assumptions) is crucial to project success. Report on whether Outcome and Output level assumptions still hold true. If there have been changes in assumptions, in what ways is the project meeting or managing these? Please support comments with evidence.

Assumption 1:

Comments:

Etc.

Assumption 1- Approach to training workshops will be effective in increasing knowledge and capability for monitoring by local stakeholders. **Comments:** The participatory and practical approach to the training alongside supporting laboratory guide materials (translated into Portuguese) was very successful for both workshops held (**activity 1.3 & 2.2**). All participants learnt about the theory supported by copies of the training materials and then all took that in practical exercises to embed the learning. Trained individuals from FP & technical consultant ED were present however stakeholders were encouraged to work independently in the practical tasks to demonstrate learning and then have the option to ask questions that arose.

Assumption 2 - Fieldwork logistics and constraints will allow monthly monitoring of multiple sites. **Comments:** Overall, despite logistical issues and constraints monthly monitoring of selected sites have continued as consistently as possible. Due to staffing issues and extreme weather some of the sites in the remote South of Príncipe could not be sampled in some months due to too higher risk in travelling by boat and a lack of trained staff at the beginning of the project (due to injury from accident). However, for the majority of sites have been successfully sampled monthly due to logistical organise to visit southern beaches and in between sample in-water sites therefore a lot of sampling achieved within one day.

Assumption 3 - There is participation from members of focal groups from community in citizen science tools. **Comments:** There has been successful participation from focal group with citizen science tools. The five 'Jovens pelo planeta' volunteered themselves to become part of

the project via the MDT app citizen science initiative. These members of the focal group also have continued to participate within these citizen science tools despite the issues with the phone technology.

Assumption 4 - There is participation from young women in the “Plastic Re-use Hub”.

Comments: There has been very positive notable participation from young women in the ‘Plastic Re-use Hub’. The Hub now hosts 5 young women working full-time and a further 7 have received training on using the plastic re-use machinery.

Assumption 5 - Targeted collection for plastic will generate enough material to be used in the creation of re-use products. **Comments:** Currently targeted collection for plastic is generating enough material to be used in the creation of the re-use products. Collections include plastics within the communities where the women live, and beach collected items. The members of the Hub have now been training in which plastic polymers can be used on the machines e.g. HDPE which is a commonly found polymer in plastic waste and exist in a wide range of colours that can be used in the design of the re-use products.

Assumption 6 - Alternative income sources can be generated via selling of products from the “Plastic Re-use Hub”. **Comments:** This women-run Hub are on a positive trajectory towards generating alternative income sources. The ‘Plastic Re-use Hub’ now has a dedicated space for production but also a space for a shop. The members have also agreed for products to be displayed in the major hotels on the island to have access to selling to visiting tourists. The sale of products has already begun (please see attachment for a list of products sold by the Hub, as of April 23, 2024).

3.5 Achievement of positive impact on biodiversity and poverty reduction

Capability and Capacity projects should outline how expected changes to in-country capability and capacity will deliver for both biodiversity and poverty reduction. In your application form, you were asked to identify what will change and who will benefit a) in the short-term (i.e. during the life of the project) and b) in the long-term (after the project has ended) and the potential to scale the approach.

Provide an update here with regard to progress towards these higher-level objectives. When talking about how people will benefit, please remember to give details of who will benefit, differences in benefits by gender or other layers of diversity within stakeholders, and the number of beneficiaries expected. The number of communities is insufficient detail – number of households should be the largest unit used.

- What contribution is your project making to the higher-level impact on biodiversity conservation?
- What contribution is your project making to a higher-level impact on human development and wellbeing (poverty reduction)?

Please support all comments with evidence.

This project has been a crucial start for the island of Príncipe to begin to tackle the issue of plastic pollution. A continued influx of plastic could lead to ongoing and potentially irreversible declines in the ecological integrity of the island’s marine habitat, as well as exacerbated negative socio-economic impacts on its small-scale fisheries. These, in turn, will propel both marine and human communities towards an increased vulnerability to climate change risks and habitat degradation. Through an entirely locally driven process this project is helping to make impact to both higher-level biodiversity conservation and poverty reduction goals.

Biodiversity conservation

Short-term: This project has developed community capacity collection of critical baseline data. The FP team now have skills to monitor and collate important data on plastic pollution in multiple critical marine habitats. The ‘Jovens pelo Planeta’ program with now has 5 young people trained and with increased awareness across a range of communities and school-based educational has now reached 2000 primary, 700 secondary aged children across the island. The questionnaire of fishers about behaviours around discarded fishing gear will start to collect

their opinions and ideas on alternative methods to manage fishing waste as well as beginning conversations within the fishing communities around more sustainable practices that will benefit marine biodiversity and reduce entanglement event risk for marine turtles and other vulnerable species (with approximately 250 fishers reached within lifetime of the project).

Long-term: Methods of monitoring marine habitats for baseline data on plastic pollution could be subsequently scaled to São Tomé and other neighbouring regions or SIDs to provide a better regionally perspective of the threat to biodiversity from plastic pollution. Data can be utilised to strengthen regional and national legislation and feed into strategies/ mitigation measures to reduce plastic pollution generated regionally e.g. taxes on plastic packaging or legally prohibiting single-use plastics. Sustained community engagement and awareness building in different sectors e.g. children, fishers and young women will aid in participation contra-plastic endeavours on the island, helping to improve ecosystem health, reducing threats for species such as marine turtles and preserving marine biodiversity.

Poverty reduction

Short-term: Before the start of this project there were a lack of education and awareness initiatives around plastic pollution and begin conversations around sustainable waste management, re-use of plastic waste and the reduction in single-use plastics entering the island improving both health and wellbeing of the communities on the island. This project is also working on diversification of local livelihoods for vulnerable groups. Women and young mothers via 'Plastic Re-use Hub' have the opportunity to create alternative livelihoods and diversify their incomes with plastic re-use products as well as receiving training in business and financial management; 5 women working full-time and a further 7 that received two rounds of training, firstly in business management, and secondly in the utilisation of machines. Understanding the behaviour around discarded fishing gear and work on solutions will aid in the reduction of ghost gear in marine habitats around Príncipe and incidental capture of fish therefore sustain food security for the inhabitants of the island.

Long-term: The project will generate knowledge, ideas and opinions around circular economy or alternative waste disposal of fishing gear. It will then be possible to connect and expand ideas such as those in the Philippines implemented by Coast4C, this will allow for diversification and additional income from a waste product that would otherwise be discarding into the environment. The questionnaire and knowledge dissemination carried out during this project could be replicated regionally to build a network around tackling the issue of ghost gear in the Gulf of Guinea, improving food security and potentially creating alternative livelihoods. The 'Plastic Re-use Hub' could grow into a long-lasting sustainable business for women and young mothers on the island, with continued business and financial training it's possible that this will snowball into the development of further businesses and aiding in diversifying incomes. The legacy of this project could reach ~8000 people.

4. Project support to the Conventions, Treaties or Agreements

Using evidence where available, please detail how your capability and capacity project will has contributed to national policy (including NBSAPs, NDCs, NAPs etc.) and in turn international biodiversity and development conventions, treaties and agreements that the country is a signatory of. Has the project had any interaction with any host country convention focal points, via host country or UK partners in the last 12 months? This is encouraged. Please give details of any interaction.

Please support any comments with evidence and indicators.

The establishment of long-term standardised environmental sampling (**activity 1.5**) will allow for data to monitor the successful implementation of the National Environmental Base Laws. For example, Law N°10/1999, which includes protection of habitats, safeguarding biodiversity, and adequate waste management as fundamental objectives (Art. 16°); and the Plastic Bags Law (Law N°8/2020), which acknowledges the urgency in addressing the impacts of plastic waste, and prohibits the production, import, commercialisation or distribution of non-biodegradable plastic bags. Building local capacity for plastic monitoring and transformation via the citizen science initiatives (**Output 3**) and the Plastic Reuse Hub (**Output 4**) will contribute

towards the regional government’s Príncipe 2030 Plan. Completed and on-going activities are promoting sustainable recycling and selective waste collection practices as well education towards waste management and marine ecosystems protection via participation, and reinforce monitoring, enforcement, governance and control of local marine environment (Objectives 1.1, 1.a and 1.b) (Regional Decree N°03/2020). Similarly, the project will align with the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan 2015-2020 (NBSAP II) by focusing on the conservation of coastal and marine ecosystems. Increased capability to investigate and report events ingestion or entanglement impacting marine turtles (**Output 2**) through promoting awareness, conservation of marine areas and protection of sea turtles (Objectives 1.1 and 1.2). This alongside environmental monitoring (**Output 1**) this approach is expected to strengthen the institutional, legal and regulatory framework by promoting cross-sectorial partnerships for conservation, and mechanisms for the implementation or enforcement of already approved legislation (Objectives 5.1 and 5.2). Finally, the project aligns with international commitments under the Convention on Biological Diversity, as set forth in the NBSAP II, the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals through monitoring impacts and understanding how to mitigate risks. The Sustainable Development Goals will also be contributed through capacity building and awareness raising, activities will contribute towards targets 12.8 and 14.a; alternative plastic waste-based livelihood initiatives will contribute towards poverty alleviation (SDG1), economic growth (SDG8), and reduction or reuse plastic pollution (SDGS 12 and 14); and the establishment of knowledge sharing international partnerships will contribute towards SDG17. Data from this project (**Output 1 & 2**) and lessons learnt from engaging with local communities (**Output 3 & 4**) will feed into information about the needs of SIDs in the creation and final decisions for the International Plastics Treaty, set to be finalised by the end of 2024. This legally binding treaty aims to end plastic pollution by 2040. United Nations member countries will negotiate and set obligations on countries to reduce pollution across the lifecycle, reduce consumption, promote reuse and improve waste management systems for plastics.

5. Gender equality and social inclusion

All projects are required to promote equality between persons of different gender and social characteristics. Describe how your project has proactively contributed to ensuring individuals achieve equitable outcomes and how you have engaged participants in a meaningful way. Please provide evidence.

If there have been any notable achievements or changes to approach this year please include these within your response.

Please support all comments with evidence and use any relevant indicators from your logframe.

Please quantify the proportion of women on the Project Board ¹ .	Ana Pimentel, Emily Duncan, Jormicilesa Pires Amado do Sacramento
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 .	50% women in project leadership team

The FP mission is to create economic and social development opportunities, and so this project aims to deliver a gender-integrated approach, ensuring equal access, participation and

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.

opportunities for both women and men throughout the project cycle. Prior to the start of the project and under guidance from Fauna & Flora International (FFI), FP developed its Gender Action Plan, which will be used to provide the guidelines and metrics to monitor and evaluate the social impact of implemented projects on the island's at-risk women. We endeavoured to integrate women within our different activities and levels of engagement with the communities on Príncipe Island. Evidence of our efforts during year 1 for each output is detailed below:

Output 1: Increased capacity and capability to monitor plastic pollution – During the implementation of training workshops women from both the FP, Plastic Re-use Hub and other stakeholders were actively encouraged to attend to wider skills: practical training on beach and in-water methodologies: 26 people (17 men, 9 women) and workshop attendance for plastic classification: 22 people (9 men, 13 women).

Output 2: Centralised reporting mechanism of plastic pollution and marine turtle interactions –

Although fishing is a traditionally male-dominated activity the FP team have been actively encouraging the participation of women to make sure their knowledge, opinion and perceptions can be recorded and analysed with the results of the questionnaire.

Output 3: Increased community awareness and empowerment –

Through MDT jovens pelo planeta, and the work done under the Captain Fanplastic project, FP is increasing community awareness and empowerment, with a special focus on young women.

Output 4: Generate alternative income streams and improve local livelihoods - Through the establishment of the Plastic Re-Use Hub, the project is specifically targeting young mothers and women at risk. The hub now has 5 women working full-time (and 7 others who has received training) building new business ideas for sustainable alternative livelihoods. Female entrepreneurs leading previous FP-supported initiatives will be encouraged to participate in community meetings and showcase their personal journeys towards empowerment. This approach will promote female role-models that inspire younger generations of island women to reach further, displacing widespread male-biased social norms and expectations.

6. Monitoring and evaluation

Discuss systems and processes employed internally to monitor and evaluate the project this year. Comment on the suitability of this approach, and whether you have identified any areas for improvement.

When writing this section, consider the following:

- How can you demonstrate that the Outputs and Activities of the project actually contribute to the project Outcome?
- What are the indicators of success (both qualitative and quantitative) and how are you measuring these?
- Have there been any changes made to the M&E plan over the reporting period?
- Do partners share the M&E work or is this the role of one organisation? How is information shared amongst partners/stakeholders?

Project Outputs and Activities have contributed to the overall Outcome as current progress have demonstrated increased capacity and capability in the FP team, local partners and communities via environmental and socio-economic means including; the learning and implementation of monitoring methodologies, increasing awareness through initiatives that focus on work with key focal members of communities, through driving sustainable community-led solutions and creating livelihoods diversification of vulnerable groups. All activities have been assessed during this year of the project using the indicators of success outlined within the logframe. These have been measured by FP by implementing standardised datasheets to record the number of participants at workshops, stakeholder meetings and training events as well as the establishment of long-term monitoring databases and photographs to evidence both training and development of initiatives such as the progress towards the 'Plastic Re-use Hub'. These data are specifically used to assess outreach and ensure that the project is providing

equal opportunities for and participation by under-represented and vulnerable groups. For more detailed information about monitoring and evaluation of project outputs, indicators and assumptions see section 3.1 - 3.4 and Annex 1.

7. Lessons learnt

Use of lessons learned is important for continuous improvement and adaptive management. This includes lessons from all levels including administrative, management, technical, and M&E. When writing this section, consider the following:

- What worked well, and what didn't work well, this past year?
- If you had to do it again, what would you do differently?
- What recommendations would you make to others doing similar projects?
- How are you going to build this learning into the project and future plans?

Practical field training of sampling methodologies by members of the FP, after initial training from technical consultant to wider stakeholders was very successful for the both the embedding of skills and learning. A key learning this year was the capacity for time of the habitat monitoring (**Output 1**) the FP staff have alongside other commitments. Initially the project aimed to monitor 10 in-water and 10 river mouth sites with however from initial scoping activities, site selection process and the development on sampling methodology the FP team and technical consultant concluded that the number of viable and meaningful sampling sites should be set at a lower number than initially proposed due to reasons such as; a lack considerable river mouth sites, the time and fuel constraints in utilising the boat for sampling, time available to process collected samples. For consistency and to reduce the fatigue around monitoring activities that a total of 6 in-water/ river mouth sites is the optimal number (section 3.1 and Annex 4). This has been adjusted and approved via a Change Request. Citizen science apps such as MDT can provide an engaging way for communities to be involved in collecting data about issues such as plastic pollution. Due to the existence of baseline data of beach plastic pollution from the previous Whitley Awards project meant that a new list on the app dedicated to FP with local names and commonly seen items were easily implemented to data collection on the island. Initially this use of the app in the 'Jovens pelo Planeta' programme worked successfully to engage members of youth local groups in data collection in their local communities. Unfortunately, due to software update the app no longer operated on the phones purchased for this activity, furthermore the lack of Wi-Fi connectivity in some more remote communities posed difficulties in data upload. Therefore, the FP team have overcome this issue by providing the specially curated list to the participants on paper which can then be uploaded manually, allowing the members of focal groups to still participate actively citizen science initiatives.

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

Please use this section to respond to any feedback you received when your project was funded, if appropriate.

Acceptance letter feedback response

Here are the responses to feedback given about this project in the acceptance letter. The FP team and technical consultant have been trying to contact the BCF team regarding some of the points below, however to this date we have been unable to discuss any queries.

- clarify how training success would be measured i.e., is there formal training content that can be passed or failed?
There is no formal training content (e.g. an examination) that will be utilised during the training; however, pre- and post- training questionnaires will be delivered to participants for each training

activity, to measure the difference in comprehension of concepts and obtained skills post-training.

- how would the skills set obtained empower students to have a large lifetime impact?
Skills obtained during the training would not only enable trainees to develop a better understanding of the impacts of various anthropogenic activities on their immediate environment but would also equip them with the means to monitor these impacts in an informed manner, allowing them to develop long-term strategies to safeguard their natural resources. As well as developing skills in data management and organisation of tasks.
- the project overview proposes to help with economic livelihoods that empower women and youth, but the application is not clear on how this will be done;
This project will aid with economic livelihoods via the establishment of the 'Plastic Re-use Hub'. This initiative will promote alternative livelihoods and independent income to young women and mothers from within Príncipe's communities, who will eventually solely run the entity, contributing to poverty alleviation. Creating proven and successful products such as "eco-bricks" as part of the Global Ecobrick Alliance will link to waste solutions and create more circular approaches on the island. We will ensure the capacity building for sustainable businesses via collaboration with a qualified consultant to run viability assessments for the needs and sustainable enterprise ideas for alternative income initiatives from plastic re-use products. Which will in turn be used to produce participatory business plans from implementation through the 'Plastic Re-use Hub'. The progress of thee will be assessed using criteria such as the sustainable business plan report, monthly income records, sales records or plastic re-use products.
- explain how this project is linked to other large systems marine protected area initiatives in the gulf, particularly in São Tomé;
Although this project was originally envisioned to look solely at the geographical scope of Príncipe Island, Fundação Príncipe is the national implementing partner of the Blue Action Fund project, focused on marine protected areas in both São Tomé and Príncipe, with training and capacity-building being an important focus of the BAF project. Given that some of the trainees of this project in Príncipe are also involved in training and capacity-building within the BAF project in São Tomé, we envisage a clear link between project activities, with the potential for scaling to São Tomé based on learning and experience accrued through the Darwin project in Príncipe.
- is there scope to embed project governance in local governance systems to help with long term sustainability and behaviour change?
One of the objectives of the match-funded project (mentioned in the Darwin proposal), the Whitley Fund for Nature, is to submit a strategy document to the regional government on Príncipe, targeting a reduction on the entry of plastic bottles into the island. The national government already has a law in place, banning the use of single-use plastics. Through the activities suggested within the Darwin proposal, there is a scope to enhance local understanding of the existing legislation on plastic pollution. Fundação Príncipe has a good relationship with the regional government, having previously worked with them to enforce a regional law prohibiting the burning of bees on Príncipe, and therefore there is a clear pathway towards embedding project activities into local governance systems to help with long-term sustainability and behaviour change.
- the logframe needs strengthening and the biodiversity indicator is missing;
It would be helpful to receive further clarification from the Darwin Initiative team on which aspects of the logframe need strengthening. So far the current logframe has successful guide activities within a timely manner. We also like to discuss where the 'biodiversity indicator' is missing and get further clarification of what is required from this indicator. From looking at available guidance from the website e.g. Guidance for applicants we cannot find detailed information about the 'biodiversity indicator' needed. Within the M&E example logframe there is an 'impact' statement however in the Workplan Template for the Capacity and Capability project this is not present nor is it present in Q23. Indicators of success in the Application form template. When looking at blank logframe documents it seems there is a simplified version of

the logframe just for Capacity and Capability projects that does not contain the ‘impact’ statement section.

Logframe template for submission with Change Request Form

Please present your latest agreed logframe in this format and make all suggested changes in tracked changes. If the logframe has gone through multiple rounds of internal review, please create a new version with final changes marked as clearly as possible.

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
Impact:			
Outcome:			
Output 1 <i>Add more outputs as necessary</i>	1.1 1.2 1.3 etc.	1.1 1.2 1.3 etc.	
Output 2	2.1 2.2	2.1 2.2	
Output 3	3.1	3.1	
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)			

Simplified logframe template for submission with Change Request Form

For use by Darwin Initiative Capability & Capacity and IWTFC Evidence projects.

Please present your latest agreed simplified logframe in this format and make all suggested changes in tracked changes. If the simplified logframe has gone through multiple rounds of internal review, please create a new version with final changes marked as clearly as possible.

	SMART Indicators	Means of Verification
Outcome:		
Output 1: <i>Add more outputs as necessary</i>		
Output 2:		
Output 3:		
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)		
1.1 1.2 1.3		
Important Assumptions: Please describe up to 5 key assumptions that, if held true, will enable you to deliver your Outputs and Outcome		

- it is not clear how 20% increase in household income from plastic recycling would be achieved in Q4 of year 2, when the feasibility study would only be run Q3 of year 2;
As per the suggestion above, we will modify the logframe, which will include moving the feasibility study (SMART Indicator Output 4, 4.1) to Year 1 (Q2 or Q3); this will be done through a submission of the Change Request form, as suggested
- where is the market for the bricks when the population of the island is only small?
Fundação Príncipe's ongoing work on the island of Príncipe has shown that although the population of the island is very small, there is a very high demand for construction materials (the proposed bricks, in this instance), which justifies the establishment of the initiative. A longer-term option is the potential to export these bricks to São Tomé, but it is too early to forecast this.
- you should consider removing the livelihoods training component in the budget and replace it with a suitably qualified consultant to run a feasibility study on related livelihood options;
We would appreciate clarification in this regard. However, through the match-fund Whitley project, we have a qualified consultant in mind to run the feasibility study on related livelihood options.
- in the logframe, how will this part of the Outcome statement be measured: “the impact of plastic pollution on the communities and biodiversity of Príncipe is mitigated.”
For this part Outcome statement will be measured via changes to habitats and interactions of plastic with vulnerable species. It will be possible for us to look at the quantity of plastic that has been removed from marine turtle habitats e.g. nesting beaches to be used in businesses. This will have both a positive impact on livelihoods but also allow for ‘cleaner’ marine turtle habitats and therefore less likelihood of ingestion, entanglement or nesting obstructions.

9. Risk Management

- Have any new risks arisen in the last 12 months that were not previously accounted for?

- Has the project made any significant adaptations to the project design to address changes to risk?
- Please submit an updated version of your risk register with your Annual Report.

One new risk has arisen in the last 12 months; Unexpected staff changes. The risk register has now been edited the same, see below:

Risk Description	Impact	Prob.	Gross Risk	Mitigation	Residual Risk
Fiduciary (financial): Project funds will be solely managed by FP's financial team, however, there is a risk of internal mishandling and misappropriation of funds either unintended or for personal gain.	Moderate	Rare	Minor	FP employs strict financial management and reporting guidelines in line with international donor required standards. Accounting and bookkeeping services are outsourced to accounting firm Spyglass and accounts are audited on an annual basis by professional services firm Deloitte. This ensures full legal compliance and regular monitoring.	Insignificant
Safeguarding: The project will require continuous engagement of local poverty-stricken fishing communities and vulnerable people, such as women and children. This work poses a risk of conflict with and between community members as suggested by past projects, harassment of project team and exploitation or unintended harm of local vulnerable people.	Major	Unlikely	Major	As part of its organizational resilience strategy, FP employees will undergo conflict resolution training and have, in the past, undertaken a safeguarding course by the Humanitarian Leadership Academy. FP promotes a safe working environment for its staff, partners, and project beneficiaries through compliance with its Safeguarding Policy and Grievance Mechanism	Moderate
Delivery Chain: The project's delivery model relies on the successful engagement of local fishing communities, coastguards and government technicians in training workshops, surveys, and other activities. This cooperation underpins the project and previous experience suggests it is not guaranteed. There is, therefore, a risk that it will not materialize.	Moderate	Unlikely	Moderate	FP strives to build and maintain trustful and productive relations with all local stakeholders through continuous engagement in its projects, namely those part of its marine programme. This pre-established relationship with local communities and authorities will underpin future engagements, promoting fruitful cooperation.	Minor
Príncipe's remoteness and double insularity create significant supply, logistical and travel difficulties. Equipment shipping is a lengthy and arduous process and inter-island flight suppressions are commonplace. The island also regularly suffers from fuel and electricity	Minor	Possible	Moderate	FP has acquired significant adaptability in response to the island's regular shortages. This is primarily based on thorough pre-emptive planning and proficiency at locally developing second-best solutions. Equipment is procured in advance and flight layovers account for	Minor

shortages which delay activities.				suppressions. Logistics are arranged with partners and fuel is stockpiled for emergencies.	
Recent national and regional elections are expected to change the political landscape once the newly elected officials take office. In Príncipe, the incumbent party won the elections, whereas on a national level the opposition party displaced the existing government. In either case, officials are likely to change over coming months.	Minor	Unlikely	Minor	FP continuously strives to engage the local government in all its projects and employs significant efforts in building productive working relations with the multiple relevant departments. The regional government's continuity is expected to preserve past work, nevertheless, renewed engagement will be crucial to ensure support from new officials.	Insignificant
Medical facilities, supplies and health workers are scarce and insufficient to meet local needs. Severe injuries or health issues are often directed to the main island of São Tomé, or Europe, posing a significant risk for the project team and, consequently, the timely implementation of project activities	Moderate	Rare	Minor	Organisational guidelines are in place to preclude any preventable injury and all FP employees are covered by employment injury insurance. In the event of emergencies, FP is also supported by a local partner's expatriate medical team experienced in less developed scenarios.	Insignificant
Unexpected staff changes: key members of the project team could face medical issues or unexpected events or be absent due to extended periods of leave e.g. maternity leave. The project could experience possible delays to activities, as these key staff members hold overall management or expertise to complete them.	Moderate	Unlikely	Moderate	Other staff members will be recruited and training to perform all tasks needed when planned extended leave is expected. Increased capacity via training will result in multiple members of the team having the ability to complete specific project tasks.	Moderate

10. Other comments on progress not covered elsewhere

Please use this section to provide any further comments on progress that have not been covered elsewhere in this report. Issues that might be covered in this section include:

- Has the design of the project been enhanced over the last year, e.g. refining methods, or exit strategy?
- Discuss any significant difficulties encountered during the year and steps taken to overcome these if not already discussed elsewhere.

The successful implementation of environmental monitoring for plastic pollution in numerous habitats, now with extremely minimal input from the technical consultant (**Output 1**) the increased capacity and capability in the FP team shows strong evidence of the ability that this will continue to remain consistent after the Darwin grant finishes. A regular monitoring strategy is important to build on the baseline data collected in this project to monitor change. This will be decided by participants trained through the project, to ensure a consistent data collection effort

beyond the lifetime of the project. Through citizen science initiatives and community-based dissemination (**Output 3**) skills, learning and the awareness of the issue of plastic pollution from the project by the FP team, members of the 'Plastic Re-use Hub' and communities will be embedded into other work and the culture of the island. This is likely to be able to be scaled nationally to São Tomé with the aid of colleagues in other organisations by providing the learning, materials and protocols to scale up activities. All workshop materials now exist in Portuguese and English meaning these can be easily disseminated to various stakeholders to scale regionally or to share with other SIDs.

Unfortunately, at the start of the year there was significant staffing issues at the beginning of the project. The FP team faced some medical issues, and as key project staff members, that created some delays with project activities. However, these delays have not had considerable impacts for the project as we managed to have other FP staff members stepping in ensuring the implementation of the activities. Belzamiel suffered a car accident in May 2023. Fortunately, was not seriously injured, however we did lose our marine vehicle and Belzamiel had to be in São Tomé Island for a couple of months to do all the medical examinations and monitoring. We managed to secure the relevant activities despite this accident, so there was no substantial impact on the project. Jormicilesa was absent on maternity leave, however, another biologist was hired into the team and to replace her during her absence and enhance our team.

11. Sustainability and legacy

Discuss the profile of the project within the country/ies and what efforts have been made during the year to promote the work.

- What evidence is there for increasing interest and capacity resulting from the project?
- How will the built capability and capacity be maintained in-country?
- Are the intended sustainable benefits post-project still valid given the project is now running, or have you, or are you, planning to make changes to what was originally proposed?
- Likewise, how do you plan to ensure a sustained legacy (e.g. social, economic, ecological, technical etc.) of your project Outcome?

This project feeds into FP wider dedication to protect the biodiversity and the socioeconomic development of the communities of Príncipe Island. Tackling the issue of plastic pollution on the island will feed into FP's visions for the 'a pristine Príncipe for the benefit of all Príncipeans' and through the work of the Plastic Reuse Hub contributing to the mission of generating opportunities for economic and social development for the community while inspiring biodiversity conservation. The multi-angled approach of this project ensures the monitoring and understanding of current levels and impacts of plastic pollution for Príncipe as well as centring community members at the forefront solutions and sustainable business. Therefore, the legacy from training, stakeholder engagement and awareness raising is enhanced local and institutional capacity to monitor and understand solutions to this threat which in turn elicits behaviour change, stewardship of marine biodiversity and support for alternative livelihoods for vulnerable groups. To date, this project has resulted in increased knowledge on threat of plastic pollution and increased skills in monitoring as well as beginning to generate socio-behavioural drivers of issues such as discarding fishing gear. This data has not previously been available for Príncipe or regionally, which can be used to support decision making and evaluate imposed island-wide solutions. Additionally, by targeting increased capacity and training of individuals within FP, other organisations and within communities we are ensuring an increase in institutional capacity and dissemination of knowledge across a range of stakeholders, including the government and community members as reflected by the demographics of attendees at training workshops (**activity 1.3 & 2.2**).

12. Darwin Initiative identity

- What effort has the project made to publicise the Darwin Initiative, e.g. where did the project use the Darwin Initiative logo and promote funding opportunities or projects?
- How has the UK Government's contribution to your project's work been recognised?
- Was the Darwin Initiative funding recognised as a distinct project with a clear identity or did it form part of a larger programme?
- To what extent is there an understanding of the Darwin Initiative within in the host country and who is likely to be familiar with it?
- If you have a Twitter/Instagram/Flickr/Blog/YouTube etc. account is this effective and have you linked back to the Darwin Initiative / Biodiversity Challenge Funds and its social media channels?

Social media

@emilyduncan34

@fundacaoprincipe

13. Safeguarding

Biodiversity Challenge Funds are committed to supporting projects develop and strengthen their safeguarding capabilities and capacity to prevent, listen, respond and learn. Defra will not automatically penalise projects where safeguarding concerns are identified, but will help projects respond and learn from the experience.

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?	No
Has the focal point attended any formal training in the last 12 months?	N/A
What proportion (and number) of project staff have received formal training on Safeguarding?	Past: 100% Planned: 100%
Has there been any lessons learnt or challenges on Safeguarding in the past 12 months? Please ensure no sensitive data is included within responses.	
Does the project have any developments or activities planned around Safeguarding in the coming 12 months? If so, please specify.	

14. Project expenditure

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

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

Project spend (indicative) since last Annual Report	2023/24 Grant (£)	2023/24 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	9995	99975.4		

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

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

	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).

In this section you have the chance to let us know about outstanding achievements of your project or significant strides towards attaining a particular goal so far that you consider worth sharing with the wider Biodiversity Challenge Fund community. This could relate to achievements or considerable progress already mentioned in this report, on which you would like to expand further, or achievements that were in addition to the ones planned and deserve particular attention. It may also include advancements towards any Darwin Initiative Programme Objectives such as support to conventions, agreements or treaties, poverty reduction or gender equality. We may use material from this section for various promotion and dissemination purposes, including for example, publication in the Defra Annual Report, Darwin Initiative promotion material, or on the Darwin Initiative website. **Please limit text to 300 words.**

Please also include an engaging image, video or graphic* that you consent to be publicised alongside the above text. Please ensure:

- that you have left the above agreement clause to indicate your consent. Text without this will not be used
- any images or videos are sent as separate files and not embedded in the body of the report

*If you have no photos or videos for reasons of sensitivity, then please state that clearly and the Defra Comms team can work to create an alternative graphic.

Image, Video or Graphic Information:

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

Please note: track changes highlighted in yellow are changes as requested by Darwin Committee following collection of baseline data in year 1

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2022 - March 2023	Actions required/planned for next period
<p>Outcome</p> <p>The impact of plastic pollution on the communities and biodiversity of Principe is mitigated through long-term monitoring, increased awareness and equitable and sustainable community-driven solutions</p>	<p>0.1 At least 6 FP staff members, 2 coast guard members and 1 regional government staff are trained in monitoring and standardised reporting in the first year of the project</p> <p>0.2 At least 10 beach, 10 in-water and 10 river mouth habitats receive monthly monitoring and standardised reporting of marine turtle impact events during the lifetime of the project. Change Request Approved: 6 in-water/ river mouth sampling sites</p> <p>0.3 At least four sustainable women and young mother-led alternative livelihoods businesses based on plastic re-use products are in place on the island, with a minimum of 20 women and young mothers increasing their monthly income by 20% until the end of the project.</p> <p>0.4 At least 50% of the island's population (~4000 people) has increased awareness regarding plastic pollution by the end of the project</p>	<p>0.1 In year 1, the project has provided extensive training in country to 48 individuals across local partners that has increased institutional and local capacity to collect scientific monitoring data that can be used to inform decision making processes (section 3.1 and Annex 4).</p> <p>0.2 In year 1, 11 beach habitats received monthly monitoring and 22 people (9 men, 13 women) individuals attended workshops of internationally standardised plastic classification systems. In-water and river mouth sampling methods were finalised, and sites selected. However, it became apparent through increased knowledge of the number of sites and the time constraints on capacity for visiting in-water/ river mouth sites that for consistency and to reduce the fatigue around monitoring activities that a total of 6 in-water/ river mouth sites is the optimal number. The FP team and other partners have now been educated in the protocols to investigate ingested plastic and entanglement events (section 3.1, 3.3 and Annex 4).</p> <p>0.3 In year 1, 12 women and young mothers were trained on the machine to make the plastic re-use products, with 5 currently working full-time. The 'Plastic Re-use Hub' was given a dedicated space for production but also a space for a shop alongside a chosen</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuation of beach and in-water data collection with local stakeholders. • Consultant to provide support in in database management, analysis and production of written report for dissemination. To be presented to the local authorities and other stakeholders. • Continuation of questionnaires on ALDFG with local fishers and technical consultant to analysis data and feedback in form of a report/ scientific publication • Meetings with women and young mothers from the 'Plastic Re-use Hub' and assess business ideas and development sustainable business plans alongside financial training • Implement further knowledge dissemination and outreach events to different sectors of the island's population

		<p>leader for the group. The members have also agreed for products to be displayed in the major hotels on the island to have access to selling to visiting tourists (section 3.1, 3.3 and Annex 4)</p> <p>0.4 In year 1, local communities have been actively engaged to increase the awareness of plastic pollution; from the FP staff and wider stakeholders, women at the 'Plastic Re-use Hub', children involved in 'Joven pelo Planeta' (5 individuals), children attending Captain Fanplastic (200 primary, 700 secondary school aged children (section 3.1, 3.3 and Annex 4)</p>	
<p>Output 1.</p> <p>Local stakeholders (FP, government, coastguard, communities) have increased capacity and capability to monitor plastic pollution at beaches, in-water and river mouths and knowledge of marine plastic pollution distribution across Príncipe</p>	<p>1.1 A minimum of 50 hours of training delivered on monitoring methodologies in different habitat sites to at least 6 FP staff members, 2 coast guard members and 1 regional government staff, in the first year of the project.</p> <p>1.2 By the end of the project, a comprehensive year-long baseline database of plastic pollution distribution on the island exists, covering at least 10 nesting beaches, 10 in-water sampling sites and 10 river mouths Change Request Approved: 6 in-water/ river mouth sampling sites</p>	<p>1.1 Successful training in and establishment of plastic pollution methodologies and implementation of monthly monitoring activities to input into a year-long baseline of plastic distribution. 26 individuals (17 men, 9 women) across local partners receiving training in monitoring methodologies. This includes FP staff, coast guard members and the regionally fisheries officer from the government. Target achieved = 100% and further training will continue in year 2</p> <p>1.2 11 beach sites are now receiving monthly monitoring and standardised classification of plastic litter after attendance of 2 FP staff and other local stakeholders attending workshop events (Jan 2024). In-water methodologies were refined, and potential sites visited to provide information for site selection. It became apparent to the FP team and technical consultant that 20 in-water/ river mouth sites were overly ambitious considering numerous constraints e.g. boat access, sample processing time and lower numbers of river mouth sites. For consistency and to reduce the fatigue around monitoring activities that a total of 6 in-water/ river mouth sites is the optimal number (section 3.1, 7 and Annex 4) Target achieved = 50% and on target for delivery by end of year 2 (pending change request)</p>	
<p>Activity 1.1 Training and capacity building workshop for local stakeholders (e.g., FP team, government, coastguard) in practical beach survey methodologies</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 26 people (17 men, 9 women) across local partners receiving training • Methodology presented at public presentation (Aug 2023) <p>Completed=100%</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuation of beach survey methodologies for baseline database

<p>Activity 1.2 Training and capacity building workshop for local stakeholders on in-water sampling equipment and methodologies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training workshop on using in-water sampling equipment and methodologies; trawling (Aug/Sep 2023) with key FP team member now leading on training <p>Completed=100%</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuation of in-water survey methodologies for baseline database
<p>Activity 1.3 Training workshop on analysis of collected samples and standardised plastic pollution categorisation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guidance materials and protocols developed for in digital and physical form; standardised categorisation instructions translated into Portuguese • Training workshop with local partners; 22 (9 men, 13 women) attendees Jan 2024 (delayed due to cancelled flights of technical consultant Nov 2023) <p>Completed=100%</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuation of plastic pollution categorisation beach and in-water survey methodologies for baseline database
<p>Activity 1.4 Consulting expert and FP team to establish beach, in-water and riverine monitoring sites using previous interview information from fishers</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical consult and FP collaboratively completed decision making on sites using information on sea turtle foraging areas • To ensure consistency and reduce the fatigue around monitoring activities that a total of 6 in-water/ river mouth sites is the optimal number <p>Completed=100%</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuation of in-water survey methodologies for baseline database
<p>Activity 1.5 Implementation of monthly beach and in-water monitoring surveys by local stakeholders at selected sites</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In-water monitoring surveys completed from Oct 2023 with key FP team member now leading on training with local stakeholders <p>Completed=100%</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuation of in-water survey methodologies for baseline database

<p>Activity 1.6 Consulting expert to support in database management, analysis and production of written report for dissemination and potential scientific publication</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical consultant supported in the creation of a new database to record in-water survey efforts • Technical consultant supported in the creation of a new database to plastic categorisation <p>In progress=30%</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical consultant to support in creation in meta-database creation • Collaborative report creation with technical consultant and FP team. Report disseminated to local partners • Assess potential of database for potential scientific publication
<p>Activity 1.7 Present results to local authorities and other stakeholders promoting community engagement</p>	<p>Activity in year 2</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disseminate reports to local partners and government • Organise public presentations and dissemination meetings in local communities to share results of the project
<p>Output 2.</p> <p>There is a centralised reporting mechanism for local stakeholders to record ingestion/entanglement events and marine turtle interactions in Principe</p>	<p>2.1 A minimum of 25 hours of training are delivered to at least 6 FP staff members, 2 coast guard members and 1 regional government staff on turtle necropsy and plastic ingestion analysis, by the first year of the project</p> <p>2.2 At least 50% of fishers on the island are interviewed and provide insights on the regional occurrence of entanglement incidents</p>	<p>2.1 26 people (17 men, 9 women) and 22 people (9 men, 13 women) attended two workshops held Jan 2024 (delayed due to cancelled flights of technical consultant Nov 2023) on assessing plastic ingestion and categorisation of ingested plastic in internationally standardised protocols. Due to a lack of stranded marine turtle occurrences in year 1 of project the physical workshop by the technical consultant for the FP team and local stakeholder using fish gastrointestinal tracts (GI) to provide context to processing sea turtle gut content. Digital and physical guidance materials in Portuguese were produced to support the team if a stranded turtle was to occur (section 3.1 and Annex 4). Target achieved = 100%</p> <p>2.2 Technical consultant worked alongside FP team to develop a questionnaire about discarding fishing gear; including questions on net use, opinions and perceptions about discarding behaviours and the frequency of entanglement events. This questionnaire received ethical approval by the University of Exeter and was trailed in Oct 2023 and began to be fully implemented after ethical approval in Jan 2024. To date the questionnaire has been carried out in 8 communities and 52 fishers, so currently 10.4% of fishers on the island have been interviewed (section 3.1 and Annex 4). Target achieved = 30% and on target for delivery by end of year 2</p>
<p>Activity 2.1 Consulting expert to provide presentations on current knowledge of impact of plastic pollution in marine turtles with theoretical training for FP team and local stakeholders</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical consultant provided learning material and scientific publications of the impact of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FP team can use newly acquired in other presentations

	<p>plastic ingestion on marine turtles to FP team for theoretical training</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FP presented theoretical impact of plastic ingestion on marine turtles at public presentation to local partners; (Sept 2023) <p>Completed=100%</p>	<p>about the project that occur in year 2 and the future</p>
<p>Activity 2.2 Training workshop (with regional veterinary collaboration) on necropsy methodology and sample analysis for plastic ingestion investigations for local stakeholders</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guidance materials and protocols developed for in digital and physical form; GI tract processing instructions translated into Portuguese • Due to a lack of strandings practical workshop by technical consultant was done with fish GI tract to demonstrate techniques to FP team and local partners 22 attendees (9 men, 13 women) Jan 2024 (delayed due to cancelled flights of technical consultant Nov 2023) <p>Completed=100%</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If marine turtle occurs technical consultant will provide support for GI tract processing remotely or visit to the Príncipe
<p>Activity 2.3 Interview fishers on local knowledge on the issue of ALDFG, fishing gear discarding and occurrence of entanglement events</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical consultant to complete data analysis including; fishing net discarding rates, Theory of Planned Behaviour, community-led solution ideas • Questionnaire received ethical approval from University of Exeter • Questionnaire currently been carried out in 8 communities to 52 individuals fishers (50 men, 2 women) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Questionnaire to close Aug/Sep 2024 to be translated for technical consultant to complete data analysis

		In progress=30%	
Activity 2.4 Consulting expert to support capability development of FP's team on report writing and scientific data publication		Activity in year 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical consultant to complete data analysis including; fishing net discarding rates, Theory of Planned Behaviour, community-led solution ideas • Technical consultant to work with FP collaboratively on potential scientific publication
Activity 2.5 Present results to the local authorities and other stakeholders		Activity in year 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disseminate reports to local partners and government • Organise public presentations and dissemination meetings in local communities to share results of the project
<p>Output 3.</p> <p>The local communities are empowered to monitor, and have increased awareness of, the issue of plastic pollution via the deployment of citizen science tools and knowledge exchange presentations</p>	<p>3.1 By the end of the project, 70% of attendees of focal groups are using the citizen science tools</p> <p>3.2 By the end of the project, and as a result of information sharing through events and media outlets, at least 50% of engaged stakeholders demonstrate an increase in awareness of the impacts of plastic pollution</p>	<p>3.1 Technical consultant and FP team worked is create an island specific list of litter items in internationally recognised citizen science tool Marine Debris Tracker app (MDT). Technical consultant provided training to FP team on using the app. The FP team created the 'Jovens pelo Planeta' campaign and recruited 5 individuals to take part. However, this citizen science tool requires access to a mobile phone and consistent WiFi access which has proved challenging. Meetings with local fisher groups to provide training in the use of citizen science tools to monitor in-water plastics and entanglement events have been planned to be moved to year 2 due to the importance of not influencing or changing knowledge, opinions or perceptions of discarded fishing gear or entanglement events within the questionnaire data (section 3.1 and Annex 4) Target achieved = 40% and on target for delivery by end of year 2. The effectiveness of the indicator will be assessed in detail in year 2.</p> <p>3.2 Outreach events were conducted via the Captain Fanplastic framework with school children (2000 primary and 700 secondary aged children across the island) to increase awareness in youth groups on the island. Further visits will include a short survey which will evidence learning from the educational activities. Furthermore, when meetings are conducted with fishers in year 2 will include a pre- and post-meeting survey to demonstrate an increased awareness of the impacts of plastic pollution. Results from the project will also be presented on popular media outlets e.g. the radio. Target achieved = 40% and on target for</p>	

		delivery by end of year 2. The effectiveness of the indicator will be assessed in detail in year 2.	
3.1 Plan and conduct meetings with local community focal groups and schools to provide training in the use of citizen science tools to monitor beach litter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation an island specific list of litter items in internationally recognised citizen science tool Marine Debris Tracker app (MDT) • Incitation of 'Jovens pelo Planeta' campaign • Difficulties with mobile phone issues overcome by moving to an offline list and FP team entering data to MDT database utilising website upload method <p>Completed=100%</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuation of 'Jovens pelo Planeta' campaign 	
3.2 Establish monthly outreach events with schools to monitor selected beaches in combination with knowledge dissemination presentations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outreach events were conducted via the Captain Fanplastic framework with school children (2000 primary and 700 secondary aged children across the island) <p>In progress= 80%</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further visits to schools to be planned and implemented with the Captain Fanplastic • Continuation of 'Jovens pelo Planeta' campaign 	
3.3 Plan and conduct meetings with local fisher groups to provide training in the use of citizen science tools to monitor in-water plastics and entanglement events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical consultant provided standard data to input into citizen science tools to fishers and those who work as on-water tour guides for hotels on the island • Meetings with local fishers to be organised in year 2 due to concerns over influencing questionnaire results over opinions and perceptions <p>Delayed until year 2; full justification in section 3.1</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of monthly thematic meetings split into different thematic aspects to educate and raise awareness after questionnaire closes Aug/Sep 2024 • Organise public presentations and dissemination meetings for fishers in local communities to share results of the project 	
3.4 Establish monthly meetings with fishers on monitoring in combination with knowledge dissemination presentations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meetings with local fishers to be organised in year 2 due to concerns over influencing questionnaire results over opinions and perceptions about 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of monthly thematic meetings split into different thematic aspects to educate and raise awareness 	

		<p>entanglement events & ALDFG questionnaires on so not to change perceptions and research findings</p> <p>Delayed until year 2; full justification in section 3.1</p>	<p>after questionnaire closes Aug/Sep 2024</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organise public presentations and dissemination meetings for fishers in local communities to share results of the project
3.5 Creation of database with data collected during monthly meetings and fishers' input and subsequent analysis and reporting to local authorities		Activity in year 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creation of data from discussions and feedback collected during monthly meetings Organise public presentations and dissemination meetings for fishers in local communities to share results of the project
<p>Output 4.</p> <p>Young women and mothers at risk have established enterprises supported by the "Plastic Re-use Hub" which generate alternative income streams and improve local livelihoods</p>	<p>4.1 By the third quarter of year two, there is a viability assessment of at least 20 women and young mothers' needs and ideas for alternative income initiatives from plastic re-use products.</p> <p>4.2 By the end of the project, at least 4 sustainable enterprise ideas focused on the plastic issue and supported by participatory business plans have been successfully implemented through the 'Plastic Re-use Hub'</p> <p>4.3 By the end of the project, at least 20 female members of the 'Plastic Re-use Hub' will report an increase of 20% in their monthly income</p>	<p>4.1 Currently 5 women are full-time working and managed the functional running of the hub and contacting further members, especially targeting young mothers and women who are unemployed; with a further 7 women receiving training. The consulting specialist (Adnei) will support the group and their business developments by assessing their needs and skill levels which in turn aided in proposing a budget for training. Target achieved = 40% and on target for delivery by end of year 2. The effectiveness of the indicator will be assessed in detail in year 2. Target achieved = **% and on target for delivery by end of year 2. The effectiveness of the indicator will be assessed in detail in year 2.</p> <p>4.2 5 women are already full-time at the 'Plastic Re-use Hub' with a further 7 have received training on using the machinery and equipment to make the re-use products. The group is now developing ideas and trialling different products. Further to this they have also had training on business management. During a series of meetings, the consulting specialist gave finance training to the members. This consultant will support the group and their business developments. Target achieved = 50% and on target for delivery by end of year 2. The effectiveness of the indicator will be assessed in detail in year 2.</p> <p>4.3 The 'Plastic Re-use Hub' on a positive trajectory towards generating alternative income sources. The 'Plastic Re-use Hub' now has a dedicated space for production but also a space for a shop. The members have also agreed for products to be displayed in the major hotels on the island to have access to selling to visiting tourists. The sale of products has already begun (see attached supporting document). Target achieved = 10% and on target for delivery by end of year 2. The effectiveness of the indicator will be assessed in detail in year 2.</p>	
4.1 Plan and conduct meetings with local women's groups (e.g., young women and mothers) on the creation of the "Plastic Re-use Hub"		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meetings were held with an initial group of 5 women to 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to encourage women and young mothers to become

	<p>establish the main team to the 'Plastic Re-use Hub'</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The group voted a leader of the group who has previously won an FP challenger for sustainable products • A dedicated location has now been given to the group which has a dedicated space for product production as well as an area to develop into a shop <p>Completed=100%</p>	<p>a part of the 'Plastic Re-use Hub'</p>
<p>4.2 Produce a targeted beach litter collection campaign for plastic waste to be used in the creation of products (e.g., "Eco-bricks" or accessories)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The group have actively been organising plastic collections on local beaches near their villages or within the communities near-by to the Hub • Once the beach plastic from the monitoring activities (Output 1) has been classified the appropriate polymer types of plastic litter are taken to be the hub to be incorporated into the re-use products <p>In progress= 50%</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organise further structured beach litter collection events for the use in the products, targeting the polymers needed for use on the machines
<p>4.3 FP team to organise and lead community workshops on how to produce waste-based products (e.g., "eco-bricks")</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial 5 women hosted 7 more for training on the machinery and equipment <p>In progress= 50%</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide training and capacity building for at least 8 more women and young mothers at community workshops
<p>4.4 Follow-up meetings with focal groups and assessment of business ideas resulting from the "Plastic Re-use Hub" to ensure the future sustainability of initiatives</p>	<p>Activity in year 2</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consulting specialist to provide support in the development of business ideas and provide further financial training to ensure sustainability

<p>4.5 Support women and young mothers in the development of business plans for sustainable plastic re-use-based initiatives</p>	<p>Activity in year 2</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FP team to provide dedicated time to support the group in taking training forward to development their own business plans for re-use products
<p>4.6 Establishment and organisation of the “Plastic Re-use Hub” to promote the development of waste-based sustainable enterprises and serve as sale point for products</p>	<p>Activity in year 2</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop the dedicated shop space to provide a central location for sales of the products • Continue to develop relationships with major hotels to stock products to visitors to the island

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: The impact of plastic pollution on the communities and biodiversity of Príncipe is mitigated through long-term monitoring, increased awareness and equitable and sustainable community-driven solutions</p>	<p>0.1 At least 6 FP staff members, 2 coast guard members and 1 regional government staff are trained in monitoring and standardised reporting in the first year of the project</p> <p>0.2 At least 10 beach, 10 in-water and 10 river mouth habitats receive monthly monitoring and standardised reporting of marine turtle impact events during the lifetime of the project</p> <p>0.3 At least four sustainable women and young mother-led alternative livelihoods businesses based on plastic re-use products are in place on the island, with a minimum of 20 women and young mothers increasing their monthly income by 20% until the end of the project.</p> <p>0.4 At least 50% of the island's population (~4000 people) has increased awareness regarding plastic pollution by the end of the project.</p>	<p>0.1 Attendance records, photographs, schedule of training events</p> <p>0.2 Monthly database entry records for selected habitat sites, photographic documentation of marine turtle-plastic interactions</p> <p>0.3 Minutes of the inaugural meeting of the 'Plastic Re-use Hub', monthly income records of participants</p> <p>0.4 Attendance records of focal group members involved in citizen science and knowledge exchange activities, pre- and post- project surveys, photographs of activities</p>
<p>Output 1</p> <p>Local stakeholders (FP, government, coastguard, communities) have increased capacity and capability to monitor plastic pollution at beaches, in-water and river mouths and knowledge of marine plastic pollution distribution across Príncipe</p>	<p>1.1 A minimum of 50 hours of training delivered on monitoring methodologies in different habitat sites to at least 6 FP staff members, 2 coast guard members and 1 regional government staff, in the first year of the project.</p> <p>1.2 By the end of the project, a comprehensive year-long baseline database of plastic pollution distribution on the island exists, covering at least 10 nesting beaches, 10 in-water sampling sites and 10 river mouths</p>	<p>1.1a Training reports including workshop attendance records, fieldwork logs, photographs</p> <p>1.1b Quarterly meeting minutes about monitoring progress with Project Advisor</p> <p>1.2 Offline datasheet with inputted data</p>
<p>Output 2</p> <p>There is a centralised reporting mechanism for local stakeholders to record ingestion/entanglement events and marine turtle interactions in Príncipe</p>	<p>2.1 A minimum of 25 hours of training are delivered to at least 6 FP staff members, 2 coast guard members and 1 regional government staff on turtle necropsy and plastic ingestion analysis, by the first year of the project</p> <p>2.2 At least 50% of fishers on the island are interviewed and provide insights on the regional occurrence of entanglement incidents.</p>	<p>2.1a Attendance records, photographs</p> <p>2.1b Meeting records of meetings with regional veterinary specialists, photographs</p> <p>2.2a Fisher interview transcripts, attendance records, photographs</p> <p>2.2b Occurrence report published and presented to fishers, attendance records, photographs</p>

<p>Output 3</p> <p>The local communities are empowered to monitor, and have increased awareness of, the issue of plastic pollution via the deployment of citizen science tools and knowledge exchange presentations</p>	<p>3.1 By the end of the project, 70% of attendees of focal groups are using the citizen science tools</p> <p>3.2 By the end of the project, and as a result of information sharing through events and media outlets, at least 50% of engaged stakeholders demonstrate an increase in awareness of the impacts of plastic pollution.</p>	<p>3.1 Focal group meeting minutes, questionnaires on continued attendance, record of inputted data through citizen science tools</p> <p>3.2a Documented broadcast through local news, published reports, social media posts about activities in monthly outreach events</p> <p>3.2b Pre- and post- project surveys</p>
<p>Output 4</p> <p>Young women and mothers at risk have established enterprises supported by the “Plastic Re-use Hub” which generate alternative income streams and improve local livelihoods</p>	<p>4.1 By the third quarter of year two, there is a viability assessment of at least 20 women and young mothers’ needs and ideas for alternative income initiatives from plastic re-use products.</p> <p>4.2 By the end of the project, at least 4 sustainable enterprise ideas focused on the plastic issue and supported by participatory business plans have been successfully implemented through the ‘Plastic Re-use Hub’</p> <p>4.3 By the end of the project, at least 20 female members of the ‘Plastic Re-use Hub’ will report an increase of 20% in their monthly income</p>	<p>4.1a Focal group meeting minutes, attendance records, photographs</p> <p>4.2a Sustainable business plan report</p> <p>4.2b Social media posts on the opening of the ‘Plastic Re-use Hub’</p> <p>4.3 Monthly income records, sales records or plastic re-use products</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>Output 1:</p> <p>1.1 Training and capacity building workshop for local stakeholders (e.g., FP team, government, coastguard) in practical beach survey methodologies</p> <p>1.2 Training and capacity building workshop for local stakeholders on in-water sampling equipment and methodologies</p> <p>1.3 Training workshop on analysis of collected samples and standardised plastic pollution categorisation</p> <p>1.4 Consulting expert and FP team to establish beach, in-water and riverine monitoring sites using previous interview information from fishers</p> <p>1.5 Implementation of monthly beach and in-water monitoring surveys by local stakeholders at selected sites</p> <p>1.6 Consulting expert to support in database management, analysis and production of written report for dissemination and potential scientific publication</p> <p>1.7 Present results to local authorities and other stakeholders promoting community engagement</p> <p>Output 2:</p> <p>2.1 Consulting expert to provide presentations on current knowledge of impact of plastic pollution in marine turtles with theoretical training for FP team and local stakeholders</p> <p>2.2 Training workshop (with regional veterinary collaboration) on necropsy methodology and sample analysis for plastic ingestion investigations for local stakeholders</p> <p>2.3 Interview fishers on local knowledge on the issue of ALDFG, fishing gear discarding and occurrence of entanglement events</p> <p>2.4 Consulting expert to support capability development of FP’s team on report writing and scientific data publication</p> <p>2.5 Present results to the local authorities and other stakeholders</p>		

Output 3:

- 3.1 Plan and conduct meetings with local community focal groups and schools to provide training in the use of citizen science tools to monitor beach litter
- 3.2 Establish monthly outreach events with schools to monitor selected beaches in combination with knowledge dissemination presentations
- 3.3 Plan and conduct meetings with local fisher groups to provide training in the use of citizen science tools to monitor in-water plastics and entanglement events
- 3.4 Establish monthly meetings with fishers on monitoring in combination with knowledge dissemination presentations
- 3.5 Creation of database with data collected during monthly meetings and fishers' input and subsequent analysis and reporting to local authorities
- 3.6 Presentation of the results to the local stakeholders through events and media outlets

Output 4:

- 4.1 Plan and conduct meetings with local women's groups (e.g., young women and mothers) on the creation of the "Plastic Re-use Hub"
- 4.2 Produce a targeted beach litter collection campaign for plastic waste to be used in the creation of products (e.g., "Eco-bricks" or accessories)
- 4.3 FP team to organise and lead community workshops on how to produce waste-based products (e.g., "eco-bricks")
- 4.4 Follow-up meetings with focal groups and assessment of business ideas resulting from the "Plastic Re-use Hub" to ensure the future sustainability of initiatives
- 4.5 Support women and young mothers in the development of business plans for sustainable plastic re-use-based initiatives
- 4.6 Establishment and organisation of the "Plastic Re-use Hub" to promote the development of waste-based sustainable enterprises and serve as sale point for products

Important Assumptions

- Approach to training workshops will be effective in increasing knowledge and capability for monitoring by local stakeholders
- Fieldwork logistics and constraints will allow monthly monitoring of multiple sites
- There is participation from members of focal groups from community in citizen science tools
- There is participation from young women in the "Plastic Re-use Hub"
- Targeted collection for plastic will generate enough material to be used in the creation of re-use products
- Alternative income sources can be generated via selling of products from the "Plastic Re-use Hub"

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 align indicators with the 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.

New projects should complete the Y1 column and also indicate the number planned during the project lifetime. Continuing projects should copy and paste the information from previous years and add in data for the most recent reporting period.

We recognise that our menu cannot cover all the potential monitoring needs for all projects – where necessary you can select indicators from other sources or develop your own. See our BCF MEL guidance on best practices for selecting and developing 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	1.1 A minimum of 50 hours of training delivered on monitoring methodologies in different habitat sites to at least 6 FP staff members, 2 coast guard members and 1 regional government staff, in the first year of the project	The number of people from national and local stakeholders completing training on monitoring methodologies in different habitat sites	People	Men Women	48 (26 men, 22 women)		N/A	48	9
DI-C16	1.2 By the end of the project, a comprehensive year-long baseline database of plastic pollution distribution on the island exists, covering at least 10 nesting beaches, 10 in-water sampling sites and 10 river mouths	A comprehensive baseline database of plastic pollution distribution over multiple habitats. Covering a period of one year by the end of the project.	Number	Categorised plastic pollution database	2		N/A		2
DI-B05	2.2 At least 50% of fishers on the island are interviewed and provide insights on the regional occurrence of entanglement incidents	50% of fishers on the island are interviewed and provide insights on the regional occurrence of entanglement incidents	Proportion	Men Women	10.4% (52 fishers)		N/A		50% = 250 fishers
DI-A02	3.1 By the end of the project, 70% of attendees of focal groups are using the citizen science tools	Number children completing placements as "biosphere guardians" and using app for the collection of citizen science data	People	Gender Age Group Stakeholder group: Local communities Training typology: plastic pollution monitoring	5 (youth)		N/A		UNK
DI-A04	3.2 By the end of the project, and as a result of information sharing through events and media outlets, at least 50% of engaged stakeholders demonstrate an	Number of engaged stakeholders that demonstrate an increase in knowledge of plastic pollution due to the creation of multiple dedicated communications or outreach events	People	Gender Age Group Stakeholder group: Local communities	2700 (youth)		N/A		UNK

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
	increase in awareness of the impacts of plastic pollution.			Training typology: plastic pollution monitoring					
DI-B04	4.1 By the third quarter of year two, there is a viability assessment of at least 20 women and young mothers' needs and ideas for alternative income initiatives from plastic re-use products.	An assessment of at least 20 young women and mothers needs and ideas for the viability of alternative income from plastic re-use products	Number	Business plans for alternative livelihoods/ income from plastic re-use products	5 women (full-time) + 7 trained		N/A		20

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. Mark with an asterisk (*) all publications and other material that you have included with this report.

Table 2 Publications

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

Checklist for submission

	Check
Different reporting templates have different questions, and it is important you use the correct one. Have you checked you have used the correct template (checking fund, type of report (i.e. Annual or Final), and year) and deleted the blue guidance text before submission?	
Is the report less than 10MB? If so, please email to BCF-Reports@niras.com putting the project number in the Subject line.	
Is your report more than 10MB? If so, please discuss with BCF-Reports@niras.com about the best way to deliver the report, putting the project number in the Subject line.	
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.	
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.	
If you are submitting photos for publicity purposes, do these meet the outlined requirements (see section 15)?	
Have you involved your partners in preparation of the report and named the main contributors	
Have you completed the Project Expenditure table fully?	
Do not include claim forms or other communications with this report.	