

Darwin Initiative Innovation 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 | DARNV003 |
| Project title | Locally-owned enterprise development for resilient communities and sustainable primate conservation |
| Country/ies | Vietnam |
| Lead Partner | Fauna & Flora International |
| Project partner(s) | Trung Khanh Forest Protection Department (FPD), Trung Khanh Species & Habitat Conservation Area (SHCA), Trung Khanh district People’s Committee (PC), Trung Khanh Management Advisory Committee (MAC) |
| Darwin Initiative grant value | £160,000 |
| Start/end dates of project | Apr 2022 – Mar 2024 |
| Reporting period (e.g. Apr 2022 – Mar 2023) and number (e.g. Annual Report 1, 2, 3) | Apr 2022 – Mar 2023, Annual Report 1 |
| Project Leader name | Hoang Van Lam, Country Director – Fauna & Flora International, Vietnam |
| Project website/blog/social media | https://www.facebook.com/FaunaFloraVietnam |
| Report author(s) and date | Nguyen Duc Tho and Hoang Van Lam, 30 April 2023 |

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 logframe (or the most recent approved logframe) 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 in your logframe 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 and means of verification outlined in your project logframe. 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 logframe (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:

- How is the approach or project innovative i.e. is the approach novel to the project area/ sector or is it an entirely novel approach?
- What biodiversity challenges is the project designed to address?
- Why are they relevant, and for whom?
- What 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.

In 2002 FFI rediscovered the CR and endemic Cao vit gibbon (*Nomascus nasutus*) in Cao Bang province, northern Vietnam. It is considered to be the joint-rarest ape in the world with under 100 individuals (total). Since 2002, we have worked to engage local people in species and habitat protection and monitoring, and local stakeholders in decision-making, raise awareness among local communities, provide environmental education in schools, support sustainable livelihood development in the buffer-zone, and facilitate transboundary collaboration. However, there remain significant challenges and unexplored opportunities to address them.

This project is designed to directly build on FFI's nearly 20 years working with this gibbon, which laid the foundations for this new project, and to operationalise key parts of the Cao vit gibbon Conservation Action Plan (CAP) to 2030, vision to 2050, completed in 2021. The plan (CAP) itself, and the associated Theory of Change for the project, have been finalised, and make it clear the following challenges are highest priority in the coming 10 years:

1. The small, isolated gibbon population and habitat shortages
2. Low awareness – at all levels
3. Grazing/forest degradation threats

Addressing these challenges will require that the project, with our government counterparts, can expand the existing protected area and improve its PA management effectiveness; increase awareness of the gibbons locally and at all levels; and address the ongoing threats from local grazing and timber extraction. Crucially, to successfully meet these objectives requires that the local communities are willing partners and beneficiaries in project implementation. Whilst FFI's long-standing project is grounded in the principles of FPIC and net-positive social benefits, there exists a very clear and significant opportunity to now develop conservation-linked local enterprises; designed to facilitate, incentivise – and make sustainable – the aforementioned conservation interventions, by reducing natural resource exploitation threats and improving the knowledge, buy-in and attitudes of key local actors, now and for the long-term.

The entire global population of Cao vit gibbon persists in around 1,000 ha of usable forest as parts of 1,500ha of Cao vit gibbon SHCA in Vietnam and adjacent Bangliang Nature Reserve in China. The threat from stochastic events is high; there is an urgent need to expand the habitat (and thus the Conservation Area) and thereafter increase the population.

Habitat degradation remains a challenge, especially in the area earmarked for protected area (PA) expansion (although it has reduced inside the current PA as a result of project interventions). Persistent threats, which unaddressed would make PA expansion impossible, are illegal logging, fuel-wood collection and livestock free-grazing. These threats are driven by local poverty in remote, upland/karst limestone areas, where opportunities are lacking. These ethnic minority communities have no alternative heating/cooking fuels, often require additional wood for housebuilding, and have insufficient land for their grazing needs. Unsustainable and illegal use of local resources, including within the PA, have spiked under Covid-19. Some community activities are still incompatible with conservation goals.

For the last 20 years, FFI has regularly undertaken community consultations, and continues to facilitate the PA co-management committee and grievance redress mechanism.

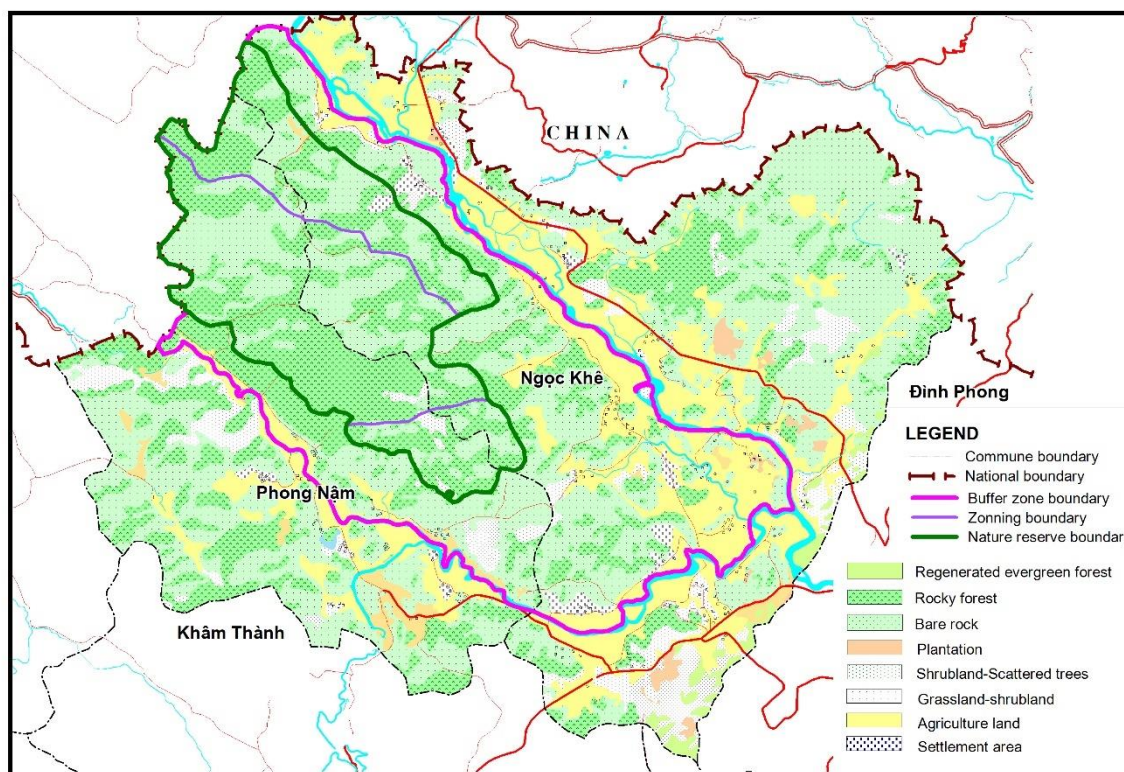
Under this project, FFI is facilitating the process to establish a social enterprise. This kind of nature-positive, locally-owned conservation enterprise is a new strategy for Vietnam. Development partners have not hitherto attempted to bring across the learning from youth empowerment/entrepreneurship and pro-poor business/start-ups to help provide conservation solutions, due to the high risks and lack of experience. This pilot provides an important opportunity to demonstrate that it is possible and impactful, and illustrate how the enterprise will provide innovations in governance (local and collaborative ownership), revenue generation (farm and non-farm local enterprise income), and benefit sharing (diversified, improved livelihoods and conservation-finance).

Specific innovations include:

1. Integration of agro/eco tourism with a conservation project, embracing Vietnam's growing middle class (consumers), who want more healthy/safe food, and using this demand – for the first time – to support conservation.
2. Legal structuring such that conservation is built into articles of the enterprises (e.g. legal lock – see below), and co-owned by the local community, to ensure that it supports both livelihoods and conservation.

Enterprises set up to achieve conservation impact can move away from their mission to focus on profit maximisation ('mission drift'). This project is opportune to explore 'legal locks' which are built into the articles of incorporation of the enterprise to ensure it stays on-mission and maintains the focus on community/biodiversity. This project will explore using the recent recognition of 'social enterprise' as a distinct type of organisation in Vietnam's Enterprise Law to form part of this legal lock, along with a hybrid ownership structure with both community and private sector ownership to avoid 'mission drift'.

FOREST COVER STATUS - TRÙNG KHÁNH NATURE RESERVE



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.

Please support comments with evidence.

FFI's Vietnam Programme currently manages an ongoing grant funded by Arcus Foundation and has operational partnership with an INGO i.e. the People Resources and Conservation Foundation (PRCF) in Trung Khanh. Beyond these collaborations, FFI has a wealth of experience working with multiple stakeholders and government agencies at all levels and on similarly complex, landscape-level projects which integrate land use, PAs and poverty reduction.

Within the project, FFI is taking overall lead and responsibility for the quality and delivery of outputs. FFI is leading on work planning and M&E, and technically on the enterprise development approaches and strategy, all consultation, market analysis, securing investment, marketing, PA expansion planning, enforcement patrols, and PA/project impact monitoring.

This project does not have any NGO partners involved. However the project works closely with the Cao Bang Provincial Forest Protection Department, based on a long-term working relationship. Through our long-term MoUs the project is implemented in Cao Bang with the

permission of Cao Bang Provincial People's Committee. We work close with Cao Bang FPD, Trung Khanh District Forest Protection Station, and Ranger station to provide protection for Trung Khanh Species and Habitat Conservation Area. FFI also supports the existing local CSO, the PA collaborative Management Advisory Committee (MAC) to take a leading role in the design of the enterprise, and eventually to be the focal point for local ownership. FFI will provide facilitation support, locally, together with overt capacity building and training, and also provide the framework for grievance redress.

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

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.

Fauna & Flora International (FFI) began implementation of this project in Trung Khanh, Cao Bang province since 12th April 2022. This project will develop and launch an innovative, replicable and locally-owned enterprise designed specifically to ensure PA expansion has a net-positive impact on local wellbeing, through nature-based commodity/tourism-derived income.

Within the first year of implementation, in collaboration with project partner Trung Khanh FPD, MAC and key stakeholders in the project focused on detailed work planning, conducting initial assessments and surveys, training and beginning to conduct some of the main activities, below, as agreed in the project timetable.

Activity 1.1. Enterprise design:

Facilitated by FFI staff, three consultation workshops were organized with stakeholders in Trung Khanh to identify and agree in the key criteria and procedure for establishing local enterprise and business model. We are working with legal consultants to thoroughly analyze the models and then select the model for implementation.

Activity 1.2. Financial modelling and business planning

After a series of meetings, consultations and workshops with local stakeholders, we have drafted a financial plan and a business plan. A draft modelling and business planning were produced.

Activity 1.3. Stakeholder meetings with PA managers and other government:

Under supporting and leading by FFI staff and consultants on tourism, agriculture... a series of meetings and interviews were conducted with each of the local stakeholders from provincial, to district, to commune levels as MAC member: Trung Khanh Forest Protection Department (Trung Khanh FPD) and Head of Species and Habitats Conservation Area for Cao Vit gibbon (SHCA CVG), farmer federation, culture and tourism sub-department, agriculture and rural department sub-department and centre for agriculture services, tourist department, etc. After that, 3 workshops were conducted with the participation of relevant agencies and key partners to conduct consultations on business models, selection of products to support, and discuss planning on establishing local enterprise.

Activity 1.4. Regular, ongoing and gender-disaggregated consultation with local community members:

Gender-disaggregated socio-economic and Knowledge Attitude Behaviour (KAB) surveys were conducted. Findings from socio-economic and KAB survey show that compared to men, women in Trung Khanh have limited knowledge of conservation, their income is lower, and they have less time to join in meetings and conservation activities. All these findings were shared with all stakeholders to find out solutions. Going forward, these issues have been and will continue to be considered in the meetings with local stakeholders and farmer groups discussion. During consultations, we held several discussions with all-female or female-preferred participants to increase women's voice in decision-making.

Activity 2.1. Investment facilitation through marketing, meetings, networking and drafting of financial/legal documents

The first activity was carried out through the organization of a workshop to assess the potential of community tourism in Trung Khanh district with the participation of many tourism companies such as Phong Nam Travel One Member Co., Ltd, Heritage Vietnam Co., Ltd, Organica Investment Joint Stock Company, etc.

Activity 2.2. Building private sector partnerships to facilitate the operation of the enterprise

Based on Project Implementation Timetable we will implement this activity in Y2.

Activity 2.3. Explore products with potential for certification (e.g. organic, Global G.A.P.) – costs/benefit:

After discussion with the local stakeholders, there were three potential products identified through market system analysis using PMSD (Participatory Market System Development), to develop market system and submit for certification (organic, OCOP – One Commune One Product). Identified products are special sticky rice (nep ong), local duck (Vit co) and eco-tourism. Agricultural consulting was also conducted to ensure positive environmental benefits of agricultural products, and draft reports were provided. We will continue to work with consultants, communities and stakeholders to select products that can be supported for testing in year 2.

Activity 2.4. Identify product, transport company and marketing strategy

The first activity of the assessment was done through PMSD assessment by FFI staff and consultants. We will continue to do so in the 2nd year.

Activity 2.5 Linking to buyers that pay a premium price and audit products

The activity will be implemented in Y2.

Activity 2.6 Training for farmers for requirements of organic/GAP standards

The first training activity to introduce the organic production process and the technique of growing Trung Khanh sticky rice and Trung Khanh spring duck in accordance with COOP standards was carried out for nearly 30 farmers.

Activity 2.7 SWOT and market analysis of eco and agro and/culinary tourism options in Trung Khanh

The activity will be implemented in Y2.

Activity 2.8 Explore tourism certification (e.g. Global Sustainable Tourism Council, Wildlife Friendly) – cost/benefits analysis

The activity will be implemented in Y2.

Activity 2.9 Identify services provided and all business partners (customers and investors)

The activity will be implemented in Y2.

Activity 2.10 Training for local people on customer services, tour guide and cooking

The activity will be implemented in Y2.

Activity 2.11 Pilot at least one community-based eco/agro/culinary tourism model

The activity will be implemented in Y2.

Activity 3.1 Mentoring & training for community members

Through interviews with farmer groups and local communities of FFI staff and consultants, training needs of the community were identified. We will continue to work in the 2nd year.

Activity 3.2 Local capacity and local replication through the enterprise

The activity will be implemented in Y2.

Activity 3.3. Needs assessments and capacity building for the FFI Vietnam team:

A training about PMSD was implemented for some key FFI Vietnam staff in September 2022. Under support from the UK team, a need assessment for the FFI Vietnam team is to be conducted in 2023.

Activity 4.1. Complimentary outreach and awareness raising with local communities, focussing on the PA expansion area – posters, events, etc.

In May 2022, The project carried out communication activities to raise awareness about Cao Vit gibbon, the proposed boundaries of the Cao Vit gibbon species and habitat conservation area, and consulted with the community in 12 villages in 3 communes with the participation of 479 local villagers. After that, in July 2022, three communes meeting was implemented with the participation of about 90 participants.

In May 2022, the annual 'Gibbon Festival' in Ngoc Con commune was implemented with 700-800 local people participating in this event (nearly 500 'commitment'/check-in sheets submitted), including around 100 members of the organizing team. Women accounted for approx. 70% of the attendants and there were about 200 children aged between 1 (accompanied by adults) and 16 (joining with friends). The map of the proposed expansion species and habitat area was displayed during the festival for the community to know.

- Collaborated with teachers of Phong Nam Primary and Secondary School to organize extracurricular activities for students and teachers of the school to applied intangible cultural values such as poetry, song and dance to propagate of the cao vit gibbon and protect forest law. The extracurricular session attracted more than 400 delegates, students and local people to participate. The event news was broadcast on Cao Bang TV and local websites.
- Participated in the Ban Gioc Waterfall Festival to communicate about Cao Vit gibbons as the pride of Cao Bang province. At the event, the project displayed Cao Vit gibbon photos, the project and information about the Cao Vit gibbon, Cao Vit gibbon mascots, the Cao Vit gibbon hanger, etc. The Cao Vit gibbon booth attracted more than 1000 people to visit and 600 people to sign a pledge to protect the Cao Vit gibbon and 700 keyrings with gibbons photos were distributed. Photos and information about the Cao Vit gibbon and the project were reported on Cao Bang TV.
- The image of the Cao Vit gibbon was also communicated through the first marathon held at Cao Bang through the gibbon mascot and information boards at the event.
- A series of photo and information exhibitions about the Co Vit gibbons and conservation activities were exhibited at the pedestrian street in Cao Bang city attracting thousands of viewers.
- 2,000 Wall New Year Calendars and 100 desk calendars for 2023 were distributed to all households in the three communes surrounding the CVG SHCA (Phong Nam, Ngoc Con and Ngoc Khe) as well as some key members and villagers in the proposed expansion SHCA either directly by GCT members, FFI and FPD staff through village heads and in addition, distributed to local people and partners;
- 500 leaflets on the Cao Vit gibbon and the project were designed and handed out to attendants at Cao Vit Gibbon Festival.

- 450 thermos bottles and 300 T-Shirts were designed and handed out to important people at the workshop in Cao Bang city, and Cao Vit Gibbon Festival. Some of the bottles and T-shirts had been distributed to influencers and some leaders of local agencies.

Activity 4.2. Agricultural trials are undertaken (linked to Outcome 2) to demonstrate best practices for sustainable cultivation of low-conflict crops, deter macaques from raiding maize fields

The activity will be implemented in Y2.

Activity 4.3 Training for farmers for requirements of certification scheme standards for crop production, storage, and processing

The first training activity to introduce the organic production process and the technique of growing Trung Khanh sticky rice was carried out for nearly 29 farmers. Other training for storage, and processing will be implemented in Y2.

Activity 4.4. KAB surveys at project start, middle and end, demonstrate that project actions, primarily enterprise development, have improved local KAB by at least 10% by project end

Under this activity, a survey on Knowledge – Attitude – Behaviour (KAB) was conducted in October 2022 with the participation of 315 local people from 13 villages of 03 communes of the project area, in which 44% were women. One key finding from the survey showed that 88% of respondents agree with the expansion of the protected area.

Activity 4.5. Socio-economic survey at project start and end (baseline/endpoint) (planned Q1, Apr - June 2022; and Q4, 2024, Jan – Mar 2024).

In combination with the KAB survey, the socio – economic survey was conducted through method of household interview for 315 local people. In which, 90% of total respondents said they want to increase their income next year (2023), 84.8% of them reported that the biggest concern is food shortage and the impact from COVID-19 in 2021 is visible.

Activity 4.6. Sex-aggregated, social impact survey and against agreed safeguards, and regular FPIC voting on project milestones and PA expansion:

As a survey conducted by FFI, poverty situation and income changed in 2022 from local living in communes adjacent to SHCA CVG. 69% of total local people reported their income per month in the last year is under 2.7 million VND or at poverty condition.

For current distribution of ethnic minority groups in 03 project communes which are Ngoc Khe, Ngoc Con and Phong Nam; Tay ethnic minority group makes up the majority of 89%, Nung is 11%.

Nearly 95% of local people are farmers. For education, 39% of total people completed high school and similar with people completed secondary school, 36.4% are people who have attended primary school.

Local people have benefits from the forest where living adjacent to SHCA, for the Critically Endangered Cao Vit gibbon is the world's joint rarest ape, with only approx. 135 individuals remain within this protected area. The provincial government of Cao Bang intends to expand the existing CVGCA from 1,500ha now to over 3,000ha with support from FFI. This project will develop and launch an innovative, replicable and locally-owned enterprise designed specifically to ensure PA expansion has a net-positive impact on local wellbeing, through nature-based commodity/tourism-derived income.

The project organized a series of village meetings, field trips and interviews to collect information on land use, socio-economic information to support the expansion and upgrading of the CVG SHCA (to a Nature Reserve). In particular, the project also conducted a series of consultation meetings at 12 villages in the proposed PA extension area from 2020 – 2022 to inform the FPIC process and identify key stakeholders who will engage in the FPIC process at 12 villages, including:

- All information related to this project was informed to local communities at village

meetings, followed by installing project information boards at each village center, which include project objectives and details of social safeguards and grievance redress, including the process and contact numbers;

- Each village agreed to assign representatives and formed a board to receive concerns/complaints from villagers and report to the project or relevant stakeholders;
 - Consultation meetings with villagers were conducted at 12 villages to consult and discuss options on the proposed boundaries of the nature reserve;
 - Install additional information boards;
 - Organize village meetings at 12 villages to report back to villagers the results of previous consultation meeting on the PA boundary;
 - Further consult and discuss with villagers to adjust (if any) the boundary that respect to local concerns;
 - Seek for the consent of villagers (using their customary method, normally by voting);
 - Bring the result of consultation and consent from villagers to stakeholders at communal, district, and provincial levels for consideration;
 - Organize key-stakeholders meeting to inform the results of village meetings.
- The project conducted part of the FPIC process that included:

- The first round of village meetings informed the FPIC process and identify key stakeholders who will engage in the FPIC process at 13 villages;
- All information related to this project was informed to local communities at village meetings, followed by installing project information boards at each village center, which include project objectives and details of social safeguards and grievance redress, including the process and contact numbers;
- Each village agreed to assign representatives and formed a board to receive concerns/complaints from villagers and report to the project or relevant stakeholders;
- Consultation meetings with villagers were conducted at 13 villages to consult and discuss options on the proposed boundaries of the nature reserve
- Install additional information boards;
- Organize village meetings at 13 villages to report back to villagers the results of previous consultation meeting on the PA boundary;
- Further consult and discuss with villagers to adjust (if any) the boundary that respect to local concerns;
- Seek for the consent of villagers (using their customary method, normally by voting);
- Bring the result of consultation and consent from villagers to stakeholders at communal, district, and provincial levels for consideration;
- Organize key-stakeholders meeting to inform the results of village meetings.

Other information in Cao Vit gibbon social safeguards report.

Activity 5.1. The community-based conservation teams are maintained and undertaking SMART patrols and daily gibbon monitoring (observations/data recording)

The project maintained and developed a new Cao Vit gibbon community-based conservation model, which is built on over 15 years of experience with the previous Community Conservation Teams (CCT) and Cao Vit gibbon monitoring team (GMT). In the first year with the efforts of 13 persons (2 rangers and 11 GCT members), the total man-days working in forest were 1985 man-days, all members travelled the distance of 10272 km in 5912 hours. They detected 94 cases of human impacts including 18 traps cases in which 33 traps of all kinds were confiscated and destroyed.

Activity 5.2 Consultation meetings ensure that at least 10% of the enterprise's revenue is agreed locally and legally to support community conservation (see 5.1)

The activity will be implemented in Y2.

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.

As shown above, all scheduled activities for the reporting year have either been completed or are well underway, and the project is therefore on or ahead of schedule in relation to outputs 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, with remaining project activities continuing or commencing in April 2023 and extending through to project end in March 2024 as scheduled.

Output 1. Enterprise's product value proposition derived from natural assets and market demand for the enterprise's nature-based product(s) is in evidence, taking advantage of Vietnam's growing demand for healthy/organic food, an interest in regional delicacies, and a growing local tourism industry which indicates strong potential for branded, certified products and an agrotourism offering (a growing tourism opportunity in Europe and emerging in Asia).

Output 1.1 By end Y1 the business design and draft business plan demonstrate how the enterprise will derive its value from nature
In draft Business model_Cash flow analysis, draft Business model canvas and draft of Cao Vit Gibbon Conservation Enterprise structure.

Output 1.2 By end Y1 we have proof and a valuation on the demand for the nature-based product(s) of the enterprise
The project conducted a market survey to assess the demand for nature-based products. Based on discussion with relevant FFI partners and local farmer groups, a list of products (agri and non agri-product) was selected including Vit Co, pig, fish, ecotourism, Nep Ong and medicinal plant.

Output 1.3 By end Y2 we have a finalised legal structure and business plan which embody the natural assets and marketability of the enterprise
This output will be reported on in Y2.

Output 2. Sufficient investment secured / into the enterprise to commence the operation
On-going: During PY1, the project focused on surveying, and building ideas and models. In the 2nd year we will focus on investment facilitation and building private sector partnerships; evaluation of the value-add of commodity/tourism certification; marketing strategy/linking to buyers that pay a premium price; and scope (options) and then pilot a community-based agro/culinary tourism options model. The proposed indicators at output level are still the best indicators that the project would achieve.

Output 3. Skills and expertise exist locally to operate the enterprise, and for future replication (FFI - or other NGOs - pick up the model and apply it for their project sites across Vietnam)
On-going: According to the plan, this output will be achieved through a series of training activities to be conducted in year 2.

Output 4. Conservation-friendly knowledge-attitudes-behaviours (KAB) is improved through enterprise development by a minimum of 10%.
On-going: During PY1, the project implemented a lot of awareness raising with local communities; implantation plans for agricultural trials are undertaken and training for farmers on certification/standards; The project has carried out an initial KAB survey, which will be the basis for comparison with the outputs of the project in year 2.

Output 5 Community-based conservation is ongoing and part-funded by enterprise revenue
On-going.

SMART report

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?

As of this reporting time, the project has not yet achieved a fully outcome but remarkable achievements. These results and progress can demonstrate that project will achieve its outcome as drafts of articles, a draft business plan and an accompanying report on design and development of social enterprise were produced, a KAB report was produced, 12 monthly SMART report and one SMART annual report was produced.

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? Does the expected pathway to change hold true? Please support comments with evidence.

Assumption 1:

Comments:

Etc.

Output 1. Enterprise's product value proposition derived from natural assets and market demand for enterprise's nature-based product(s) is in evidence, taking advantage of Vietnam's growing demand for healthy/organic food, an interest in regional delicacies, and a growing local tourism industry which indicates strong potential for branded, certified products and an agrotourism offering (a growing tourism opportunity in Europe and emerging in Asia).

Assumption 1.1 There are local natural assets of sufficient value, in terms of the gibbon/other wildlife, the forest, landscape and local produce (farm and non-farm) for the enterprise to function

Comments: Based on consulting reports assessing the potential for agricultural development, tourism... shows that these assumptions are still correct.

Assumption 1.2 There exists in the domestic market, both for local commodities and tourism products, sufficient demand for the enterprise to be profitable and sustainable

Comments: Based on consulting reports assessing the potential for agricultural development, tourism... shows that these assumptions are still correct.

Output 2. Sufficient investment secured / into the enterprise to commence the operation

Assumption 2.1 The funding provided under this grant (requested by FFI) is sufficient to design, develop and establish the enterprise

Comments: FFI has applied to adjust the budget flow in the first year to move to the second year to increase the budget to support the establishment of social enterprises. Operating the social enterprise will require more resources and the project is expected to seek other resources to support the social enterprise after it is established. This assumption is partially correct.

Assumption 2.2 The enterprise can subsequently attract sufficient investment (e.g. making use of FFI's extensive international and in-country private sector partnerships and corporate donors)

Comments: On August 31 2022, The Government of Vietnam issued the Decree 58/2022/ND-on the registration and management of activities of foreign non-governmental organizations in Vietnam. This includes a provision that foreign NGOs are not allowed to receive domestic funding. It hinders FFI's access to domestic funding sources to support the operation of social enterprises. This assumption is currently only partially correct.

Output 3. Skills and expertise exist locally to operate the enterprise and for future replication (FFI - or other NGOs - pick up the model and apply for their project sites across Vietnam)

Assumption 3.1 The project team has the capacity and time to train all enterprise owners and additional FFI staff in enterprise development and business

Comments: Partially correct assumption. Running a social enterprise is more complex than initially expected, suggesting that we will need more than external consultants and may need to partner with other NGOs or external social enterprises to support the establishment and operation of local social enterprises. We have made efforts to obtain additional expertise, as required.

Assumption 3.2 By project end, all stakeholders have the required skills

Comments: Same as above this assumption is now partially true. We will be needed to continue activities to support the operation of social enterprises and on that basis to build capacity for all stakeholders.

Assumption 3.3 Even if the model is appropriate for the CVGA context, there exists other sites in Vietnam where replication is appropriate and feasible

Comments: FFI currently operates in more than 10 different provinces and there are many potential locations to expand the model. This shows that this assumption is still correct up to now.

Output 4. Conservation-friendly knowledge-attitudes-behaviours (KAB) is improved through enterprise development by a minimum of 10%

Assumption 4.1 That being involved in the project (enterprise development, farm/non-farm livelihood diversification and community-based conservation) will measurably improve local KAB

Comments: Participating in planned activities such as agriculture, tourism, etc. will help the community to perceive the value of nature and wild animals, especially Cao Vit gibbon. This shows that this assumption is still correct up to now.

Assumption 4.2 The diversification of local crops, including such 'barrier' commodities as lemongrass, ginger and rice, can have a significant impact on reducing HWC

Comments: Surveys and reviews suggest that there are several potential products to reduce HWC that can be implemented. Show that this assumption is still correct.

Output 5 Community-based conservation is ongoing and part-funded by enterprise revenue

Assumption 5.1 The project co-funding is maintained to a level that is sufficient for the patrols to be maintained and FFI provides ongoing oversight.

Comments: The consulting report shows that for social enterprises to support the community conservation group to maintain, they will have to seek permission from the relevant authorities. The survey shows that it will take 3-5 years for social enterprises to come into operation stably and profitably. It shows that the FFI will need to continue to support these businesses for at least 3 years after incorporation. It thus shows that this assumption is currently only partially correct.

Assumption 5.2 All enterprise owners agree to the legal lock on conservation benefit sharing, and that such a lock can be legally binding

Comments: This assumption is still true if the right person or business is found with the same desire and orientation as the project.

Assumption 5.3 That the development of the enterprise, and therein testing of certain aspects of crop diversification, other livelihoods and tourism, will influence KAB such that illegal is significantly reduced.

Comments:

Participating in planned activities such as agriculture, tourism, etc. will help the community to perceive the value of nature and wild animals, especially Cao Vit gibbon. It shows that this assumption is still correct up to now.

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

The Impact is not intended to be achieved solely by the project. This is a higher-level situation that the project will contribute towards achieving. All Darwin Initiative projects are expected to contribute to biodiversity conservation and poverty alleviation.

- What impact was in your original application form?
- 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.

The project maintained a new Cao vit gibbon community-based conservation model, which is built on over 15 years of experience with the previous Community Conservation Teams (CCT) and Cao vit gibbon monitoring team (GMT). In the first year with the efforts of 13 persons (2 rangers and 11 GCT members), the total man-days working in forest were 1985 man-days, all members travelled the distance of 10272 km in 5912 hours. They detected 94 cases of human impacts including 18 traps cases in which 33 traps of all kinds were confiscated and destroyed. This has contributed to the protection of the Cao Vit gibbon population and there have been no recorded cases of Cao Vit gibbon hunting in the past year, contributing to the protection of more than 3000 hectares of forests in the SHCA and proposed expansion area.

4. Project support to the Conventions, Treaties or Agreements

Using evidence where available, please detail how your project 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 project will contribute emission reductions towards GAC country NDC targets, with at least 3,000 ha effectively conserved as a PA.

Vietnam's NBSAP provides the foundation for this project. The NBSAP aims to enhance (and integrate) biodiversity conservation and development, including improving enforcement and preventing the decline of biodiversity in protected areas; maintain the system of protected areas and strengthen its priority sites; and promote forest management to control the risks to human health. Specifically, the project will also contribute to Target 15 of the Global Biodiversity Framework, and thus Vietnam's Objective 7, in that benefits from biodiversity and ecosystem services should be shared fairly and equitably with the participation of communities, and also Vietnam's Objective 2, to properly resolve conflicts between conservation and development, especially the conversion of land use.

The project will directly support Vietnam's commitments to the CBD, through the conservation of biodiversity and sustainable natural resource use within the northern forests. It will support CBD Strategic Goals A-D by reducing direct pressure on biodiversity caused by hunting, logging and agricultural conversion, improving protected area management, and developing improved, conservation-compatible local livelihoods.

The project will incentivise and improve local knowledge/perceptions of forests and wildlife (Aichi Target 1). It will improve the function and performance of a Protected Area, ensuring equity (Aichi Target 11). It will address the fragmentation of a vital forest ecosystem, which provides essential services to wildlife and humans (Aichi 5); at all times the needs of women and vulnerable groups will be guiding principles (Aichi 14). The project will promote sustainable use of natural resources outside the PA, through enterprise development (Aichi 7).

5. Project support to poverty reduction

Darwin Initiative projects are required to contribute to a reduction in poverty. Projects working in Upper Middle Income Countries must clearly demonstrate:

- advance knowledge, evidence and impact in Least Developed or Low-Income Countries, or
- contribute to the global public good, for example by advancing understanding and/or
- strengthening the knowledge base related to biodiversity conservation/sustainable use and poverty reduction, or
- contribute to serious and unique advancements on a critical issue as a result of specific circumstances of the upper-middle income country that could not be made elsewhere.

Describe how your project is contributing to a reduction in poverty. When writing this section, consider the following:

- Who are the expected beneficiaries – i.e. which communities are affected by the issue this project is seeking to tackle, and how will this project help them?
- Are there expected to be any direct poverty impacts from this project (e.g. improved personal security for community members/rangers, increased household/community income etc.)?
- If indirect only, what evidence is there that the project will contribute to poverty alleviation in the long-term (e.g. improved ecosystem services, increased awareness about the value of wildlife, improved community governance etc.)?
- Are there any notable achievements this year?

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

The Darwin Initiative has produced an [Information Note on Poverty](#) which may help you understand the multi-dimensional aspects of poverty that can be reported on.

The project worked to alleviate poverty at different levels. The project has been contributed to poverty reduction in the project area:

The project works with the ethnic minority communities residing within the geographic limits of Trung Khanh Species and Habitat Conservation Areas in the communes of Ngoc Con, Ngoc Khe and Phong Nam. Challenges they face include unstable livelihoods, poverty, and limited access to knowledge. These communities live in close proximity to the nature reserve and are considered the most economically disadvantaged compared to the other communities.

Expected impacts for these communities include:

- Increase income for households/communities: support people with experience, knowledge and skills to improve existing agricultural production for sticky rice and spring duck activities to improve income and living standards through (i) stabilize food production by maintaining agricultural species suitable to natural characteristics and people's farming ability (ii) improving agricultural output quality and quantity and reducing input costs by applying sustainable farming techniques trained by the project (ii) to increase market access by linking producers with purchasing and processing cooperatives (iv) to improve the value of products through better packaging and preservation and introduce and perfect the brand. The project will also test new livelihood models and community-based tourism to reduce conflicts between communities and wildlife.

- The project aims to promote responsible production by implementing guidance on environmentally friendly agricultural farming techniques. This will involve reducing the use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides and implementing practices for recycling agricultural waste. These techniques will be tailored to potential plant/livestock species and will aim to improve productivity while reducing input costs and minimizing the impact on soil and water environments.

- Another important aspect of the project is to raise awareness about livelihood activities that have little impact on conservation and biodiversity. People will be provided with information on the importance of forest protection, conservation, and biodiversity preservation through meetings, forums, and training activities organized by the project. In addition to receiving technical assistance on livelihoods, households must also commit to complying with regulations on conservation and protection of biodiversity.

- By promoting the dual benefits of livelihoods and conservation, the project will ensure that both aspects are maintained throughout its duration. This will help to ensure that livelihood activities have a minimal impact on the environment, and that the biodiversity of the area is protected for future generations.

Indirect:

- The project will also focus on improving community governance by establishing community groups to facilitate production coordination and enhance linkages and sharing among households. These groups will serve as a platform for the community to come together, discuss, share experiences, and better manage their resources. They will also help maintain a common voice for achieving project goals.

- To improve community understanding, the project will allow communities living near the project area to directly observe the project's models and participate in group meetings. They will also listen to successful households sharing their experiences with the project. This will help spread the effectiveness of livelihoods and increase awareness throughout the commune and district. Additionally, the project's information and effectiveness will be shared through documents, publications, and local programs, which will be presented in village meetings and commune meetings.

By the end of this year 1, a total of around 29 households benefitted from the project as training and 11 local people as GCT receipt salary from project.

Having said that, the project will contribute to the overall sustainability of the environment and the community's livelihoods.

6. 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.

In the project activities, gender factor has been taken into account right from the beginning when implementing project activities. In project implementation guidelines, we always try to ensure the participation of women. In some cases, such as the livelihood survey, all-female group discussions were organized to ensure women's participation in activities. The project aims to encourage equal participation of men and women in livelihood interventions, KAB survey, village meetings, training course, project implementation and management. In the Knowledge – Attitudes – Behaviours (KAB) survey conducted in October 2022 with the participation of 304 local people from 13 villages of 03 communes of the project area, in which 44% were women. As a highlight, members of Women Union participated is member of MAC revision, total 2 women participated as members of the MAC.

| | |
|---|---|
| Please quantify the proportion of women on the Project Board ¹ . | The project does not establish a project management board. However, the project is supported by: Country Director (Man) – oversight |
|---|---|

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.

| | |
|---|--|
| | <p>Country Financial Manager (woman) Accountant (woman) Admin Officer (woman) Communication Officer (woman) MEL Officer (woman)</p> <p>Directly managed by: Project Manager (man) Project Assistants (two men)</p> |
| <p>Please quantify the proportion of project partners that are led by women, or which have a senior leadership team consisting of at least 50% women².</p> | <p>The project does not establish a project management board. However, the project is working in partnership with Cao Bang FPD with a woman is Director</p> |

7. 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 achievements (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?

FFI has an established system for monitoring and evaluating project progress. A MEL Officer Nguyen Ha Anh (woman) is supporting M&E for this project. The design and review of indicators and monitoring systems are integral parts of our project cycle management. At the project level, all project activities are monitored on an ongoing basis by project staff, and internal reports are made to line management through activity, quarterly and annual reporting processes. The quarterly reports are complemented by quarterly financial meetings to assess budgets versus actual expenditures, monthly thematic and regional team management meetings to review programme developments, and formal project reviews completed by team leaders with their teams.

The project team will hold biannual meetings to review progress against the workplan and output indicators, with partners, plus bi-monthly on-line review meetings with UK technical staff on agriculture and enterprise. Activities will be reviewed and monitored during monthly work plan meetings between the FFI Project Manager and the MAC (local CSO). This regular analysis and dissemination of M&E information will inform adaptive management of the project to identify challenges, issues and successes early, and enable the project team to adapt approaches and management to ensure the project achieves intended outcomes. Each partner organisation will be responsible for monitoring and maintaining records of activity outputs, including numbers of direct beneficiary farmer participants, disaggregated

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.

by gender. The project manager will be responsible for collating this data. The project team will capture success and failure, and share these with peers and stakeholders, throughout project implementation.

A gender specialist will be involved at the beginning and throughout the project to ensure gender considerations are incorporated throughout the M&E and will conduct a gender evaluation at the project end.

Key project indicators related to conservation and biodiversity protection targets are:

Output 1: The enterprise is established, legally incorporated and based on natural assets, with monitoring coming from reports on asset mapping, marketing and the company articles themselves

Output 2: Sufficient investment secured / into the enterprise to begin its operations (at project end) and to test/trial key aspects of crop diversification and tourism experiences during the project period, measured by the business plan and financial reports

Output 3: Skills and expertise exist locally to operate the enterprise, and for future replication (FFI - or other NGOs - replicate the model and apply for their project sites across Vietnam), as measured by training need assessments and post-training surveys, and scoping reports

Output 4: Changes in local attitudes and behaviours, and wellbeing will be monitored through annual agriculture production surveys, including yields, crop prices and amounts sold, together with data from household surveys, and subsequent safeguards information system and grievance redress mechanism (reports).

Output 5: A reduction in incidents of illegal hunting, maintaining forest area and connectivity, increase in patrol capacity, crime prevention and improved PA monitoring, with 10% of enterprise revenue secured for local/community patrol costs. These will be measured using data from ongoing SMART implementation, annual KAB surveys and household survey data.

Financial information and key project data will be logged in FFI's central database, FocalPoint, to monitor financial spend in line with budgets.

8. 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?

Regarding M&E, the project team aim to gather M&E data in one single database with periodical review of the data. It is suggested that project manager and Vietnam MEL officer can have a meeting bi-monthly or quarterly to review the database and add complementary data if needed. The meeting can also be a space to gain deeper insight in to M&E needs and challenges. This is expected to foster borderless and more efficient M&E process.

Conducting the KAB survey discovered some important things from which the project has adjusted project activities such as implementing a series of raise awareness for the community about biodiversity value, forest protection law and Cao Vit gibbons. This has brought great support from the community to the project's activities.

9. 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.

Not applicable

10. 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.

On August 31 2022, the Government of Vietnam issued the Decree 58/2022/ND-CP on the registration and management of activities of foreign non-governmental organizations in Vietnam. This decree includes a provision that foreign NGOs are not allowed to receive domestic funding. Therefore, it hinders FFI's access to domestic funding sources to support the operation of social enterprises. The survey shows that the local capacity may not be enough to manage social enterprises. We have considered the solution to combine with a social enterprise in Hanoi to support the operation and locally will establish cooperatives for production and business.

11. 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.

No significant difficulties have been encountered to date; At the beginning of the project, it was difficult to find potential partners to develop social enterprises. The project is now hiring a consultant and potentially will formal partner with her organization – AgriTage.

12. 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?
- Please describe any action you have taken as part of the project's open access plan.
- Are the intended 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? How will you ensure the innovation is mainstreamed into "business as usual" to continue to deliver benefits?
- Likewise, how do you plan to ensure a sustained legacy (e.g. social, economic, ecological, technical etc.) of your project Outcome?

The project is based on long term working collaboratively with key government counterparts at provincial from the very start of the project to ensure that the experience and lessons learned are continued beyond the life of the project. In particular, the Darwin project has been approved by Cao Bang Provincial People's Committee. Sustainability of the project comes through core findings being implemented beyond the end of the project period by local stakeholders and communities including cooperatives and for communities to take ownership of the social enterprises and the livelihood initiatives, eventhought the starting model has started at small scale.

In addition, this project was fully recognised by local people, stakeholders, and other NGOs working in the region. The voices of local communities were respected in whole expansion

protected area development process. Representations of communities will be involved in protected area management decision making. Through workshops, newsletters, online resources, reports and peer-reviewed literature information about the project continues to be disseminated to both local stakeholders and the wider public is achieved.

13. Darwin Initiative identity

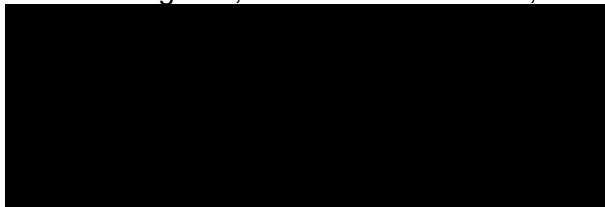
- What effort has the project made to publicise the Darwin Initiative, e.g. where did the project use the Darwin Initiative logo and promote funding opportunities or projects?
- How has the UK Government's contribution to your project's work been recognised?
- Was the Darwin Initiative funding recognised 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 Fund and its social media channels?

The Darwin Initiative is duly acknowledged for supporting though project activities. The logo has been displayed in presentations, newsletters, reports, calendars, posters, workshop invitations, FFI Vietnam Programme Facebook Fan page's post. During year 1, The Darwin Initiative is now very well known in Trung Khanh SHCA due to a series of highly successful community outreach activities which were participated by communities, governments departments and new papers magazines, local TV station. In particular, the Darwin identity has been reached out to the wider Vietnamese audiences through Cao Bang Newspaper coverage of the cao vit gibbon festival and project workshops.



14. 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 | Yes |
| Does your project have a Safeguarding focal point? | <p>Yes Contacts of focal points as bellows: 1. Le Hong Viet; Administrative Officer; </p> |
| Has the focal point attended any formal training in the last 12 months? | <p>Yes [<i>If yes, please provide date and details of training</i>]</p> <p>It is essential that all FFI staff understand their safeguarding responsibilities and how to report an allegation, and for this reason the training is mandatory for all staff. All project staff required to enrol Summary of Safeguarding Essentials (kayaconnect.org). The course itself takes between 1 hour and 90 minutes to complete. The main contents of this course aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Know the five non-negotiables of conduct - Recognise safeguarding concerns - Understand the importance of safeguarding - Know what to do if you observe or hear testimony or rumour about another individual causing harm, exploitation or abuse - Act and report safeguarding concerns. <p>All project staff were also required to already completed our 'FFI's Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults Policy' course on Mangrove, and gain certificates before starting working at FFI</p> |
| What proportion (and number) of project staff have received formal training on Safeguarding? | <p>Past: 100% - 20 people including cross cutting team. Planned: All new staff must be required to receive formal training on Safeguarding .</p> |
| Has there been any lessons learnt or challenges on Safeguarding in the past 12 months? Please ensure no sensitive data is included within responses. | <p>Not applicable</p> |

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

Whilst safeguarding focuses on the behavior of staff, associates and partners operating through our programmes, FFI also ensure the adoption of social safeguards, which focus on managing the risk of adverse impact on human rights as a consequence of our programmes and operations. FFI – Vietnam programme will plan to conduct a training on sexual harassment to the project staff in the coming months.

15. Project expenditure

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

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

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

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?

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

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

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) |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|--|--|
| Image | Detail in the links | Detail in the links | | No |
| | | | | Yes / No |
| | | | | Yes / No |
| | | | | Yes / No |
| | | | | Yes / No |

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

| Project summary | SMART Indicators | Progress and Achievements April 2022 - March 2023 | Actions required/planned for next period |
|--|---|--|---|
| <p>Impact</p> <p>A piloted community-based, pro-conservation enterprise model, which delivers measurable local improvements to wellbeing, nature-friendly attitudes and reduced threats to Cao Vit gibbon in/around the protected area, is being replicated nationally</p> | | <p>(Report on any contribution towards positive impact on biodiversity or positive changes in the conditions of human communities associated with biodiversity e.g. steps towards sustainable use or equitable sharing of costs or benefits)</p> | |
| <p>Outcome (Insert agreed project Outcome statement)</p> <p>A replicable, legal, collaborative, locally-owned and self-sustaining enterprise has been established to facilitate Cao Vit gibbon conservation, and in particular the expansion of the existing protected area</p> | <p>(Insert agreed Outcome level indicators)</p> <p>0.1 By the end of Y1, an enterprise has been fully scoped, shown to be legal and viable, and has an agreed structure and articles in principle</p> <p>0.2 By the end of Y2, the enterprise has been registered, licensed, and launched</p> <p>0.3 By the end of Y2, against a baseline set in Y1Q1, there has been a 10% improvement in Knowledge, Attitudes and Behaviours (KAB) amongst target villages, related to forest protection, the protected area and gibbon conservation</p> <p>0.4 By the end of Y2, at least 20 local households (in addition to 16 members of the local patrol teams) have reported a direct benefit/improved local livelihoods of at least 25%</p> <p>0.5 By the end of Y2, against a baseline set in Y1Q1, there has been at least a 30% reduction in incidents of illegal activity inside the PA expansion area</p> | <p>(Report against the indicators on progress towards achieving the project Outcome)</p> <p>0.1 Draft of articles, draft business plan and accompanying report on design and development</p> <p>0.2 On-going</p> <p>0.3 On-going: A KAB report at project start</p> <p>0.4 On-going: A Socio-economic and Social Impact Assessment surveys report will</p> <p>0.5 On-Going: SMART data (12 monthly / one annual reports) from the Community Conservation Teams patrolling in the current and some key areas proposed to expend enlarged PA</p> | <p>(Highlight key actions planned for next period)</p> <p>0.1. We will continue to work with legal consultants, local authorities, key stakeholders and local communities to select an appropriate and feasible model in Q1 and Q2.</p> <p>0.2. After selecting the social enterprise model and support object, we will support the registration to establish the enterprise before the end of the project period</p> <p>0.3. Two KAB surveys will be implemented by the mid and end of the project to measurably influenced (changed) by the enterprise development process.</p> <p>4. Livelihood impact assessments and surveys will be carried out before and after implementing test/trial of new or improved crops, and tourism (pilot), a target group of local people will see and report measurable improvement to their livelihoods</p> <p>A5. Forest patrol and law enforcement monitoring activities are carried out continuously. In Q2 and Q3 in Y2, awareness-raising activities will</p> |

| | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| | | | continue to be carried out and in parallel with it are livelihood activities. A positive change in KAB will result in a measurable reduction in illegal activities in the areas where the enterprise is being developed and piloted. |
| <p>Output 1. (Insert agreed Outputs with activities relevant to that Outputs in lines below. Activities relevant to more than one Output should be cross-referenced rather than repeated)</p> <p>1. Enterprise's product value proposition derived from natural assets and market demand for enterprise's nature-based product(s) is in evidence, taking advantage of Vietnam's growing demand for healthy/organic food, an interest in regional delicacies, and a growing local tourism industry which indicates strong potential for branded, certified products and an agrotourism offering (a growing tourism opportunity in Europe and emerging in Asia).</p> | <p>(Insert original Output level indicators)</p> <p>1.1 By the end of Y1 the business design and draft business plan demonstrate how the enterprise will derive its value from nature</p> <p>1.2 By the end of Y1 we have proof and a valuation of the demand for the nature-based product(s) of the enterprise</p> <p>1.3 By the end of Y2 we have a finalised legal structure and business plan which embody the natural assets and marketability of the enterprise</p> | <p>(Report general progress against indicators, comment on their appropriateness, and reference where evidence is provided e.g. <i>Evidence provided in section 3.2 of report and Annex X</i>)</p> <p>1.1 Asset mapping report</p> <p>1.2 Market survey research report</p> <p>1.3 Draft of legal consultant report and draft of articles of business, legal structure (document) and draft business plan</p> | |
| Activity 1.1 Enterprise design (to include asset mapping, market research – links also to Outcome 2, legal review and structuring). | | Facilitated by FFI staff, a consultation workshop was organized with stakeholders in Trung Khanh to identify and agree on the key criteria and procedure for establishing local enterprise and business model. | We will continue to work with legal consultants, local authorities, key stakeholders and local communities to select an appropriate and feasible model in Q1 and Q2. |
| Activity 1.2 Financial modelling and business planning | | After a series of meetings, consultations and workshops with local stakeholders. We have drafted a financial plan and a business plan. A draft modelling and business planning were produced. | We will continue to work with legal consultants, local authorities, key stakeholders and local communities to select an appropriate and feasible model in Q1 and Q2. |
| Activity 1.3 Stakeholder meetings with PA managers (and other government counterparts including Departments of Forest Protection, Agriculture & Rural | | - On-going: Under supporting and leading by FFI staff, three separate meetings with stakeholders who are from farmer federation, culture and | We will implement stakeholder meetings with PA managers (and other government counterparts including Departments of Forest Protection, |

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| <p>Development, and Culture and Tourism) to consult on the profit (benefit) distribution mechanism</p> | <p>tourism sub-department, agriculture and rural department sub-department and centre for agriculture services to collect information on market system of potential products before conducting consultation workshop were conducted. Besides that the discussions with Director of Trung Khanh Forest Protection Department (Trung Khanh FPD) and Head of Species and Habitats Conservation Area for Cao Vit gibbon (SHCA CVG) to get consensus in planning, collaboration and support each other as well as conducting activities in quarter IV, 2022. One more meeting was conducted in November, 2022 to discuss planning on establishing local enterprise.</p> | <p>Agriculture & Rural Development, and Culture and Tourism) to consult on the profit (benefit) distribution mechanism in Q1 and Q2 in Y2.</p> |
| <p>Activity 1.4 Regular, ongoing and gender-disaggregated consultation with local community members (see also 4.5 and 4.6) on their needs/challenges, project impacts, market access issues or changes, existing and potential products, natural assets, role of tourism, and legal structure, and product selection of existing and potential crops that have low-conflict potential with crop-raiding macaques</p> | <p>- On-going: As findings from the socio-economic and KAB survey, women in Trung Khanh have limited knowledge of conservation, their income is lower than men, has no time to join in meetings and conservation activities. All these findings were shared with all stakeholders to find out solutions. In planning, these issues are to be integrated into next meetings with local partners and farmer groups discussion.</p> | <p>Every quarter the project will implement regular, ongoing and gender-disaggregated consultation review with local community members on their needs/challenges.</p> |
| <p>Output 2. Sufficient investment is secured for the enterprise to commence operation</p> | <p>2.1 By the end of Y1 the project has a viable financial model and draft business plan for the enterprise</p> <p>2.2 By the end of Y2 the necessary finance/investment has been secured</p> | <p>(Report against the indicators on progress towards achieving the Output)</p> <p>2.1 Draft business plan and budget</p> |
| <p>Activity 2.1 Investment facilitation through marketing, meetings, networking and drafting of financial/legal documents</p> | <p>The first activity was carried out through the organization of a workshop to assess the potential of community tourism in Trung Khanh district with the participation of many tourism companies such as</p> | <p>In Q1 and Q2 in Y2, we will organization investment facilitation through marketing, meetings, networking and drafting of financial/legal documents</p> |

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| | Phong Nam Travel One Member Co., Ltd, Heritage Vietnam Co., Ltd, Organica Investment Joint Stock Company, etc. | |
| Activity 2.2 Building private sector partnerships to facilitate the operation of the enterprise | None | In Q1 and Q2 of the 2nd year, we will have meetings with private sector partnerships to facilitate the operation of the enterprise or organize visits trips for private sector partnerships to visit the project area and support social enterprises |
| 2.3 Explore products with potential for certification (e.g. organic, Global G.A.P.) – costs/benefit analysis related to market and community | On-going: As discussion with the local partner, there are three potential products have market system analysis using PMSD (Participatory Market System Development) to develop market system and submit for certification (organic, OCOP – One Commune One Product), that is special sticky rice (nep ong), local duck (Vit co) and eco-tourism. | We will continue to work with consultants, communities and stakeholders to select products that can be supported for testing Q1-3 in year 2. |
| 2.4 Identify product, transport company and marketing strategy | The first activity of the assessment was done by some interviews through PMSD assessment by FFI staff and consultants. | We will update and continue to do so in the Q1 and Q2 of 2nd year to focus on the transport company and marketing strategy. |
| 2.5 Linking to buyers that pay a premium price and audit products | On-going: | In Q1 and Q2 of the 2nd year, we will have meetings to meet buyers that pay a premium price as organic stores and clean food in Hanoi to link with farmers or social enterprises |
| 2.6 Training for farmers on requirements of organic/GAP standards | On-going | In Q1 and Q2 of the 2nd year, we will implement training for farmers on the requirements of organic/GAP standards |
| 2.7 SWOT and market analysis of eco, agro and culinary tourism options in Trung Khanh | On-going | In Q1 to Q3 of the 2nd year, we will work with consultants, local |

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| | | partners, tourist company, potential social enterprises, etc. to do SWOT and market analysis of eco, agro and culinary tourism options in Trung Khanh |
| 2.8 Explore tourism certification (e.g. Global Sustainable Tourism Council, Wildlife Friendly) – cost/benefits analysis | On-going | In Q2 to Q3 of the 2nd year, we will work with consultants, local partners, tourist company, potential social enterprises, etc. to explore tourism certification (e.g. Global Sustainable Tourism Council, Wildlife Friendly) – cost/benefits analysis |
| 2.9 Identify services provided and all business partners (customers and investors) | On-going | In Q2 to Q3 of the 2nd year, we will work with consultants, local partners, tourist company, potential social enterprises, etc. to identify services provided and all business partners (customers and investors) |
| 2.10 Training for local people on customer services, tour guiding and cooking, depending/based on local discussions and community needs- assessments | On-going | In Q1 to Q2 of the 2nd year, we will work with consultants to implement training for local people on customer services, tour guiding and cooking, depending/based on local discussions and community needs- assessments |
| 2.11 Pilot at least one community-based eco/agro-culinary tourism model | On-going | In Q1 to Q3 of the 2nd year, we will work with key farmers and households to pilot at least one community-based eco/agro-culinary tourism model |
| Output 3. Skills and expertise exist locally to operate the enterprise, and for future replication, by FFI (and other NGOs) in at least three further project sites | 3.1 By the end of Y2, all members of the enterprise, including local community (farmers) and government counterparts, have the necessary skills to operate the enterprise unaided, including business/financial management, customer service, guiding, market access/market system | (Report against the indicators on progress towards achieving the Output) |

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| | <p>development, crop diversification and improving yields</p> <p>3.2 By the end of Y2, all relevant FFI staff in-country have the skills needed to replicate the model to other HCV sites, KBAs or PAs in Vietnam</p> <p>3.3 Sites for replication have been scoped, identified and prioritised</p> | |
| Activity 3.1 Needs assessments, mentoring & training for community members | Through interviews of consultants with farmer groups and local communities of FFI staff and consultants, the training needs of the community were identified. | In the 1st and 2nd quarters of the 2nd year after carrying out some activities we will carry out additional need assessment, mentoring & training for community members |
| Activity 3.2 Local capacity and local replication through the enterprise | None | In the Q3 and Q4 of year 2, FFI will re-evaluate the implementation of activities in Trung Khanh and evaluate the feasibility of expanding the model in other FFI locations. |
| 3.3 Needs assessments and capacity building for the FFI Vietnam team | A training about PMSD was implemented for some key FFI Vietnam staffs in September 2022. Under support from the UK team, a need assessment for the FFI Vietnam team was conducted in November 2022. | |
| 3.4 Scoping for replication for other FFI sites | None | In the Q4 of year 2, FFI will implement scoping trip for replication for other FFI sites |
| 3.5 Capacity building for FFI Vietnam partner organisations and other national NGOs | None | In the Q4 of year 2, we plan to organize a workshop to share experience in implementing project activities for FFI Vietnam partner organisations and other national NGOs |
| Output 4. Conservation-friendly knowledge-attitudes-behaviours (KAB) of the local community has improved as a result of enterprise development | 4.1 By the end of Y2, the knowledge, attitudes and behaviours of the local community members, in target villages (including at least 20 local households around the PA expansion area) have increased by 10% | <p>(Report against the indicators on progress towards achieving the Output)</p> <p>4.1 2022 KAB report</p> <p>4.3 CVG Social safeguard Report</p> |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| | <p>4.2 By the end of Y2 reported incidents of crop-raiding by macaques (Human Wildlife Conflict - HWC) has reduced by 25% in areas where the enterprise's crop diversification/substitution has been trialed</p> <p>4.3 There are no reported or unresolved negative social impacts, including gender-differentiated impacts, or other safeguard or safeguarding triggers</p> | | |
| <p>4.1 Complimentary outreach and awareness raising with local communities, focussing on the PA expansion area – meetings, events and printed materials</p> | | <p>In May 2022, the project carried out communication activities to raise awareness about Cao Vit gibbon, the proposed boundaries of the cao vit gibbon species and habitat conservation area, and consulted with the communities in 12 villages in 3 communes with the participation of 479 local villagers. After that, in July 2022, three commune meetings was implemented with the participation of 90 participants.</p> <p>In May 2022, the annual 'Gibbon Festival' in Ngoc Con commune was implemented with 700-800 local people participating in this event (nearly 500 'commitment'/check-in sheets submitted), including around 100 members of the organizing team. Women accounted for approx. 70% of the attendants and there were about 200 children aged between 1 (accompanied by adults) and 16 (joining with friends). The map of the proposed expansion species and habitat area was displayed during the festival for the community to know.</p> <p>- Collaborated with teachers of Phong Nam Primary and Secondary School to organize extracurricular activities for</p> | <p>In the Q2 and Q3 of year 2, FFI will implement outreach and awareness raising with local communities, focussing on the PA expansion area – meetings, events and printed materials</p> |

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| | <p>students and teachers of the school to apply intangible cultural values such as poetry, song and dance to propagate the Cao Vit gibbon and protect forest law. The extracurricular session attracted more than 400 delegates, students and local people to participate. The event news was broadcast on Cao Bang TV and local websites.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participated in the Ban Gioc Waterfall Festival to communicate about Cao Vit gibbons - the pride of Cao Bang province. At the event, the project displayed Cao Vit gibbon photos, project and information about the Cao Vit gibbon, Cao Vit gibbon mascots, Cao Vit gibbon keyrings The Cao Vit gibbon booth attracted more than 1000 people to visit and 600 people to sign a pledge to protect the Cao Vit gibbon and 700 keyrings with gibbons photos were distributed. Photos and information about the cCao Vit gibbon and the project were reported on Cao Bang TV. - The image of the Cao Vit gibbon was also communicated through the first marathon held at Cao Bang through the gibbon mascot and information boards at the event. - A series of photo and information exhibitions about the Cao Vit gibbon and conservation activities were exhibited at the pedestrian street in Cao Bang city attracting thousands of viewers. - 2,000 wall New Year Calendars and 100 desk calendars for 2023 were distributed to all households in the three communes surrounding the CVG | |
|--|--|--|

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| | <p>SHCA (Phong Nam, Ngoc Con and Ngoc Khe) as well as some key members and villagers in the proposed expansion SHCA either directly by GCT members, FFI and FPD staffs through village heads and in addition, distributed to local people and partners;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 500 leaflets about the Cao Vit gibbon and the project were designed and handed out to attendants at Cao Vit Gibbon Festival. - 450 thermos bottles and 300 T-Shirt were designed and handed out to important people at the workshop in Cao Bang city.. Some bottles and T-shirts had been distributed to influencers and some leaders of local agencies. | |
| 4.2 Agricultural trials are undertaken (linked to Outcome 2) to demonstrate best practices for sustainable cultivation of low-conflict crops, grown by/as part of the enterprise, as a means to deter macaques from raiding maize fields, and reduce human-wildlife conflict (HWC) | None | In Q1 - 3, we will coordinate with a number of farmer households and social enterprises to test a new agricultural model based on the results of the consultation and the consensus of the households. |
| 4.3 Training for farmers on requirements of certification scheme standards for crop production, storage, and processing | The first training activity to introduce the organic production process and the technique of growing Trung Khanh sticky rice was carried out for nearly 20 framers. | We plan to implement other training for storage, and processing will be Q1-Q2, in Y2. |
| 4.4 KAB surveys at project start, middle and end, demonstrate that project actions, primarily enterprise development, have improved local KAB by at least 10% by project end amongst target villages | Under this activity, a survey on Knowledge – Attitudes – Behaviours (KAB) was conducted in October 2022 with the participation of 315 local people from 13 villages of 03 communes of project area, in which 44% were women. One key finding from the survey showed that 88% of respondents agree with the expansion | FFI will implement two KAB surveys in Q1 and Q4, demonstrating that project actions, primarily enterprise development, improve local KAB by at least 10% by project end amongst target villages |

| | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| | | of the protected area. A full report was finalized in December 2022. | |
| 4.5 Socio-economic survey at project start and end (baseline/end-line) | | In combination with the KAB survey, the socio-economic survey was conducted through household interview of 315 local people. In which, 90% of total respondents said they want to increase their income in the next year (2023), 84.8% of them reported that the biggest concern is food shortage and the impact from COVID-19 in 2021 is visible. A full report on socio-economic was finalized in December 2022. | In combination with KAB survey, the socio-economic survey will be implemented in Q4 of year 2. |
| 4.6 Sex-aggregated, social impact survey and against agreed safeguards, and regular FPIC voting on project milestones and PA expansion | | Under the KAB survey, this information was collected and analysed. The report was finalized in December 2022. | In Q1 and Q4 in year 2, the project will conduct information about sex-aggregated, social impact survey and against agreed safeguards, and regular FPIC voting on project milestones and PA expansion |
| Output 5. Sufficient investment is secured for the enterprise to commence operation | <p>5.1 CCT and GCT (16 members) are maintaining effective enforcement patrols, at least 15 days/month and gibbon monitoring on a daily basis (rotating teams)</p> <p>5.2 Agreement is secured by the end of Y1 that at least 10% of the enterprise's revenue will be allocated to community-conservation tasks/costs</p> <p>5.3 By the end of Y2, against a baseline set in Y1Q1, there has been a 30% reduction in incidents of illegal activity inside the PA expansion area</p> | (Report against the indicators on progress towards achieving the Output) 5.1 12 monthly SMART and one annual SMART reports and gibbon observation data/annual reports (all data inputted by the CCT/GCT on smartphones using SMART Connect and Input | |
| Activity 5.1 The community-based Gibbon monitoring and Conservation Teams (GCT) and Community Conservation Teams (CCT) are maintained and regularly undertaking SMART patrols and daily gibbon monitoring (observations and data recording). As part of innovative project monitoring, the GCT will pioneer the use of drones and automated acoustic recording devices (AudioMoths) for regular gibbon monitoring | | On-going: The project maintained and developed a new Cao Vit gibbon community-based conservation model, which is built on over 15 years of experience with the previous Community Conservation Teams (CCT) and Cao Vit gibbon monitoring team (GMT). In the haft of year 1 with the | In Y2, the project will continue to maintain Cao Vit gibbon community-based conservation model to do effective enforcement patrols, at least 15 days/month and gibbon monitoring on a daily basis (rotating teams) |

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| | efforts of 13 persons (2 rangers and 11 GCT members), the total man-days working in forest were 816 man-days, all member travelled the distance of 10,849 km in 4,809 hours. They detected 10 cases of human impacts. | |
| Activity 5.2 Consultations meetings and co-drafting the articles to ensure that a proportion - at least 10% - of the enterprise's revenue is agreed with all enterprise co-owners (legally, in the company articles) to be put aside for community conservation (see Activity 5.1) | Draft procedure for establishing local enterprise and business model. | In Q2 to Q4 of the 2nd year, we will work with legal consultants, local partners, and potential social enterprises... to do consultations meetings and co-drafting the articles to ensure that a proportion - at least 10% - of the enterprise's revenue is agreed with all enterprise co-owners |

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

| Project Summary | SMART Indicators | Means of Verification | Important Assumptions |
|--|---|---|---|
| <p>Impact: (Max 30 words) The model of community-based, pro-conservation enterprise, piloted around the CVGCA where it delivers measurable improvements to local wellbeing, positive attitudes and reduced threats to the gibbon, is being replicated nationally.</p> | | | |
| <p>Outcome: (Max 30 words) A legal, local, self-sustaining and collaboratively owned enterprise has been established to facilitate Cao Vit gibbon conservation, and in particular the expansion of the existing protected area, and is replicable</p> | <p>0.1 By end Y1, an enterprise has been fully scoped, shown to be legal and viable, and has an agreed structure and articles in principle</p> <p>0.2 By end Y2, the enterprise has been registered and licensed, and launched</p> <p>0.3 By end Y2, against a baseline set in Y1Q1, there has been a 10% improvement in KAB amongst target villages</p> <p>0.4 By end Y2, against a baseline set in Y1Q1, there has been a 50% reduction in incidents of illegal activity inside the PA expansion area</p> | <p>0.1 Drafts articles, draft business plan and accompanying report on design and development</p> <p>0.2 Business licence and registration documents</p> <p>0.3 KAB report (surveys x 3)</p> <p>0.4 SMART data (monthly / annual reports) from the Community Conservation Teams patrolling in the current and enlarged PA</p> | <p>A1. The enterprise can be designed as intended, to support conservation, and be local owned/managed, and yet comply with Vietnam's social enterprise laws – e.g. on ownership and benefit share</p> <p>A2. The enterprise will be granted a license and registered before the end of the project period</p> <p>A3. That the KAB local, project beneficiaries can and will be measurably influenced (changed) by the enterprise development process</p> <p>A4. That a positive change in KAB will result in a measurable reduction in illegal activities in the areas where the enterprise is being developed and piloted</p> |
| <p>Outputs: 1. Enterprise value derived from natural assets and market demand for enterprise's nature-based product(s) is in evidence</p> | <p>1.1 By end Y1 the business design and draft business plan demonstrate how the enterprise will derive it value from nature</p> <p>1.2 By end Y1 we have proof and a valuation on the demand for the nature-based product(s) of the enterprise</p> | <p>1.1 Assest mapping report</p> <p>1.2 Market research report</p> <p>1.3 Articles of business, legal structure (document) and final business plan</p> | <p>A1.1 That there are local natural assets, of sufficient value, in terms of the gibbon/other wildlife, the forest, landscape and local produce (farm and non- farm), for the enterprise to function</p> <p>A1.2 That there exists in the domestic market, both for local</p> |

| | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| | 1.3 By end Y2 we have a finalised legal structure and business plan which embody the natural assets and marketability of the enterprise | | commodities and tourism products, sufficient demand for the enterprise to be profitable and sustainable |
| 2. Sufficient investment secured / into the enterprise | 1.1 By end Y1 the project has a viable financial model and draft business plan for the enterprise 1.2 By end Y2 the necessary finance / investment has been secure | 1.1 Draft business plan and budget 1.2 Financial report and supporting (invoices, accounts) | A2.1 That the funding providing under this grant (requested by FFI) is sufficient to design, develop and establish the enterprise A2.2 The enterprise can subsequently attract sufficient investment (e.g. making use of FFI's extensive international and in-country private sector partnerships and corporate donors) |
| 3. Skills and expertise exist locally to operate the enterprise, and for future replication (FFI - or other NGOs - pick up the model and apply for their project sites across Vietnam) | 1.1 By end Y2, all members of the enterprise, including local community (farmers) have the necessary skills to operate the enterprise unaided 1.2 By end Y2 all relevant FFI staff in-country have the skills needed to replicate the model to other HCV sites, KBAs or PAs in Vietnam 1.3 Sites for replication have been scoped, identified and prioritised | 1.1. Training needs / capacity assessments at project start (baseline) and project end (end-line) [external] 1.2 Training needs / capacity assessments at project start (baseline) and project end (end-line) [internal] 1.3 Enterprise (replication) site scoping report and strategy | A3.1 That the project team has the capacity and time to train all enterprise owners and additional FFI staff in enterprise development and business A3.2 That by project end, all stakeholders have the required skills A3.3 That even if the model is appropriate for the CVGA context, that there exists other sites in Vietnam where replication is appropriate and feasible |
| 4. Community knowledge-attitudes-behaviours (KAB) has improved as a result of enterprise development | 1.1 By end Y2, the knowledge, attitudes and behaviours of the local community members, in target villages (including at least 20 local | 1.1 KAB report (surveys x 3 at start, middle and end) 1.2 KAB report and specific questionnaire at project start and | A4.1 That being involved in the project (enterprise development, farm/non-farm livelihood diversification and community-based |

| | | | |
|--|--|---|--|
| | <p>households around the PA expansion area)</p> <p>1.2 By end Y2 reported incidents of crop-raiding by macaques (HEC) has reduced by 25% in areas where the enterprise's crop diversification/substitution has been trialled (tested)</p> | <p>end on HEC in the PA expansion area</p> | <p>conservation) will measurably improve local KAB</p> <p>A4.2 That the diversification of local crops, including such 'barrier' commodities as lemongrass, ginger and rice, can have a significant impact on reducing HEC</p> |
| <p>5. Community-based conservation is ongoing and part-funded by enterprise revenue</p> | <p>5.1 CCT and GCT are maintaining effective enforcement patrols and gibbon monitoring</p> <p>5.2 Agreement is secured by end of Y1 that at least 10% of the enterprise's revenue will be allocated to community-conservation tasks/costs</p> <p>5.3 By end Y2, against a baseline set in Y1Q1, there has been a 50% reduction in incidents of illegal activity inside the PA expansion area</p> | <p>5.1 SMART data/annual reports and gibbon observation data/annual reports (all data inputted by the CCT/GCT on smartphones using SMART Connect and Input</p> <p>5.2 Enterprise's legal articles / legal lock, and reflected in the agreed business plan (including benefiting sharing)</p> <p>5.3 SMART data (monthly / annual reports) from the Community Conservation Teams patrolling in the current and enlarged PA</p> | <p>A5.1 The project co-funding is maintained to a level that is sufficient for the patrols to be maintained and FFI provides ongoing oversight</p> <p>A5.2 That all enterprise owners agree to the legal lock on conservation benefit sharing, and that such a lock can be legally binding</p> <p>A5.3 That the development of the enterprise, and therein testing of certain aspects of crop diversification, other livelihoods and tourism, will influence KAB such that illegal is significantly reduced.</p> |
| <p>Activities (each activity is numbered according to the output that it will contribute towards, for example 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 are contributing to Output 1)</p> <p>1.1 Enterprise design (to include asset mapping, market research – links also to Outcome 2, legal review and structuring).</p> <p>1.2 Financial modelling and business planning</p> <p>1.3 Stakeholder meetings with PA managers (and other government counterparts including Departments of Forest Protection, Agriculture & Rural Development, and Culture and Tourism) to consult on the profit (benefit) distribution mechanism</p> <p>1.4 Consultation with local community on their needs/challenges, market access, existing and potential products, natural assets, role of tourism, and legal structure, and product selection of existing and potential crops that have low-conflict potential with crop-raiding macaques</p> <p>2.1 Investment facilitation</p> <p>2.2 Building private sector partnerships are in place to facilitate operation of the enterprise</p> | | | |

- 2.3 Explore Organic product with certification (e.g. organic, Global G.A.P.) – costs/benefit analysis related to market and community
- 2.4 Identify product, transport company and marketing strategy
- 2.5 Linking to buyers that pay premium price and audit products
- 2.6 Training for farmers for requirements of organic/GAP standards
- 2.7 SWOT and market analysis of eco and agro and/culinary tourism options in Trung Khanh
- 2.8 Explore tourism certification (e.g. Global Sustainable Tourism Council, Wildlife Friendly) – cost/benefits analysis
- 2.9 Identify services provided and all business partners (customers and investors)
- 2.10 Training for local people on customer services, tour guide and cooking
- 2.11 Pilot at least one community-based eco/agro/culinary tourism model

- 3.1 Mentoring & training for community members
- 3.2 Local capacity and local replication through the enterprise
- 3.3 Capacity building for FFI Vietnam team
- 3.4 Scoping for replication for other FFI sites
- 3.5 Capacity building for FFI Vietnam partner organisations and other national NGOs?

- 4.1 Complimentary outreach and awareness raising with local communities, focussing on the PA expansion area – meetings, events and printed materials
- 4.2 Agricultural tTrials are undertaken (linked to Outcome 2) to explore and pilot which and demonstrate best practices for sustainable cultivation of low-conflict crops, grown by/as part of the enterprise, can deter macaques from raiding maize field, to reduce human-wildlife conflict (HEC)
- 4.3 Training for farmers for requirements of certification scheme standards for crop production, storage, and processing
- 4.4 KAB surveys at project start, middle and end, demonstrate that project actions, primarily enterprise development, has improved local KAB by at least 10% by project end amongst target villages

- 5.1 The Community-based Gibbon monitoring and Conservation Teams (GCT) and Community Conservation Teams (CCT) are maintained and regularly undertaking SMART patrols and daily gibbon monitoring (observations and data recording). As part of innovative project monitoring, the GCT will pioneer the use of drones and automated acoustic recording devices (AudioMoths) regular gibbon monitoring
- 5.2 A proportion - of at least 10% - of the enterprise's revenue is agreed with all enterprise co-owners (legally, in the company articles) to be put aside for community conservation (see Activity 5.1)

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-A06 | People who attended technical training in duck farming | Number of farmers who attended farmer training | people | Women (1) Men (9) | 10 | | | 10 | 10 |
| DI-A06 | People who attended technical training in planting and producing sticky rice and organic standards Training on organic standards | Number of farmers who attended farmer training | people | Women (10) Men (9) | 19 | | | 19 | 20 |
| DI-A01 | People who attended workshop to assess the potential of community tourism development in 3 communes Ngoc Con, Ngoc Khe, Phong Nam | Number of officials, local communities, private sector, GCTs & Trung Khanh FPD staff, SHCA staff and Cao Bang FPD who attended | People | Women (17) Men (47) | 64 | | | 64 | |
| DI-A01 | People who attended workshop to kick off Darwin project | Number of officials, Trung Khanh FPD, SHCA staff, MAC, who attended the kick off workshop | People | Women (3) Men (17) | 20 | | | 20 | |
| DI-A01 | People who attended SMART training | Number of GCTs & Trung Khanh FPD staff, SHCA staff and Cao Bang FPD who attended SMART training | People | Women (1) Men (20) | 21 | | | 21 | |
| DI-A01 | People who attended METT workshop in Trung Khanh | Number of FPD and SHCA staff, GCTs, government officials who attended METT workshop in Trung Khanh | People | Women (6) Men (32) | 38 | | | 38 | |
| DI-A01 | People who attended the first aid trainings | Number of GCTs, SHCA staff, Trung Khanh FPD, local people, who attended the first aid training in Trung Khanh | people | Women (3) Men (26) | 29 | | | 29 | |

| 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 | People who attended the meeting of Collaborative Management Advisory Committees (MAC) in Trung Khanh | Number of officials, PA managers who attended the meeting of Collaborative Management Advisory Committees (MAC) in Trung Khanh | People | Women (3) Men (16) | 19 | | | 19 | 19 |
| DI-A01 | People who attended the Year-end meetings in Trung Khanh | Number of officials, Trung Khanh FPD, SHCA staff, MAC, who attended the meeting of year-end meetings | People | Women (3) Men (19) | 22 | | | 22 | |
| DI-A01 | People who attended the exchange visit | Number of officials, MAC, GCT who attended the exchange visit | People | Women (2) Men (13) | 15 | | | 15 | |
| DI-B07 | People who attended the caovit gibbon community based conservation team | Number of GCTs participating in caovit gibbon community based conservation team | People | Men (11) | 11 | | | 11 | |

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, manuals, 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) |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|---|
| 2023 Year Calendar | Calendar | FFI, 2023 | Female | Vietnamese | N/A, Trung Khanh | Printed and electronic copies |

| Title | Type (e.g. journals, manuals, 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) |
|---|---|--|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| Cao Vit gibbon the pride of Cao Bang | T-shirt | FFI, 2022 | Female | Vietnamese | FFI, Hanoi, Trung Khanh | N/A |
| Workshop to assess the potential of community tourism development in 3 communes Ngoc Con, Ngoc Khe, Phong Nam | News on Caobang television and website | Cao Bang television, 2023 | Male | Vietnamese | Cao Bang TV, Cao Bang | http://caobangtv.vn/tin-tuc-n59815/trung-khanh-hoi-thao-danh-gia-tiem-nang-phat-trien-du-lich-cong-dong-tai-3-xa-ngoc-con-ngoc-khe-phong-nam.html |
| Cao Vit gibbon conservation festival | News on Caobang television and website | Cao Bang television, 2022 | Male | Vietnamese | Ngoc con comune | http://caobangtv.vn/tin-tuc-n50081/trung-khanh-ngay-hoi-bao-ton-vuon-cao-vit.html |
| Continue implementing the project of Conservation of Cao Vit gibbon species and habitat in Trung Khanh Cao Bang | News on website, provincial foreign affairs information | website, provincial foreign affairs information 2023 | Male | Vietnamese | Trung Khanh | https://thongtindoingoai.caobang.gov.vn/van-hoa-du-lich/tiep-tuc-trien-khai-thuc-hien-du-an-bao-ton-loai-va-sinh-can-h-vuon-cao-vit-tai-trung-khanh-cao-b-903390 |
| Online briefing on conservation of Cao Vit gibbons across the Vietnam - China border | News on Electronic Cao Bang newspaper | Electronic Cao Bang newspaper 2022 | Male | Vietnamese | Trung Khanh | https://baocaobang.vn/Giao-ban-truc-tuyen-bao-ton-vuon-Cao-Vit-lien-bien-gioi-Viet-Nam-Trung-Quoc-7772.html |
| Average Thermostats | Water container | FFI 2022 | Male | Vietnamese | Ha Noi | Photos |
| Key chain | Memento | FFI 2022 | Male | Vietnamese | Ha Noi | 1700 pieces were distributed to the people |
| Information board about Cao Vit | Information board | Cao Bang Provincial Department of | Female | Vietnamese | Cao Bang | The photos have been exhibited by the provincial Department of Culture, Sports and Tourism in many places from conferences of |

| Title | Type (e.g. journals, manuals, 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) |
|------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| gibbons and Trung Khanh SHCA | | Culture, Sports and Tourism, FFI 2022 | | | | Cao Bang province, festivals of districts and communes in Cao Bang province. |
| Village meeting | Meeting | FFI 2022-2023 | Male | Vietnamese | Ngoc con, Ngoc Khe, Phong Nam commune | Meetings had 1200 listeners from about 700 women and 500 men. Of 12 villages in buffer zone of SHCA |
| Saving the Cao Vit Gibbon | Website | Pearl Harris, Phuong Nguyen/ 2022 | Female | English | International | https://merginmaps.com/case-studies/saving-gibbons-vietnam |

Checklist for submission

| | Check |
|---|-------|
| Different reporting templates have different questions, and it is important you use the correct one. Have you checked you have used the correct template (checking fund, type of report (i.e. Annual or Final), and year) and deleted the blue guidance text before submission? | Yes |
| Is the report less than 10MB? If so, please email to BCF-Reports@niras.com putting the project number in the Subject line. | Yes |
| Is your report more than 10MB? If so, please discuss with BCF-Reports@niras.com about the best way to deliver the report, putting the project number in the Subject line. | No |
| Have you included means of verification? You should not submit every project document, but the main outputs and a selection of the others would strengthen the report. | Yes |
| 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. | No |
| If you are submitting photos for publicity purposes, do these meet the outlined requirements (see section 16)? | Yes |
| Have you involved your partners in preparation of the report and named the main contributors | No |
| Have you completed the Project Expenditure table fully? | Yes |
| Do not include claim forms or other communications with this report. | |