



important note:

Darwin Initiative Annual Report



DARWIN200

To be completed with reference to the Reporting Guidance Notes for Project Leaders – it is expected that this report will be about 10 pages in length, excluding annexes

Submission deadline 30 April 2009

Darwin Project Information

Project Ref Number	15/009
Project Title	Investing in island biodiversity: restoring the Seychelles Paradise Flycatcher.
Country(ies)	Seychelles
UK Contract Holder Institution	Durrell Institute of Conservation and Ecology (DICE), University of Kent.
Host country Partner Institution(s)	Nature Seychelles, Government of Seychelles, Denis Island Limited.
Other Partner Institution(s)	RARE, Royal Society for the Conservation of Birds (RSPB), Kent Business School (KBS), Wildlife Vets International (WVI).
Darwin Grant Value	£227,966
Start/End dates of Project	01 September 2006 / 30 August 2009.
Reporting period (1 Apr 200x to 31 Mar 200y) and annual report number (1,2,3..)	01 April 2008 – 31 March 2009. Annual report number 3.
Project Leader Name	Dr. Jim Groombridge
Project website	DICE (Project Leader) webpage http://www.kent.ac.uk/anthropology/dice/research/seychelles.html Host country partner (Nature Seychelles) webpage http://www.natureseychelles.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=274&Itemid=106 Host country partner (Denis Island) webpage and environmental update blog http://denisisland.blogspot.com BirdLife International webpage http://www.birdlife.org/news/news/2007/01/seychelles_paradise-flycatcher.html
Author(s) and main contributors, date	Rachel Bristol, Jim Groombridge, Anselm Barra, Terence Vel and Nirmal Jivan Shah, April 2009.

1. Project Background

The Seychelles has demonstrated significant achievements in species conservation, but continued success is restricted by a lack of experience and capacity in integrating conservation with socio-

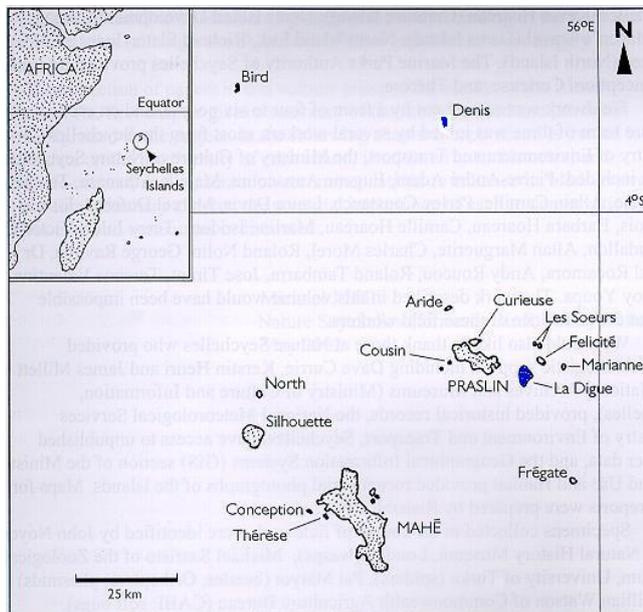
economic factors, against a backdrop of rapid social change and economic downturn. The critically endangered Seychelles Paradise Flycatcher was historically found on at least five Seychelles islands, but is today restricted to a single small population within a 160ha range on La Digue Island. The population is close to carrying-capacity, in a shrinking habitat threatened by development. The species recovery plan, approved in 2001, seeks to create additional breeding populations on restored islands, has only recently become feasible; 140ha Denis Island, locally owned, is now predator-free (cats and rats were eradicated in 2002) and has restored native forest. For a list of abbreviations used in this document see annex 15.

Figure 1. Site map showing La Digue and Denis Islands in blue.

PREVIOUS CONSTRAINTS TO CONSERVATION PROGRESS:

(1) Lack of technical capacity to implement translocation; (2) reluctance of La Digue community to see a new population of ‘their’ flycatcher established elsewhere (3) lack of capacity to undertake the stakeholder and community work essential to identify incentives and negotiate support.

More widely, these issues suggest that the value of Seychelles’ biodiversity is not fully appreciated. Costs for island restoration are well known, but socio-economic benefits to island stakeholders are not. What benefit does investment in conservation bring to islands? Partnership with Denis Island Limited provides a unique case-study of the linkages between investment in an island’s biodiversity value and commercial returns for the Seychelles.



PROJECT SOLUTIONS:

(i) Situation Analysis: Assisted by Kent Business School, the project aims to identify key stakeholders and social and economic factors influencing them, and to assess benefits and promote incentives for conservation action on Denis and La Digue.

(ii) Conservation Education & Advocacy: A campaign on La Digue in conservation education and engagement, to gain local collaboration in Flycatcher conservation activities, will target schools, local communities, decision-makers and other key stakeholders. Participation in ‘RARE Pride’ course will provide capacity to the Seychelles Wildlife Clubs co-ordinator to lead a biodiversity-linked training programme aimed at park staff at *La Veuve Special Reserve* on La Digue, and leaders of the Seychelles Wildlife Clubs. This will lead to continuation of the programme after the project is completed. UK expertise from RARE and RSPB will support local partners.

(iii) Conservation actions: The project utilises UK expertise in avian conservation (DICE, RSPB and WVI) to implement the flycatcher species recovery plan, principally through developing appropriate translocation methodology; translocation to Denis; training personnel in monitoring techniques; and restoration of additional Flycatcher habitat on Denis.

2. Project Partnerships

Project partnerships: The partnership between the UK lead institution and the host country partners has further developed and refined over the past year:

The DICE/Nature Seychelles partnership has continued to support Nature Seychelles to develop their capacity to deliver conservation education and awareness through supporting Nature Seychelles staff member Terence Vel (TMV) to undertake a Diploma in Conservation Education at the University of Kent.

The Project Officer Rachel Bristol (PO) has worked in close collaboration with the lead host country partner Nature Seychelles, in particular TMV to help execute his RARE pride social marketing campaign on La Digue and to wrap-up his campaign and Diploma. The PO has also worked closely with the Nature Seychelles Science coordinator to build capacity in translocation planning and methodology and provided guidance and input into a translocation of Seychelles magpie-robins successfully undertaken by Nature Seychelles in June 2008.

The PO has developed a strong working relationship with Denis Island management through the habitat rehabilitation work we have undertaken on Denis Island and through the planning, execution and ongoing monitoring of the flycatcher conservation introduction undertaken in November 2008. This relationship has further reinforced Denis Island management's commitment to conservation of Seychelles biodiversity and will likely result in further habitat rehabilitation efforts and threatened species introductions to Denis in the future.

The PO has worked in close collaboration with the Government of Seychelles Ministry of Environment (GOS-MENR) staff, particularly the Principal Secretary, Environment, Mr Didier Dogley throughout the planning and execution of the flycatcher conservation introduction. Three GOS staff members were directly involved in the capture and transfer of the flycatchers from La Digue to Denis and this was considered a unique training opportunity for GOS staff and was encouraged by the Principal Secretary of Environment. In addition the PO has worked closely over the past year with La Digue MENR conservation Ranger Miss Josianna Rose providing ongoing training and advice on flycatcher behaviour, life history, research and monitoring techniques. In addition the PO supported Josianna with her preparations to attend the Durrell Endangered Species Management Graduate Certificate course secured for her under this project. This close collaboration has continued to build trust where initially there was none. Remember that our project start date was set back 3 months due to GOS concerns related to the sensitive nature of this project.

Project partnerships between DICE-University of Kent, Nature Seychelles and the Government of Seychelles have settled into a functional working relationship and in fact a project follow-on funding application was agreed and submitted (albeit unsuccessfully) to The Darwin Initiative in 2008 by these 3 partners demonstrating that a good working relationship has developed and the partners are prepared to continue the working relationship.

DICE ensures all aspects of project tie together and are achieved in a timely and appropriate fashion. Nature Seychelles employs all local staff and provides administration and logistical support in Seychelles without which implementing this project would not be feasible. Government of Seychelles provides the government permissions essential to working with threatened species in Seychelles and undertaking a translocation. Denis Island Limited enables us to work on Denis Island and provides all logistical arrangements to facilitate work on Denis including transport to and from Denis and accommodation and food while on Denis.

The project is managed by various means. The PO travels to the UK annually where she meets with UK partners, and for the rest of the year contact is maintained by email. PO meets personally with lead host country partner Nature Seychelles on a regular basis to provide updates, discuss progress and plan ahead. Otherwise regular email updates are provided to partners and collaborators.

Dr Andrew Greenwood from Wildlife Vets International (WVI) was in Seychelles for 8 days to be present to provide help and support during the flycatcher translocation from La Digue to Denis Island. In addition he has continued to provide advice and expertise freely to Green Island Foundation and Denis Island staff responsible for the welfare and day-to-day care of the Seychelles Magpie-robins introduced to Denis Island last year. This advice is extremely valuable as there are no wildlife vets in Seychelles.

Mr Barrie Cooper from RSPB visited Seychelles for 7 days in December primarily to lead a workshop with La Digue School teachers introducing the Environmental Education Guide and other materials produced under this project. While Barrie was here he also did a second workshop with Seychelles Wildlife club leaders introducing same education materials and guide and worked with Nature Seychelles Environmental Education manager Terence Vel to draft 2 funding proposals for Nature Seychelles Education and awareness work.

Links with RARE conservation have strengthened during the progress of TMV's RARE pride campaign, raising Nature Seychelles knowledge of social marketing practices and their ability to change attitudes and practices. Terence's RARE campaign has been successfully completed however links between RARE and Nature Seychelles remain strong and planning for further projects is underway between these 2 organisations.

DICE, through negotiating and working with local project partner organisations, has further developed its staff capacity to be an effective project partner in situations where different cultures, beliefs and views must be negotiated in order to achieve project purpose. The Project Leader Dr Jim Groombridge has visited Seychelles once this year to be present to help and provide expertise during the flycatcher conservation introduction. Jim was present for 8 days covering capture, transfer and release of the flycatchers.

Other Collaboration: Our relationship with the La Digue Development Board and La Digue community leaders has further strengthened over the past year. The PO has worked closely with the La Digue Development Board to draft, negotiate and finalise a Memorandum of Understanding between Denis Island and the La Digue Development Board (representing the La Digue community) to facilitate the conservation introduction of flycatchers from La Digue to Denis and setting out the responsibilities of each party particularly pertaining to publicity rights.

This project had a strong link with the former Seychelles CBD focal point, Mr Selby Remie. Selby was our designated GOS point of contact regarding this project and he also a member of our Darwin project's steering committee. However Selby has recently resigned from his post as Director of Conservation and a new CBD focal point is yet to be appointed. When (s)he is we will endeavour to make links.

By developing capacity of host country partner staff in conservation education and awareness campaigning, in avian field research methods, in avian translocation methodologies, in Endangered Species Management and in Socio-economic research and data collection techniques over the past year DICE has helped host country institutions build their capacity to meet Seychelles CBD commitments through contributing to Seychelles NBSAP Goals 3 **increase in-situ conservation of biodiversity**; Policy Objective 3.6 to '*rehabilitate and restore degraded ecosystems and promote recovery of threatened species*' by implementing the action plan to save a critically endangered bird species endemic to Seychelles by translocating 23 flycatchers to Denis Island to found a new population; and by restoring native broad-leafed forest on Denis Island; Goal 6 **introduce incentive measures for biodiversity conservation**; Policy Objective 6.1 to '*introduce techniques to allow adoption of socio-economic measures that can act as incentives for conservation*', by providing the PO with training in methods of evaluating the costs and benefits to a variety of stakeholders of investment in island biodiversity; Goal 7 **improve biodiversity related research and training** Policy Objective 7.2 to '*encourage and promote research which contributes to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity*' UK partners training and advising the local PO and Nature Seychelles partner staff in avian research techniques which they are now using to undertake research on the SPF; Goal 8 **augment public education and awareness of biodiversity** Policy Objective 8.1 to '*promote public understanding of the importance of - and measures required to conserve – biological diversity*', by implementing a public awareness campaign on La Digue and Policy Objective 8.2 to '*seek local and international co-operation to strengthen capacity for public awareness programs*', by instilling active partnerships between the Seychelles partners and four UK/international organisations.

3. Project progress

3.1 Progress in carrying out project activities

Project activities for Project Year 3 (April 2008-March 2009.)

Conservation education campaign

Training

Economic research

Translocation

Habitat restoration

Progress on implementation of these activities for Project Year 3 are reported below, under the outputs they contribute towards.

Output 1. Stakeholders identified and engaged

Activity. Conservation education campaign: Project year 3:, questionnaire x1.

4

Annual Report template with notes 2009

The second questionnaire designed to quantify the impact of the education and awareness campaign on La Digue was completed to schedule in May 08 coinciding with the end of the RARE social marketing campaign. The questionnaire was designed to quantify the impact of the education and awareness campaign on (i) the attitudes of the La Digue community towards flycatcher conservation and translocation and (ii) their knowledge of flycatchers.

It is clear from the results of questionnaire 2 that the education, awareness and social marketing campaign led by Nature Seychelles staff member Terence Vel (TMV) was very successful. It had a positive effect on local community knowledge of flycatchers and also on their willingness to support conservation initiatives including moving some flycatchers to another island to help conserve the species. The second questionnaire survey showed a majority (58%) support for the translocation of flycatchers to Denis Island, an increase from 30% pre-campaign.

Table 3 below shows a summary of some of the questionnaire surveys' results.

Table 3. Some of the questions and responses in from the pre and post Vev (flycatcher) education and awareness campaign surveys on La Digue

Question:	Pre-campaign survey result	Post-campaign survey result
Respondents who say that in the last month they have talked about Vev	39%	76%
Respondents who say that in the last month they have talked about the threats to Vev	1%	76%
Respondents who say that in the last 6 months they have heard about the flycatcher	50%	96%
Respondents who can correctly state that 'NO' Vev have not always only lived on La Digue	38%	54%
Respondents who can correctly state that 'YES' there are problems with Vev habitat	75%	84%
Respondents who have heard about the flycatcher in the media in the past 6 months	30%	64%
Respondents who say that in the past 6 months they have heard of activities to protect Vev	45%	88%
Respondents who can correctly state that the number of Vev living on La Digue is 0-500	25%	55%
Respondents who can correctly state that the % of Vev that live inside the Vev Reserve is 0-10%	15%	81%
Respondents who can correctly state that the penalty is SCR 200 for a first offence for someone caught cutting down a Takamaka or Badamier tree on the plateau	30%	66%

Respondents who 'strongly agree' that people who cut down trees illegally on the plateau woodland should be fined	17%	29%
18-25 year old respondents who say they 'strongly agree' that people who kill Vev should be fined	39%	74%
Respondents who correctly state that Vev are in danger of dying out	48%	60%
Respondents who say they would feel sad if SOME Vev were moved to other islands	63%	28%
Respondents who say they would help increase numbers of Vev by supporting moving some to another island	30%	58%

Number of people surveyed in the pre-campaign survey n= 333

Number of people surveyed in the post-campaign survey n=333

See Annex 3 for a copy of Terence Vel's final report for his RARE pride campaign within which the results of the questionnaire surveys are reported in more detail.

Questionnaire survey #2 was rescheduled to coincide with the end of the education and awareness campaign in May 2008 and has been carried out in the rescheduled timeframe and manner planned.

Output 2. Socioeconomic studies identify clear benefits of conservation programme to Denis Island Ltd. and to the La Digue Community.

Activity. Economic research: Project Year 3: Research and data collection on La Digue and Denis completed by end year 2; Socio-economic data analysed by month 30; Socio-economic final reports and manuscripts produced by end year 3.

A survey of over 200 tourists to La Digue was completed in 2008 and other information gathered on the associated costs and benefits of translocating Flycatchers to Denis for both La Digue and Denis Islands. Dr Iain Fraser from the Department of Economics, University of Kent, has analysed the survey results and other data collected and drafted a report detailing the findings. See Annex 4 for a copy of the draft report.

To summarise the findings of this research:

We have considered various economic issues that relate to the Seychelles Paradise Flycatcher (SPF).

First, we examined the importance of tourism on La Digue and how the use of species translocation to create a second population will impact the tourist trade. Our analysis indicates that very few of the tourists who visit La Digue also visit Denis Island and as such the likely impact on tourists visiting La Digue will be small. Furthermore, there would appear to be a reasonable case to be made for employing the Seychelles Paradise Flycatcher more actively as a Flagship species to harness funds for conservation and to support a diversification of tourism activity on La Digue.

Clearly tourism is a hugely important industry within the Seychelles economy and as a result any opportunity that the La Digue population can find to attract a greater share of visitors to the island, which may be because of biodiversity values, is to be viewed positively.

The survey showed that currently the main attractants to La Digue are the beaches and granite rock formations and less than ¼ of people visited La Digue for Bird watching. The Vev Reserve ranked lowest in terms of places intended to visit while on La Digue. However >60 % of respondents said that Nature based tourism could cause them to extend their stay on La Digue. It follows that if La Digue wants to use

flycatchers to increase tourist activity and revenue it will have to be part of a broader nature based tourism activity. Further Denis only attracts 5% of tourists visiting Seychelles so the potential impact of tourist numbers on La Digue from development of a second flycatcher population on Denis is very limited. La Digue and Denis are 2 distinct markets and as such the concerns of the La Digue population about the loss of tourism revenue are highly unlikely to be realised.

Second, we have considered the economic value of the SPF. Employing the best available data which has recently been collected on La Digue and forms the basis of a research paper by Verissimo et al (2009) we can see that tourists place a high value, especially in terms of population size and endemism on bird species. Although this research did not directly examine the SPF the monetary results which are generated are highly relevant given the translocation of the species. In particular, it has been estimated that individuals place a value on supporting a rare species such as the SPF.

Thirdly, we have conducted a cost-benefit analysis of the translocation activity with the best available information. By drawing on existing data on translocation activity and the economic values generated by Verissimo et al. (2009) we have been able to consider the extent to which the benefits from this project outweigh costs. For a reasonably large set of parameter values employed as part of an extensive sensitivity analysis we have found that benefits are frequently significantly greater than costs. This indicates that the translocation activity makes not only environmental but also economic sense.

In summary our findings provide a positive message regarding the translocation of the SPF to Denis Island.

A catalogue of flycatcher –inspired ideas for local artisans to produce for the local tourism industry has been produced in partnership with RARE pride flycatcher campaign. The catalogue provides artisans with new ideas for designing and producing flycatcher souvenirs from local materials and has been widely accepted by the La Digue artisan community. A copy of this catalogue will be provided with the final report.

Diogo Verissimo who successfully completed his MSc research project in Seychelles in 2007 in collaboration with this DI flycatcher project, has in collaboration with other DI project staff, collaborators and supervisors, had a manuscript accepted for publication in Animal Conservation. See Annex 5 for a copy of the accepted manuscript.

Data collection is complete and analysis and write-up of reports and manuscripts is ongoing under the direction of Dr. Iain Fraser and is being carried out in the manner and timeframe planned except for presenting flycatcher friendly incentives/benefits back to the La Digue community in a workshop on La Digue scheduled in the implementation timetable for May 2007. We have discussed ideas of flycatcher friendly business ideas at workshops and meetings on La Digue on several occasions, but we have not yet reported back formally as the ideas will be far better researched if we incorporate all data and analysis before suggesting what kinds of activities would make tourists extend their stay on La Digue. In addition we want to ensure that ideas will be accepted and taken up by the local community so how this information is presented will be important. See also section 5 of this report. This activity is scheduled for year 4 of the project.

Output 3. Stakeholder support secured through increased awareness of flycatchers critical status and needs

Activity. Conservation education campaign: Project Year 3: Posters, leaflets, educational materials designed and printed end project year 1, TV coverage x 1, radio coverage x 3; national newspaper articles x 4 by project end.

The Conservation Education campaign was successful in securing support for the flycatcher conservation introduction to Denis Island. This has already been discussed under Output 1 above.

We are very pleased to report that our locally relevant environmental school teaching materials and aids have all been finalised, printed and distributed to the La Digue School and the Seychelles Ministry of Education. Some of the materials and ideas were generated at a workshop with teachers from La Digue School in 2007. The materials were then designed, modified and refined by the Project Officer, Nature Seychelles environmental education staff TMV and Lyndy Bastienne-Corgat, and RSPB's International Education Manager, Mr Barrie Cooper. A final draft of the materials was taken back to the La Digue teachers in a workshop in November 2008 for their final comments and approval before going to print. In

the same workshop the materials were used and tested by the teachers and Barrie Cooper demonstrated the different ways they can be used. The many uses of the Build-a-bird kit of 6 Seychelles bird species (x 8 kits) was also demonstrated in the same workshop in November 2008. See Annex 6 for images of the Workshop in November 2008, the 62 page Educational Materials Book and the build a bird kit. The booklet is too large to add as an Annex but a hard copy will be provided with the project final report.

Another poster (additional to planned/expected outputs) has been produced and printed (x 500 copies) in partnership with the RARE Pride flycatcher campaign and has been distributed on La Digue. The poster entitled "Human and Wildlife-Living together in Harmony" contains a lot of information about how residents of La Digue can make their garden a wildlife and flycatcher friendly environment (see annex 7.)

Three full pages in the last 2 issues of Nature Seychelles full colour magazine "ZWAZO" ("bird" in Creole) have been devoted to this DI flycatcher project. This magazine is produced biannually and is widely distributed both within and outside Seychelles.

An hour long Television documentary based on flycatcher conservation and the reaction of the local community to translocation was filmed on La Digue in September 07 by Seychelles Broadcasting Corporation (National Television) and was broadcast in May 2008. The Documentary featured interviews with RARE campaign manager TMV and with the PO who described their work on La Digue. The documentary also interviewed local community members' for their opinions about a potential translocation of flycatchers to Denis Island.

Seychelles Broadcasting Corporation -Television recorded a TV programme covering the Conservation Introduction of Flycatchers to Denis and the progress of the new flycatcher population to date in March 2009. The programme is scheduled to play on national TV in April- May 2009.

Two radio programmes covering the Conservation Introduction of flycatchers to Denis Island were recorded on Denis Island by Seychelles Broadcasting Corporation- Radio in March 2009. The programmes are scheduled to play in April 2009 on national radio programme "Nature Watch".

Two national newspaper articles about the flycatcher translocation were printed in the Seychelles Nation newspaper in November and December 2008 and a 3rd national newspaper article about the RARE social marketing campaign was run in July 08 (see annex 17.)

A public display was produced in February 2009 by the PO in partnership with the Government of Seychelles, Department of Environment Vev (flycatcher) Reserve staff and displayed on La Digue under the theme 'La Digue community successes for 2008'. The display was specifically about the flycatcher translocation to Denis and how the birds are faring so far and included a slide show of images of the translocation covering capture, transfer, release and post translocation life on Denis.

The teaching materials and aids were completed behind the original timeframe, but within the rescheduled timeframe. In addition they are more substantial than originally planned. All other aspects of the Education and Awareness and Social marketing campaign have been completed in the timeframe and manner planned.

Output 4. Local capacity to deliver targeted conservation education, socio-economic research and facilitate conflict resolution improved.

Activity. Training: Project Year 3 : RARE Pride Diploma in conservation education (Yr1,&2)

RARE Pride campaign manager Mr. Terence Vel successfully completed his RARE Pride social marketing campaign on La Digue in May 2008 and returned to the University of Kent in June 2008 for the final 2 weeks of course work to complete post -campaign write-up and course work for a Diploma in Conservation Education. RARE re-scheduled their end of Campaign for the cohort that TMV is in from March 08 to May 08 and in line with this TMV re-scheduled his campaign end from March 08 to May 08. We are proud to announce that TMV was awarded a "Distinction" for his Diploma in conservation Education. See annex 8 or verification of Terence's Diploma.

An additional activity has been undertaken under this output. Miss Josianna Rose, the Conservation Ranger for the Ministry of Environment, La Digue, completed a Durrell Endangered Species Management Graduate Certificate training course at Durrell Wildlife in Jersey. Josianna completed the 3 month course at the Durrell International Training Centre in Jersey in September-December 2008. Josianna was very pleased and impressed with the course and the skills and knowledge she gained by attending the course. See annex 9 for verification of Josianna's Graduate certificate. This certificate is an interim certificate as the Diploma certificate awarded by the University of Kent has not been presented yet, however Jersey has confirmed that Josianna has received a grade of "Distinction" for her Diploma.

A full day training workshop was held at the La Digue School in December 2008. The workshop provided training on how to make the best use of the environmental education materials and guide produced under this project. The 19 workshop participants comprised teachers, wildlife club and environment club leaders from La Digue School. The workshop was led by Mr Barrie Cooper, International Education Manager, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) and assisted by the Project Officer Rachel Bristol. See Annex 6 for images from the workshop.

All training activities have been carried out in the manner and time frame planned.

Output 5. Translocation best practice researched, agreed by all stakeholders and translocation implemented.

Activity. Translocation Project Year 3: translocation plan approved by stakeholders (yr2); translocate flycatchers (yr2); Monitor released birds and donor population recovery (ongoing).

In 2007-2008 FY the Darwin Secretariat approved our request to move the translocation timing from February 2008 to November 2008.

Detailed monitoring of 25 SPF pairs on La Digue designed to collect detailed information on breeding success commenced in November 2007 and is ongoing. This information will provide comparative information with which we can measure the progress of the new Denis Island population. This ongoing detailed monitoring has also allowed us to monitor recovery of the donor population. Replacement of flycatchers removed for translocation to Denis has been rapid. Flycatchers removed from their territories on La Digue and taken to Denis were quickly replaced, presumably by floating birds awaiting the opportunity to obtain a territory for themselves.

We received final approval for our Conservation Introduction proposal (ie approval to go ahead and translocate flycatchers to Denis) from the Government of Seychelles in October 2008. This approval was received verbally from the Principal Secretary for Environment Mr Didier Dogley.

We also received advice and endorsement of our Conservation Introduction plan from the Reintroduction Specialist Group of the Species Survival Commission of the IUCN. See annex 10 for verification.

To ensure there were no outstanding issues between parties prior to translocation we facilitated the agreement of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between La Digue Development Board (representing the people of La Digue) and Denis Island Development Limited (PTY) to facilitate the Conservation Introduction of flycatchers from La Digue to Denis Island particularly covering publicity rights and expectations the La Digue community have of Denis Management. See annex 13 for a copy of the MOU.

We are very pleased to announce that we have successfully transferred 23 Seychelles paradise flycatchers from La Digue to Denis Island.

The transfer went smoothly and to schedule. We caught and transferred by helicopter 18 flycatchers on the morning of the 25 November 2008 and a further 5 on the morning of the 26 November 2008. We translocated 13 males (7 adult and 5 immature) and 10 females (7 adult and 3 immature). All the birds survived the capture, holding and helicopter flight and were released in good alert condition on Denis Island by 11:30 am on the morning of capture. By the end of this reporting period we were regularly sighting 21 of the 23 released birds.

The birds began breeding activity in January 2009 and by the end of the reporting period a total of 15 breeding attempts had been made by 6 pairs and so far one fledgling has successfully fledged on Denis and is doing well.

Of these 15 breeding attempts 2 are ongoing (one with a nestling and one with an egg); 1 produced a fledgling; 4 eggs have failed to hatch; 3 nests have been predated at egg stage and 1 at nestling stage; 3 failed for unknown reasons; and 1 abandoned soon after starting to build the nest and did not lay.

Such a high level of infertility was not previously noted on La Digue but upon reflection is likely the case on La Digue also, it is just that so many breeding attempts are predated during incubation on La Digue it would mask the fact. We did also not expect to have so many nesting attempts fail due to predation on Denis as rats and bulbuls, believed to be the main predators on La Digue, are absent on Denis. The predators could be Mynah's (also present on La Digue) or Seychelles fodies? We are planning to seek funding for time-lapse remote video equipment to film nests to determine who is de-predating flycatcher nests on Denis.

In addition we have by the end of the reporting period re-captured and removed rings from 17 flycatchers on Denis in response to several individuals noted getting sore legs in February 2009. Spider web was found to be forming bracelets on the birds' legs and in some cases was tightening and cutting into the birds legs causing wounds. This problem was completely unexpected, however we responded immediately to catch all birds and remove the spider web bracelets and also their rings as a preventative measure. We believe that the rings may be preventing the flycatchers from removing the spider web when it first catches on them and before it forms bracelets. Once the spider web bracelets were removed those with sore legs have all fully healed. We are working to catch the last few flycatchers still ringed to remove any spider bracelets they may have and also their rings. We will continue to keep a close eye to ensure that with the rings removed the problem does not re-occur. See translocation reports in Annex 11 for more details and discussion.

Intensive monitoring of the released birds has been undertaken since release on Denis in November 2008. Monitoring on Denis has been undertaken by Mr Anselm Barra (employed under this project by lead local project partner Nature Seychelles) and by the PO Rachel Bristol. Anselm has been working on the project for 18 months doing the habitat rehabilitation work on Denis and then stayed with the project to monitor the flycatchers on Denis. The PO makes regular trips to Denis 1-2 times per month for several days at a time to help with the monitoring. Anselm has completed his contract and we are in the process of employing a new flycatcher research assistant to take over flycatcher monitoring on Denis and in the interim the PO have been conducting the monitoring on Denis.

For more detailed translocation progress reports see Annex 11. Annex 11 contains 4 progress reports detailing the transfer itself and progress since then.

Overall we are happy with the progress of the Conservation Introduction so far. Post translocation survival of transferred individuals has been exceptionally high, breeding is occurring and we have one chick fledged successfully so far. We have managed to successfully deal with the unexpected occurrence of spider web causing injuries to several of the birds legs and have hopefully, by removing all rings ensured that the problem does not re-occur. It is early days and the long-term success i.e. establishment of a self sustaining flycatcher population on Denis, will be determined further down the road.

The translocation best practice manual will be produced at the end of the project period as we are still collecting valuable information from the flycatchers on Denis on post release behaviour and survival that should be included in the manual.

Progress is to new schedule and all activities are being carried out in the manner and timeframe planned apart from the translocation best practice manual which was scheduled in the original project implementation timetable to be completed by November 2008. However the translocation itself was rescheduled with permission from the Darwin Initiative Secretariat from February to November 2008 and it follows the best practice manual also must now be completed later in the project in order to have the benefit of as much knowledge as possible from both during and post transfer.

Output 6. Additional flycatcher habitat created on Denis Island

Activity. Habitat Restoration Project Year 2: coconut palms removed and native trees produced and planted out (yr1&2); Ongoing watering/weeding of planted trees.

Our full time habitat restoration project staff Anselm Barra and Maurice Rose began work on Denis in July 2007, and due entirely to their hard work and dedication, progress with habitat restoration activities on Denis has been excellent and has been carried out in the manner and timeframe planned.

The major habitat restoration activities were completed by January 2009. Clearance of 20 hectares of coconut scrub was completed by November 2008. A total of c. 5, 000 native trees were propagated by Anselm and Maurice and planted out into the area cleared of coconuts. These young trees have had a high survival rate and are growing rapidly- some of the faster growing species are already over 3 metres tall and flowering and fruiting already. The newly planted out trees had to be watered by hand at times during the dry season last year to avoid death by dehydration as little rain fell, however the watering was sufficient and the plants survived until the rainy season (December to present) and all the trees have grown rapidly over this rainy season. See annex 12 for images of the rehabilitated area. The project nursery and accompanying tools (hose pipe and spades etc) has now been handed over to Denis Island for their continued use as they have plans to propagate more native tree species plant in other areas of Denis.

Watering and weeding will be continued as, when and if necessary by project staff on Denis.

3.2 Progress towards Project Outputs

This 36 month project has now been running for 30 months. To date overall project progress working towards achievement of project outputs is good and on schedule and we fully anticipate achieving all project outputs by project close in September 2009. The project is continually overseen by the PO, the PL and Nature Seychelles using the logical framework and the output indicators to measure our success at achieving project outputs. Output level assumptions still hold true. Progress towards outputs is elaborated below and also described above in 3.1 and in the standard output measures below in 3.3

Output 1. Stakeholders Identified and engaged.

The relevant stakeholders were identified in the early stages of the project and a vast amount of time and effort has been put in by this project to ensure stakeholders were sufficiently engaged. This output has been achieved and can be verified by the fact that all approvals and support necessary to undertake the flycatcher Conservation Introduction to Denis were gained and the translocation went ahead to schedule.

Output 2. Socioeconomic studies identify clear benefits of conservation programme to Denis Island Limited and the La Digue Community.

Much progress in identifying clear benefits of the conservation programme for both Denis Island and the La Digue community has been made. Means of verification are to date (i) the Draft Report/manuscript identifying and quantifying benefits to the La Digue Community and to Denis Island (see annex 4), (ii) the catalogue of flycatcher-inspired ideas for the local tourism industry for local artisans (see annex 14). We are confident this output will be fully achieved by project close.

Output 3. Stakeholder support secured through increased awareness of flycatchers critical status and needs.

This output has already been achieved. Consensus in support for the conservation introduction was reached by the residents of La Digue. This can be verified by the (i) formal approval given for the translocation by the La Digue Development Board (see annex 10 in Annual report 2) (ii) Questionnaire #2 demonstrating a majority support for the translocation of flycatchers to Denis Island (results reported in section 3.1 under Output 1) (iii) the MOU signed between Denis Island and the La Digue Development Board regarding the Flycatcher translocation (see annex 13) and (iv) the GOS approving the translocation which was conditional on us gaining the support from the La Digue community (See annex 5 in Annual report 2).

Output 4. Local capacity to deliver targeted conservation education, socio-economic research and facilitate conflict resolution improved.

All the activities planned under this output have been completed. With TMV's successful planning, implementation and completion of a RARE pride social marketing campaign and also a University level Diploma in Conservation Education, local capacity to deliver conservation education and socio-economic research has certainly been boosted. With these newly gained skills Terence's role at Nature Seychelles has modified to incorporate Social Marketing. See annex 3 for RARE Pride campaign final report and annex 8 for verification of TMV's Diploma in conservation education.

With the training of 21 teachers at La Digue school to incorporate locally relevant environmental games into their curriculum and the provision of environmental education guides to La Digue school and the Ministry of Education, added to last years environmental education capacity building workshops run

under this project (see Annual Report 2), local capacity to deliver targeted conservation education has certainly improved.

In addition to planned outputs 1 Seychellois has been formally trained on Endangered Species Management at the highly acclaimed Durrell International Training centre in Jersey on a scholarship obtained by this project. Upon successful completion of the Graduate certificate Josianna Rose has returned to her post as Ranger at the Vev (Flycatcher) Special Reserve on La Digue to continue her work as a Conservation Ranger. Josianna is the first to admit that the course at Jersey was extremely valuable and has considerably increased her knowledge and skills in the field of endangered Species management. See annex 9 for verification of Josianna's course attendance.

Output 5. Translocation best practice researched, agreed by all stakeholders and translocation implemented.

This output has largely been achieved at the time of reporting. Translocation best practice was meticulously researched and was endorsed by the IUCN SSC – Reintroduction Specialist Group and can be verified by the letter of support from the RSG chair (Birds) Dr Phil Seddon (see appendix 10). The other necessary approvals (La Digue community and Government of Seychelles) have already been covered under output 3 above so will not be repeated here.

23 Seychelles paradise flycatchers (13 males and 10 females) were transferred to Denis Island and released on 25 and 26 November 2008, and are largely doing well so far. See annex 11 for Conservation Introduction progress reports.

We are confident all aspects contributing to this output will be achieved by project close.

Output 6. Additional flycatcher habitat created o Denis Island.

This output is well on track to being fully achieved by project close. 20 hectares of additional habitat has been created on Denis Island and is growing rapidly. We are confident flycatchers will use this habitat as soon as it has grown enough to provide suitable habitat and that as the flycatcher population on Denis increases it will expand into this newly created habitat.

3.3 Standard Measures

Table 1 Project Standard Output Measures

Code Number	Description	Year 1 total	Year 2 total	Year 3 total	Year 4 total	TOTAL
3	20 Seychellois conservation managers receive DWCT ITC Facilitators Training Course certificates after completing 7day intensive workshop (140 training days)	140				
3	Terence Vel, Nature Seychelles WCS coordinator and RARE campaign manager awarded Diploma in Conservation Education (with Distinction), University of Kent			1`		
3	Josianna Rose, MENR Ranger, LA Digue awarded a Graduate certificate in Endangered Species Management, from Durrell, endorsed by the University of Kent.			1		

6A,6B	20 Seychellois WCS leaders and La Veuve Special Reserve staff to attend 4 day Biodiversity-linked conservation education training workshop (workshop)		To date 18 people x 3 days = 54			
7	350 x Information leaflets, posters and educational materials designed and printed.		6	2		
9	Final Socioeconomic and investment technical report produced					
11B	2 socioeconomic and 1x translocation papers submitted to relevant high quality peer reviewed journals			1		
14a	1 Workshop on La Digue to present findings of socio-economic research to community and Board.					
15A	4 National press releases on progress and key findings of project (Seychelles has no local press).	2		3		
18A	2 National TV coverage of project activities	1	2	1		
19A	3 National radio interviews/features	1	5	2		
20	Laptop, mistnets, chainsaw, fully functional plant nursery& equipment (spades, hoses etc) £3,914			Fully functional chainsaw handed over to Nature Seychelles; fully functional Nursery and related equipment (spades hoses etc) handed over to Denis Island Limited		
23	All funding from other sources including (in kind) person hours, accommodation, travel etc, £162,554	£77,971	£38,538	£ 33,558		
9/other	1 Report to La Digue community and Development Board exploring incentives for La Digue community to benefit more			drafted		

	from flycatchers.					
Other	WCS coordinator successfully completes RARE Pride conservation educators course diploma			1		
Other	Best practice translocation manual produced.					
Other	15-20 hectares of broad-leaved native forest restored on Denis Island.			1		
Other	New flycatcher population established on Denis Island.			1		
Other	Final Report to Darwin Initiative (3 months post project completion)					
8	UK project staff time (weeks) spent in Seychelles	3	4	3		
2	DICE MSc student successfully completes MSc (Portugese)		1			
14B	WCS leaders training workshop on how to successfully lead a wildlife club. (16 leaders x 3 days = 48 person days)		48			
14B	Training workshop with La Digue School teachers providing training and guidance on how to best use the environmental education guide produced under this project.			19 teachers x 1 day = 19		

In Table 2, provide full details of all publications and material produced over the last year that can be publicly accessed, eg title, name of publisher, contact details, cost. Mark (*) all publications and other material that you have included with this report.

Table 2 Publications

Type (eg journals, manual, CDs)	Detail (title, author, year)	Publishers (name, city)	Available from (eg contact address, website)	Cost £
Scientific journal	Title: Birds as tourism flagship species: A case study of tropical islands Authors: Diogo Veríssimo, Iain Fraser, Jim Groombridge, Rachel	Animal Conservation		

	Bristol and Douglas C MacMillan Year: 2009			
Manual	Title: Superb Seychelles: Environmental education to capture the imagination Authors: Barrie Cooper, Rachel Bristol, Terence Vel, Lyndy Bastienne- Corgat, Teachers from la Digue School Year: 2009	RSBP Publishers, The Lodge, Sandy, SG19 2DL, UK.		

3.4 Progress towards the project purpose and outcomes

Progress towards achieving the project purpose of providing incentives, investment and technical expertise to improve the conservation status of the Seychelles flycatcher is good. Purpose level assumptions hold true and indicators are adequate for measuring outcomes within the project timeframe.

We have detailed progress toward project outputs in 3.2 above and as progress to achieving project outputs is good for all outputs, achievement of project purpose should logically follow.

Measurable indicators are on track to being achieved by project end. The flycatchers on Denis have established territories and are currently breeding, and if the population establishes (signs to date are positive) then this will be a highly significant step towards SPF being downlisted from critically endangered to endangered on the IUCN red list.

3.5 Progress towards impact on biodiversity, sustainable use or equitable sharing of biodiversity benefits

Signs are good that we have achieved a change in knowledge and attitude in a local community towards a critically endangered bird and that this change has already had a direct positive impact on the long term survival prospects of this species by enabling much needed conservation action to save the species to proceed in the form of the creation of a second-safety net/ insurance policy population on another island.

In addition we have established that Seychelles flycatchers do have good potential, particularly if included within a nature based tourism package, to increase the income generation of the local La Digue community in a sustainable, non-detrimental fashion.

We have also established that there can be positive net economic benefits for islands' to invest in habitat and species restoration, certainly within the Seychelles and this is likely regionally applicable. Economic sense is certainly a strong incentive for conserving and enhancing biodiversity values.

We hope to be able to answer this question more fully in the final report.

4. Monitoring, evaluation and lessons

The project is continually overseen by the Project Leader and the Project Officer and the lead local partner Nature Seychelles using the logical framework and agreed outputs and milestones for guidance. The Project Officer compiles regular project updates to the project steering committee covering project progress and receives feedback from the committee. In this way the project is continually monitored and evaluated internally.

The major lesson we have learned from this year's work is to always keep an open mind and ensure we keep the space and flexibility to be able to make changes and adjustments to our plan to cope with or to

better take advantage of unexpected situations or outcomes. Nothing in this world ever runs exactly as one expects especially when one plans a 3 year project -like this one - one year in advance of start date meaning we can be implementing plans made 4 years previously. There is little likelihood that everything is going to run exactly to plan; things change and in fact should evolve as we learn things and find better ways to do things as the project develops.

The lessons learned during this project are lessons that will stay with us for life. They will be incorporated into the rest of this project and certainly into future projects.

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

Have you responded to issues raised in the review of your last year's annual report? What were the views of project partners on the review? Briefly describe what actions have been taken as a result of recommendations from last year's review, unless you have already clearly done so through a separate note or the half year report.

All project partners were very pleased with the positive review we received for last year's annual report. The reviewer had a few comments and queries (s)he requested we respond to in this annual report. See responses below.

Output 2. "The output sets out to identify clear benefits of conservation programme to Denis Island Ltd. and to the La Digue community, however little information seems to be provided about Denis Island. Would it be possible to receive a little more information about Denis Island Ltd."

We hope this has been addressed sufficiently under section 3.1, Output 2 this year. I will not repeat what has already been covered in section 3.1 under output 2. Additional information is as follows:

Denis Island owners themselves identify the following benefits of the conservation programme to Denis Island.

- (i) They have personal interest in conservation feel good to be doing their part in conserving and rescuing threatened Seychelles endemic birds.
- (ii) Environmental and conservation talks, slide shows and private tours are provided to guests and they receive very positive feedback from guests.
- (iii) The Denis Island website has an environmental blog that provides regular environmental updates. Feedback received is that guests have been influenced to come to Denis because of reading the blog and visitors that have already visited Denis and received information about the environmental work being done there regularly check the blog for updates.
- (iv) The environment and conservation programme on Denis is fast becoming the major aspect of the tourism marketing for Denis Island.

In addition it should be noted that Denis Island does not pay the full economic cost of the island restoration activities occurring on Denis. Conservation organisations secure and use conservation project funding to fund a considerable proportion of the costs associated with the conservation programmes (for example this project). This situation is not unique to Denis Island. In fact most conservation programmes on private islands in Seychelles are partially funded by conservation organisations using project funding. This arrangement of conservation organisations working with private island owners has clear positive gains for both the conservation organisations and the private island owners.

Output 2. "Once your team (in particular Dr Fraser) has identified flycatcher friendly incentives/benefits for La Digue Community, what do you think the likelihood is of these incentives being adopted? By this the reviewer is trying to gauge how holistic the questionnaire is? Have you assessed the other 'non-flycatcher'/ non-conservation' initiatives in the area that might be competing with your proposal? "

We have discussed same point regarding whether the La Digue community will adopt suggested incentives and we have come to the conclusion that we will provide some ideas but that it will be outside the scope of the project to ensure these ideas are taken up. We are discussing ways in which we could facilitate the La Digue community themselves to come up with ideas as ideas that people have been involved in developing are usually far more likely to be adopted than ideas coming totally from outsiders.

We are working on ways to maximise the likelihood that ideas will be adopted and to this end we have already decided that rather than Dr Fraser come and present the ideas, the PO and the RARE campaign manager TMV who are both known and trusted on La Digue perhaps with the help of the Development Board themselves will do the presenting back to the local community. A report from Dr Fraser will be available to the La Digue development Board, but the ideas will also be presented in a more digestible fashion to the local community.

Output 5. 'The reviewer looks forward to hearing about the translocation. However as you briefly mention in your report, Denis Island has already been used as a translocation site, in particular with regards to the Seychelles Fodies and Warblers. Were there any lessons learned from these translocations? What is the current host country's knowledge and capacity following these 2004 translocations?'

Several translocations of both of these species have been undertaken before. The Seychelles warbler translocations have always had the input of foreign researchers who have a long-term research programme on warblers on Cousin Island in collaboration with Nature Seychelles. Many local Nature Seychelles staff were involved in the warbler translocation to Denis and saw first hand how relatively straight forward it is to translocate warblers. The warblers were monitored by foreign research students post transfer to Denis and the birds (as they had done in previous translocations to Cousine and Aride Islands) started breeding straight away and never looked back.

The Seychelles fody translocation was undertaken entirely by local by Nature Seychelles staff (led by the current PO of this project in her capacity as Science coordinator for Nature Seychelles at the time) and has been successful. Fodies had been translocated by Nature Seychelles to Aride Island previously and we knew that they are easy to catch, move and survive well in predator (rat and cat) free environments. Monitoring after this translocation limited to occasional surveys. Both translocations were a complete success with hundreds of individuals of both species now spread across Denis Island, however the warbler numbers increased much more rapidly than the fodies; the fodies took several years to noticeably increase in numbers. These species have both had several translocations undertaken and we know they are relatively easy to move and establish new populations, however flycatchers are (i) critically endangered, (ii) generally considered more delicate birds and (iii) have never been translocated before, so there were/are many unknowns as to how they would cope with helicopter noise during translocation and the new environment on Denis. It is also much more important that this translocation does succeed as we will lose the trust of the La Digue community if we fail and it will be very difficult to ever get them to agree to another translocation if it does fail.

Current host country capacity to undertake translocations is now high as we have now undertaken quite a few translocations of several different species and every one contributes further knowledge to the local expertise pool. What we should perhaps be looking to do in future in Seychelles is relevant training for local vets as there are no wildlife vets with bird experience in Seychelles and so we have always had to bring a vet in from outside to be on site during translocation.

'The flycatcher also seems to be observed on Marianne Island. Is much known about these birds? Could birds be encouraged to breed there too?'

Birds are seen on Marianne sporadically, sometimes up to several birds are present and then they disappear, but they do not appear to be able to establish on Marianne. Marianne like all other Seychelles islands has had its original habitat radically altered. The majority of the island is now covered with abandoned coconut plantation which is not suitable habitat for flycatchers. The area of habitat that could be suitable for flycatchers is very small (there is no plateau broad leaved forest currently on the Marianne) and would not support very many flycatchers. Marianne is also a very dry island so may be quite harsh for insectivorous flycatchers during the dry season. Marianne also has the full suite of predators including rats, cats and Seychelles bulbuls making it more difficult for a small population to establish. We would very much like to establish a flycatcher population on Marianne in the future but considerable habitat rehabilitation work is required as a pre-requisite. The island has also recently been sold and the new owners would need to support the initiative. Suitability of Marianne has been assessed and discussed in the Island Assessment Document submitted as annex 7 in project annual report # 1.

'The reviewer is assuming that WVI were directly involved in the disease screening process.'

Yes Dr Andrew Greenwood from WVI was in Seychelles for 10 days fieldwork in 2007 to conduct disease screening and also to train the PO in disease screening techniques including sample collection, preparation and storage methods. Dr Greenwood was also present for 8 days over the translocation period to help catch birds, accompany the birds in the helicopter to Denis, and ensure they were fit for release.

6. Other comments on progress not covered elsewhere

We believe we have covered everything elsewhere in this report.

Two articles about the flycatcher translocation have been published RSPB (Royal Society for the Protection of Birds) publications "BIRDS" and "IMPACT". These publications have a huge readership so our project is getting publicity in the UK also (see annex 16.). A poster has been produced by Wildlife Vets International (WVI) about the flycatcher translocation (see annex 16.)

7. Sustainability

This project has maintained a high public profile in Seychelles throughout this reporting period with 2 national radio programmes specifically dedicated to this project covering the flycatcher conservation introduction to Denis and the birds survival and progress since then.

An hour long documentary was aired on national TV in May 2008 covering the work we are doing with the flycatchers on La Digue, the education and awareness campaign, and local La Digue community members' views on flycatchers and translocation.

We have also had 3 newspaper articles in national newspaper the 'Seychelles Nation'; one concentrating on Terenve Vel's Social Marketing Campaign and 2 covering the translocation itself.

In addition to expected project outputs we secured a scholarship position on the highly rated Durrell Wildlife's "Durrell Endangered Species management Graduate certificate" course at the Jersey Zoo for Josianna Rose a Seychelloise MENR Conservation Ranger based in the Veuve (flycatcher) Special Reserve on La Digue. Josianna travelled to Jersey and attended the course September-December 2008 and the skills she gained during this course have significantly raised the capacity of the La Digue MENR staff in the area of endangered species management. We and Josianna herself are delighted with this outcome.

TMV has completed a Diploma in Conservation Education and a RARE Pride social marketing campaign under this project and is now back working full time with Nature Seychelles where his newly gained skills are being incorporated into his work-programme there.

The 2 project fieldworkers Anselm Barra and Maurice Rose, but particularly Anselm Barra have gained many new skills in both habitat rehabilitation methods and on the ground practical doing-it skills. Maurice Rose was already an experienced habitat restoration worker in terms of tree felling and clearance and planting of new native trees but he has gained first hand skills of plant propagation under this project and both Maurice and Anselm would be first in line for future habitat rehabilitation work on Seychelles islands. Anselm stayed on to monitor the flycatchers released on Denis Island. He received training on La Digue with the PO in flycatcher monitoring methods prior to the translocation and did an excellent job monitoring the flycatchers over the critical first 3 months post release. Both Anselm and Maurice are currently putting these skills to use on other conservation projects in Seychelles.

The PO is also a local and she will continue working in Seychelles and put skills gained under this project to use in future.

The strong partnerships with the host country partners and the training of host country partner staff under this project will ensure a clear exit strategy and that project impacts are sustained. In fact it is probable that the ground work of this project will facilitate further island restoration and translocations of threatened birds to the benefit of Seychelles biodiversity.

8. Dissemination

During this project year we have finished disseminating the last of the education and awareness raising materials such as a poster about people and flycatchers living in harmony, and the environmental Education guide 'Superb Seychelles; environmental education to capture the imagination' These materials have been widely distributed on La Digue, our main target audience.

We also produced a display in collaboration with the La Digue GOS flycatcher Special Reserve in February for the La Digue community successes for 2008 day where many of the La Digue community

were present. The display included a slide show of lots of images of the whole process from capture, ringing, transfer, release to post release on Denis.

In the final 6 months of the project when reports and papers are finished we plan to disseminate via workshops, stakeholder meetings, the press, scientific papers, Nature Seychelles popular Bi-annual magazine "ZWAZO" and through the Seychelles Wildlife clubs.

The dissemination will be continued by Nature Seychelles and the PO Rachel Bristol after the project finishes as Rachel lives and works in Seychelles, and TMV works for Nature Seychelles as an environmental educator.

9. Project Expenditure

Table 3 Project expenditure during the reporting period (Defra Financial Year 1 April 2008 to 31 March 2009)

Item	Budget (please indicate which document you refer to if other than your project application or annual grant offer letter)	Expenditure	Variance
Rent, rates, heating, overheads etc			
Office costs (eg postage, telephone, stationery)			
Travel and subsistence			
Printing			
Conferences, seminars, etc			
Capital items/equipment (specify)			
Others (specify)			
Salaries (specify by individual)			
TOTAL			

10. OPTIONAL: Outstanding achievements of your project during the reporting period (300-400 words maximum). This section may be used for publicity purposes

[I agree for LTS and the Darwin Secretariat to publish the content of this section](#)

In this section you have the chance to let us know about outstanding achievements of your project over the year that you consider worth highlighting to LTS and the Darwin Secretariat. This could relate to achievements 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 eg in terms of best practice. We may use material from this section for various promotion and dissemination purposes, including e.g. publication in the Defra Annual Report, Darwin promotion material, or on the Darwin website. As we will not always be able to ask projects on an individual basis for their consent to publish the content of this section, please note the above agreement clause.

If you have good quality photographs from the project that you would be willing to share to raise the profile of both your work and the Darwin Initiative, please briefly outline the types of images that you have available (eg plants, animals, fungi, people, landscape, forest, etc) and who we should contact if we would like to use them.

The critically-endangered Seychelles Paradise Flycatcher has received a significant helping hand along the road to the species' recovery. As a consequence of this Darwin Initiative project, involving a diverse set of multidisciplinary project partners, including the Durrell Institute of Conservation and Ecology (DICE), Nature Seychelles, Wildlife Vets International, RSPB, the Government of Seychelles Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources, La Digue Development Board, RARE, Denis Island Limited and Kent Business School, a second population of this spectacular endemic bird has been established on a restored island reserve. The flycatcher previously was found on just one Seychelles island, La Digue, prior to our translocation initiative, whereby in November 2008 we translocated 23 flycatchers from la digue to Denis island, a rat-free island on which there has been extensive habitat restoration efforts. Within a few months, the reintroduced birds were forming breeding pairs and defining territories, and by April 2009 this reintroduced population had produced it's few fledglings. From our ongoing intensive monitoring efforts of both the source and newly-established population, all the signs are looking good for this extremely rare bird.

Checklist for submission

	Check
Is the report less than 5MB? If so, please email to Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.uk putting the project number in the Subject line.	
Is your report more than 5MB? If so, please advise Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.uk that the report will be send by post on CD, putting the project number in the Subject line.	
Have you included means of verification? You need not submit every project document, but the main outputs and a selection of the others would strengthen the report.	
Do you have hard copies of material you want 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.	
Have you involved your partners in preparation of the report and named the main contributors	
Have you completed the Project Expenditure table fully?	
Do not include claim forms or other communications with this report.	

Annex 1 Report of progress and achievements against Logical Framework for Financial Year: 2008/09

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2008 - March 2009	Actions required/planned for the next year
	<p>Goal: <i>To draw on expertise relevant to biodiversity from within the United Kingdom to work with local partners in countries rich in biodiversity but constrained in resources to achieve</i></p> <p><i>The conservation of biological diversity,</i></p> <p><i>The sustainable use of its components, and</i></p> <p><i>The fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilisation of genetic resources</i></p>	<p><i>Significant progress in attitude change in Seychelles communities towards conservation of the Seychelles Paradise Flycatcher.</i></p>	<p><i>(do not fill not applicable)</i></p>
<p>Purpose</p> <p>To provide incentives, investment and technical expertise to improve the conservation status of the Seychelles Flycatcher (SPF)</p>	<p>One additional SPF population established and breeding on Denis</p> <p>Take firm steps towards the SPF being removed from critically endangered to endangered status in the IUCN list, by attempting to establish a second population through translocation</p>	<p>Approval of translocation proposal and translocation from GOS.</p> <p>Translocation of 23 SPF to Denis Island in November 2008.</p> <p>Intensive monitoring of the translocated individuals on Denis Island</p> <p>Josianna Rose (GOS, MENR Ranger) trained at Durrell's International training Centre, Jersey. Josianna has completed a 3 month Durrell Endangered Species Management Graduate Certificate with Distinction.</p> <p>Habitat Restoration work rehabilitating 20 hectares of abandoned coconut plantation into native forest habitat completed on Denis Island.</p>	<p>Ongoing intensive monitoring of the newly established SPF population on Denis</p> <p>Finalise all project reports and manuscripts</p> <p>Submit project final report on time</p>

Output 1. Stakeholders identified and engaged	Stakeholders attend workshops and collaborative activities	Progress is satisfactory and indicators remain appropriate.
Activity 1.1. Conservation education campaign: 2 Community workshops on La Digue (year 1)		
Activity 1.2. Conservation education campaign: Questionnaires x2 (Year 1)		Second and final Questionnaire of over 300 La Digue citizens completed in May 08 to quantify the effect of the flycatcher education, awareness and social marketing campaign has confirmed that (i) local knowledge of flycatchers has markedly improved and (ii) the majority of Digois now support the translocation as a necessary flycatcher conservation action. The integral RARE campaign was extremely successful , and community surveys showed an increase in local support for translocation from 30% pre-campaign to 58 % post campaign.
Output 2. Socioeconomic studies identify clear benefits of conservation programme to Denis Island Limited and the La Digue community	Positive net economic investment/ return demonstrated for Denis Island La Digue community demonstrate increased appreciation of value of their islands biodiversity New initiatives identified which can enhance socio-economic benefits to La Digue	Progress is satisfactory and indicators remain appropriate.
Activity 2.1. Economic research: Socio-economic research and data collection completed on La Digue and Denis by end year 2		Diogo Verissimo (MSc student who successfully completed his MSc with DICE in Seychelles on avian conservation and the flagship model in 2007) in collaboration with other project staff and collaborators has had a scientific publication accepted for publication in Animal Conservation. Survey of over 200 visitors (tourists) to La Digue in order to determine what makes them visit La Digue, how long they stay on La Digue, and what activities would make them stay longer. The survey has been analysed and results are being written up as a project report and a scientific publication currently. The survey showed that currently the main attractants to La Digue are the beaches and granite rock formations and less than ¼ of people visited La Digue for Bird watching. The Vev reserve ranked lowest in terms of places intended to visit while on La Digue. However >60 % of respondents said that Nature based tourism could cause them to extend their stay on

		<p>La Digue. It follows that if La Digue wants to use flycatchers to increase tourist activity and revenue it will have to be part of a broader nature based tourism activity.</p> <p>Further Denis only attracts 5% of tourists visiting Seychelles so the potential impact of tourist numbers on La Digue from development of a second flycatcher population on Denis is very limited.</p> <p>Our analysis of the economics of translocating the SPF has revealed that from a rather basic but realistic BCA that the project to set up a second population of SPF on Denis Island makes economic sense.</p>
Activity 2.2. Economic research: Socio-economic data analysed by month 30		On schedule see 2.1 above
Activity 2.3. Economic research: Socio-economic final reports and manuscripts produced by end year 3.		<p>On schedule see 2.1 above</p> <p>A catalogue of flycatcher –inspired ideas for local artisans to produce for the local tourism industry has been produced in partnership with RARE pride flycatcher campaign. The catalogue provides artisans with new ideas for designing and producing flycatcher souvenirs from local materials and has been widely accepted by the La Digue artisan community.</p>
<p>Output 3.</p> <p>Stakeholder support secured through increased awareness of flycatcher’s critical status and needs</p>	<p>Increased awareness and appreciation of conservation among La Digue community</p> <p>Consensus in support for translocation by residents of La Digue.</p>	<p>The questionnaire survey of La Digue citizens conducted at the end of the RARE Pride campaign showed a majority support for translocation of flycatchers to Denis (see activity 1.2 above).</p> <p>PO has conducted 4 meetings with the LDDDB and 2 with Denis Island Management to facilitate agreement and co-signing of a MOU between Denis Island Limited and LDDDB pertaining to Translocation of Vev from La Digue to Denis and particularly publicity rights and expectations La Digue has of Denis Management. This MOU has been agreed and is an additional achievement over and above that originally planned.</p> <p>The PO and the GOS - VEV Reserve staff mounted a public display about the flycatcher translocation to Denis in February 2009 on La Digue for a “La Digue community successes for 2008”</p> <p>Indicators remain appropriate.</p>
Activity 3.1. Conservation education campaign: Posters, leaflets, educational materials designed and printed (end year 1.)		<p>A public display was produced in February 2009 in partnership with the MENR and displayed on La Digue under the theme La Digue community successes for 2008. The display was specifically about the flycatcher translocation to Denis and how the birds are doing so far and included a slide show of images of the translocation covering capture, transfer, release and post translocation life on Denis.</p> <p>All School teaching materials have been finalised, printed and distributed to La Digue School and the Seychelles</p>

		<p>Ministry of Education.</p> <p>3000 Pin badges of both male (1500) and female flycatchers (1500) have been disseminated on La Digue. These pins are extremely popular and locals prize them.</p> <p>In addition 3 full pages in the last 2 issues of Nature Seychelles' full colour magazine "ZWAZO" ("bird" in Creole) are devoted to this DI flycatcher project. This magazine is produced biannually and is widely distributed both within and outside Seychelles.</p>
Activity 3.2. Conservation education campaign: TV coverage of workshops x1; Radio coverage x1; National newspaper articles x4.		<p>Two radio programmes concentrating on the flycatcher translocation to Denis Island have been recorded by SBC radio in March 2009 and are scheduled to be aired on National Radio in April 2009 on the weekly programme "Nature Watch".</p> <p>An hour long Television documentary based on flycatcher conservation and the reaction of the local community to translocation has been filmed on La Digue by Seychelles Broadcasting Corporation (National Television) and was broadcast on National TV in May 2008.</p> <p>SBC has filmed a programme for National TV about the Flycatcher translocation and the progress of the new flycatcher population on Denis to date. The programme was filmed in March on Denis Island and will air on National TV in April 2009.</p> <p>Two national newspaper articles about the flycatcher translocation were printed in the Seychelles Nation newspaper in November and December 2008 and a further national newspaper article about the RARE social marketing campaign was run in July 08.</p>
<p>Output 4.</p> <p>Local capacity to deliver targeted conservation education, socio-economic research and facilitate conflict resolution improved</p>	<p>WCS coordinator attends formal RARE Pride course</p> <p>20 WCS leaders, and reserve staff trained in conservation education</p> <p>20 Seychellois conservation managers trained in conservation facilitation and stakeholder conflict resolution</p>	<p>An additional activity has been completed under this output. Miss Josianna Rose the Conservation Ranger for the Ministry of Environment on La Digue was given a scholarship position on the Durrell Endangered Species Management Graduate Certificate training course at Durrell secured under this project. Josianna attended the course September – December 2008 and graduated with Distinction. Josianna was extremely impressed with her time in Jersey and has returned to Seychelles to apply the skills and knowledge she gained during the 3 month course.</p> <p>Progress is to schedule and indicators remain appropriate.</p>

<p>Activity 4.1. Training: RARE pride Diploma in conservation education</p>	<p>RARE pride social marketing campaign manager Mr. Terence Vel has successfully completed his RARE Pride campaign and his Diploma in Conservation Education to schedule in May and June 2008 respectively. Terence received a 'Distinction' for his Diploma in Conservation Education.</p>	
<p>Activity 4.2. Training: Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust (DWCT) Facilitator's course for conservation Management</p>	<p>-</p>	
<p>Activity 4.3. Training: Biodiversity –linked workshop</p>	<p>A 1 day training workshop was held at the La Digue School in December 2008. Workshop participants (total 19) were teachers and wildlife club leaders and environment club leaders from La Digue School. The workshop was led by RSPB International Education Manager Mr Barrie Cooper during a 7 day visit to Seychelles in December 2008 and assisted by the PO. The workshop comprised training on how to make the best use of the environmental education materials and guide produced under this project.</p>	
<p>Output 5. Translocation best practice researched, agreed by all stakeholders and translocation implemented</p>	<p>Proposal aligned with IUCN Reintroduction Guidelines Government approve translocation plan Best practice manual produced and widely distributed SPF released and monitored on Denis Island</p>	<p>Additional detailed monitoring of 25 SPF pairs on La Digue to collect detailed information on breeding success has been underway (since Nov 07) and is ongoing. A MOU has been agreed between Denis Island and La Digue Development Board (representing the people of La Digue.) See Output 3 above. Progress is to schedule and indicators remain appropriate.</p>
<p>Activity 5.1. Translocation: Survey of La Digue flycatcher population (year 1)</p>	<p>-</p>	
<p>Activity 5.2. Translocation: Translocation plan approved by all stakeholders (month 14)</p>	<p>We received final approval to undertake the Flycatcher Conservation Introduction to Denis Island from the GOS in October 2008.</p>	

		We received positive endorsement for our SPF Conservation Introduction proposal from the Reintroduction Specialist Group of the Species Survival Commission of the IUCN in June 2008
Activity 5.3. Translocation: Disease profiling and disease risk assessment completed (by month 16)		-
Activity 5.4. Translocation: Translocate flycatchers		23 flycatchers were successfully translocated from La Digue to Denis Island (transported by helicopter) on the mornings of 25 and 26 November 2008.
Activity 5.5. Translocation: Monitor released birds and donor population recovery (ongoing)		Intensive monitoring of released SPF on Denis Island has been undertaken by project staff since release in November 2008 and is ongoing. Monitoring of the La Digue flycatcher population commenced in early 2007 and is ongoing. Replacement of flycatchers removed for translocation to Denis has been rapid. This has been confirmed by intensive monitoring of the remaining source population. Flycatchers removed from their territories and taken to Denis were quickly replaced on La Digue, presumably by floating birds awaiting the opportunity to obtain a territory for themselves.
Activity 5.6. Translocation: Best practice manual produced and widely distributed		This activity is planned for the later stages of this project. We are still collecting valuable information on post release behaviour and survival and this should be incorporated into the manual.
Output 6. Additional flycatcher habitat created on Denis Island	15-20 ha of abandoned coconut plantation cleared and replanted with 12 native broadleaf tree species SPF observed in newly restored habitat	Two full time habitat restoration project staff (Anselm Barra and Maurice Rose) began work July 2007 and completed the habitat restoration work in January 2009. Now only ongoing watering and weeding will be undertaken as, when, and if necessary by flycatcher project staff on Denis. Progress is to schedule and indicators remain appropriate.
Activity 6.1. Habitat restoration: Nursery established and functional (end yr 1)		Final batches of seedlings were planted out into the habitat restoration area on Denis – completed in January 2009.
Activity 6.2. Habitat Restoration: Coconut palms removed and native trees produced & planted out in yr 1-2. Ongoing watering and weeding of planted trees		Coconut clearance, propagation and planting out of c.5000 native trees was completed by January 2009. Watering and weeding will be continued as, if, and when necessary by project staff.

Annex 2 Project's full current logframe

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
<p>Goal:</p> <p>To draw on expertise relevant to biodiversity from within the United Kingdom to work with local partners in countries rich in biodiversity but poor in resources to achieve</p> <p>the conservation of biological diversity,</p> <p>the sustainable use of its components, and</p> <p>the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the utilisation of genetic resources</p>			
Purpose			
To provide incentives, investment and technical expertise to improve the conservation status of the Seychelles Flycatcher (SPF)	<p>One additional SPF population established and breeding on Denis</p> <p>Take firm steps towards the SPF being removed from critically endangered to endangered status on the IUCN list, by attempting to establish a second population through translocation.</p>	<p>Post translocation field reports</p> <p>IUCN Red Listing changes</p>	<p>Project advocacy and awareness positively influences stakeholders</p>
Outputs			
Stakeholders identified and engaged	<p>Stakeholders attend workshops and collaborative activities</p>	<p>Workshop and activity reports</p>	
Socioeconomic studies identify clear benefits of conservation programme to Denis Island Limited and the La Digue community	<p>Positive net economic investment/return demonstrated for Denis Island</p> <p>La Digue community demonstrate increased appreciation of value of their islands biodiversity.</p> <p>New initiatives identified which can</p>	<p>Report to La Digue Development Board, & Seychelles Government</p> <p>Socio-economic and investment technical reports</p> <p>1-2 peer-reviewed publications</p>	<p>Denis Island Limited continue to manage the island and enhance biodiversity as a key objective</p>

	enhance socio-economic benefits to La Digue		
Stakeholder support secured through increased awareness of flycatcher's critical status and needs	Increased awareness and appreciation of conservation among La Digue community Consensus in support for translocation by residents of La Digue.	Questionnaire data concluding marked increase in support for translocation. Formal resolution agreed with La Digue Development Board	La Digue community is receptive to campaign information, and responds positively
Local capacity to deliver targeted conservation education, socio-economic research and facilitate conflict resolution improved	WCS coordinator attends formal RARE Pride course 20 WCS leaders, and reserve staff trained in conservation education 20 Seychellois conservation managers trained in conservation facilitation and stakeholder conflict resolution	Workshop reports RARE course certificate. Training feedback Student feedback DWCT Facilitators training course certificates.	Trained staff remain with local partners to train others and use the skills gained
Translocation best practice researched, agreed by all stakeholders and translocation implemented	Proposal aligned with IUCN Reintroduction Guidelines Government approve translocation plan Best practice manual produced and widely distributed SPF released and monitored on Denis Island	IUCN approval letter Government approval letter Best practice manual Translocation reports	Denis Island remains rat and cat free for duration of project.
Additional flycatcher habitat created on Denis Island	15-20 ha of abandoned coconut plantation cleared and replanted with 12 native broadleaf tree species SPF observed in newly restored habitat	Fixed point photos of before/after restoration activities. Field maps Project reports	No adverse climatic/stochastic events prevent establishment of newly planted trees
Activities	Activity milestones (summary of project implementation timetable)	Assumptions	

Conservation education campaign	2 community workshops on La Digue (Yr 1). TV coverage of the workshops x1; Questionnaires x2 (Yr1); Radio coverage x3; national newspaper articles x4; Posters, leaflets, educational materials designed and printed (end Yr 1).	Trained staff will integrate with local community leaders to embed support for Flycatcher work.
Training	RARE pride course (Yr 1-2), Biodiversity-linked workshop (yr2). Durrell Wildlife (DWCT) Conservation managers/ Facilitators training course (7 days) run in Seychelles	Certified training and workshops increase knowledge base.
Economic research	Research and data collection on La Digue and Denis completed end Yr 2; Data analysed by month 30; Final report and manuscripts produced by end Yr 3.	Surveys of local communities will provide additional data.
Translocation	Survey of La Digue flycatcher population (Yr1); Translocation plan approved by all stakeholders (month 14); Disease profiling (by month 16); translocate flycatchers (c. month 18); Monitor all released birds and recovery of donor population (ongoing). Best practice manual widely distributed.	Translocation methodology satisfies IUCN Reintroduction Guidelines.
Habitat Restoration	Nursery established & functional end Yr 1; Coconut palms removed and native trees produced & planted out in Yr 1-2. Ongoing watering/weeding of planted trees.	No adverse climatic/stochastic events prevent establishment of newly planted trees