Darwin Initiative Annual Report

Submission deadline 30 April 2011

1. Darwin Project Information

Project Ref Number	17-011
Project Title	A Participatory Conservation Programme for the Comoro Islands
Country(ies)	Union of the Comoros
UK Contract Holder Institution	Bristol, Clifton and West of England Zoological Society (BCWEZS)
Host country Partner Institution(s)	The Ministry for Agriculture, Fishing and the Environment; the University of the Comoros
Other Partner Institution(s)	Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust
Darwin Grant Value	£238,805
Start/End dates of Project	01/04/09 – 31/03/12 – extended to 31/12/12 following change request
Reporting period (1 Apr 200x to 31 Mar 200y) and annual report number (1,2,3..)	1 April 2010 – 31 March 2011 Annual report number 2
Project Leader Name	Neil Maddison
Project website	www.bcsf.org.uk/comoros
Author(s) and main contributors, date	Hugh Doulton (HD), Kitty Brayne (KB), Katie Green (KG), Joris Backaert (JB) (all BCSF) contributed full sections by 19/04; which were edited and formatted by HD and KB before review by Neil Maddison, Christoph Schwitzer (both BCSF), Andrew Terry and Rich Young (both Durrell) by 26/04. HD and KB then did final edit and collated the annexes written by different members of the team. English skills of the Comorian team members are not yet at a level to contribute to Darwin reporting. However, the local team were responsible for researching and collating data for the annexes. They are also writing sections of the report for the French Development Agency; English language training will be provided this year as part of team personal development. Representatives from the Comorian Government visited the project in March to evaluate progress against targets for the PoWPA project, during which progress and changes were discussed and agreed upon, but government officials have not contributed to report writing.

List of acronyms and abbreviations referred to in the report

BCSF – Bristol Conservation and Science Foundation
Durrell – Durrell Wildlife Conservation Society
FAO – Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations
FDA – French Development Agency / Agence Française de Développement
PoWPA – Programme of Work on Protected Areas
SMT – Senior Management Team (of the project, see organigramme in annexe)
IUCN – International Union for the Conservation of Nature
CBD – Convention on Biological Diversity
UNDP – United Nations Development Programme
IFAD – International Fund for Agricultural Development
WWF – World Wildlife Fund
CI – Conservation International
BV – Blue Ventures
CIRAD - Centre International de Recherche Agronomique pour le Développement
AVSF - Agriculteurs et Vétérinaires Sans Frontières

List of annexes contained in Supplementary Information Section

Communications plan covering September 2010-August 2011
Initial pixel-based land cover maps produced for Anjouan and Grande Comore
Executive Summary of Dr Gill Shepherd's report of her mission
Abstract from Sam Lloyd's thesis
Map of agricultural zones produced during participative mapping sessions in Nindri and Ouzini
Monitoring data of activities against indicators
Basic socio-economic information compiled for each of the project's villages of interventions
Current project organigramme

2. Project Background

Bristol Conservation and Science Foundation (BCSF, an operating unit of Bristol Clifton and West England Zoological Society), has been working in partnership with Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust (Durrell) in the Moya region of the island of Anjouan in the Comoro Islands since the beginning of 2008. Anjouan is the poorest and most densely populated of the islands, and has suffered from some of the highest deforestation rates in the world in the last twenty years according to the FAO. Poverty, lack of alternative economic options, increasing population pressure, a lack of governance, and unsustainable agricultural methods are the main factors contributing to ongoing deforestation. The deforestation puts at risk the endemic terrestrial biodiversity, including the flagship Livingstone's fruit bat, and is causing acute problems for the human population, particularly through loss of water resources and soil fertility, leading to increased poverty and vulnerability.

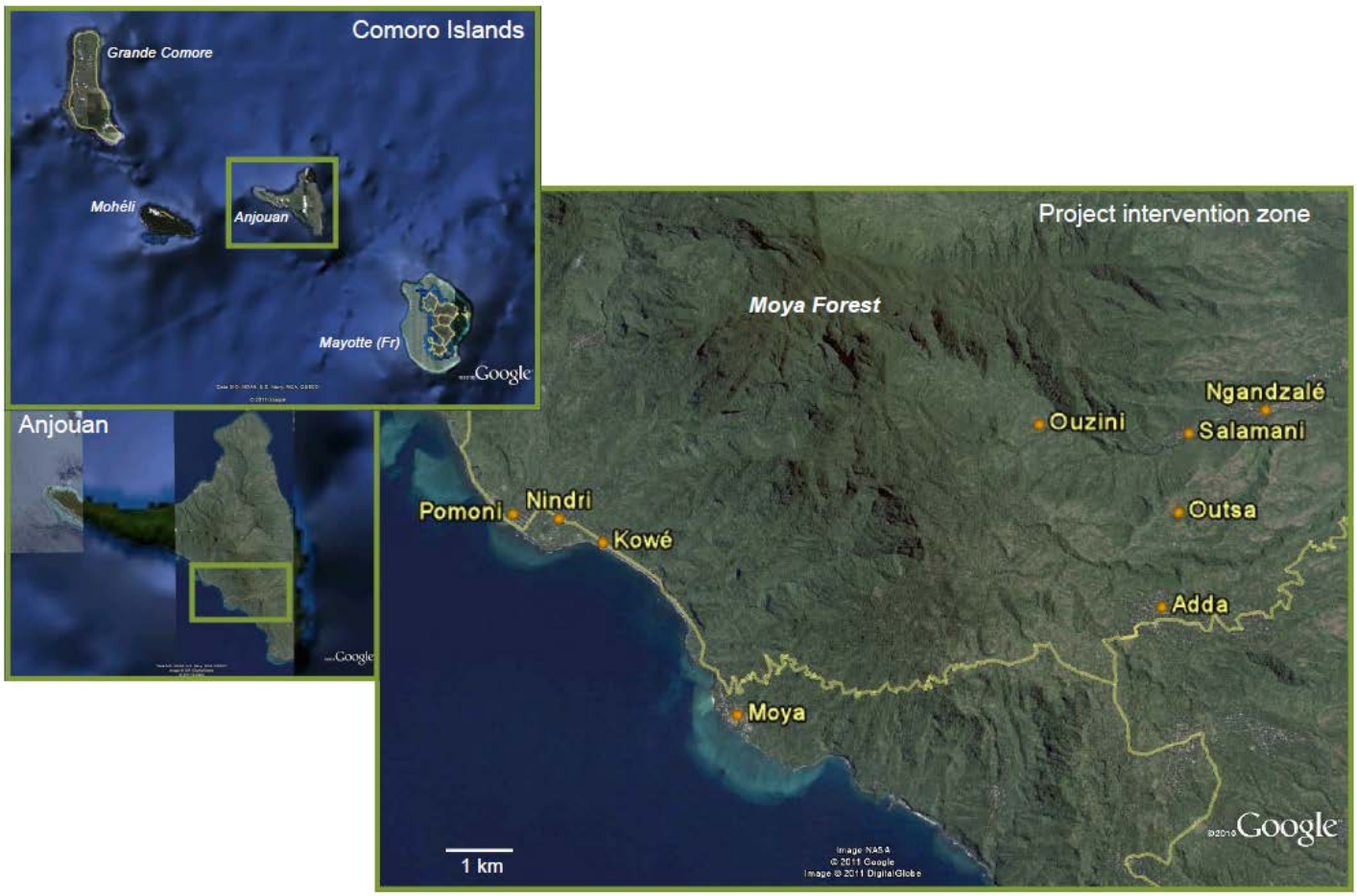

Figure 1: Maps taken from Google Earth highlighting the Moya forest and the villages surrounding it where the project's community actions are focussed. Ecological monitoring and research is carried out on Grande Comore, Anjouan and Mohéli.

BCSF's project Engagement Communautaire pour le Développement Durable ('the project') aims to contribute to improving the livelihoods of the human population and to protecting endemic terrestrial biodiversity and its forest habitat. To achieve this, the project works to engage communities living around remaining forest in the implementation of an integrated landscape management process. Livelihood improvement at the individual level is focussed on agricultural support, with communal natural resource management centring on water resources – areas of intervention prioritised by the local communities during the engagement process. The implementation of an ecological monitoring system will provide biodiversity data to support conservation zoning within the project intervention zones and more widely throughout the Comoros. Sustainability of the project is based around partner commitments to a second phase post-project, should funding applications be successful, and the creation of a local NGO to lead

conservation and sustainable development in the Comoros, with a timetable for creation and development to be established during Year 3. Project co-funding comes through an agreement with the French Development Agency (FDA) for €750,000, signed in March 2010, $40,000 from the Global Environment Facility through the Comoros Programme of Work for Protected Areas (PoWPA) proposal, and partner commitments.

3. Project Partnerships

Management structure: The current internal project organisational diagram is annexed. The only major change this year has been the creation of a Senior Management Team (SMT) to support project implementation following the rapid growth of the project with the arrival of the FDA funding. This is composed of Neil Maddison (BCSF; Project Leader), Dr Christoph Schwitzer (BCSF), Dr Andrew Terry (Durrell) and Dr Richard Young (Durrell). Dr Gill Shepherd of the IUCN will be invited to join this team at the start of Year 3. The SMT provides feedback and support on action points coming out of a monthly report sent by the Project Manager, and holds regular meetings with the Project Manager in the UK.

Local Partners: The main local partner is the Ministry for the Environment of the Government of the Union of the Comoros, for whom the General Secretary chairs the project's steering committee. A second steering committee meeting (members detailed in Year 1 report) was held in Moroni (Grande Comore) in September 2010, with presentations and discussions led by the Project Manager and the Island Coordinator. The steering committee approved the financial and activities reports covering January–August 2010, the report from the first audit in August 2010, and planning and budgeting for the period September 2010 – April 2011. Feedback, comments and suggestions were provided on the development of activities and partnerships. The next steering committee meeting will be held in Anjouan on 12th May 2011. This provides an opportunity for the project team members to present activities, discuss strategy and review progress during the year. The meeting will also discuss the results of the exchange visits to Madagascar made during the year. In addition to the project team and the members of the steering committee, attendees are expected from the local, regional and national media, different government offices at the local and regional levels, other institutions and projects working on development and environment issues in Anjouan, and the villages within the intervention zone. The last part of the day will be allocated to discussion and validation of reports and six-month plans with the steering committee and the project team.

The government organised a field evaluation of the project in March 2010 as part of the PoWPA funding. This was led by the CBD focal point and Director of the Environment, Charaf Eddine Msaidié, and the Ministry's head of monitoring and evaluation. One day was spent on presentations and discussions in the office, including discussions on the reorientation of objectives and targets, and one day reviewing progress in the field. The Ministry team were satisfied with project progress and agreed a revised timetable on some aspects of the work under the PoWPA funding – notably the production of the habitat maps and first species distribution models.

Links have continued to develop with the University of the Comoros. Ecological training and field experience has been provided to four students in Grande Comore, and the project is currently hosting two Masters students to complete their dissertations on the population and distribution of the Anjouan scops owl and nocturnal reptile species.

The project continues to collaborate with various agencies running environmental projects in the Comoros, including the UNDP, IFAD and the FAO. An emphasis will be made in Year 3 on developing these and other local partnerships, particularly on the agricultural aspect of the work; a new project brochure and recent newsletter have been sent to all relevant institutions as a first step towards greater engagement.

UK Partners: The partnership with Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust has continued to evolve, with Drs Andrew Terry and Richard Young joining the project's senior management team. Durrell has a particular responsibility for the ecological side of the work, and this year recruited a second expatriate field biologist who works within the BCSF team in the Comoros (financed through an additional £20k per year in matched funding from Durrell). Richard Young visited the project in June 2010 to review progress and strategy on the ecological targets. A second mission including Andrew Terry is planned for June/July 2011.

The project is also benefiting from closer integration with Durrell's Madagascar programme. Herizo Andranandrasina, their GIS and ecological monitoring expert, participated in Richard Young's mission, and Durrell hosted a field visit to look at their community-based conservation work in Lac Alaotra in March. Further integration is planned for Year 3, including a visit of their participatory ecological monitoring work in Menabe and a species distribution modelling workshop planned for June.

Other Collaboration: Dr Gill Shepherd of the IUCN has replaced Dr Oliver Springate-Baginski of the University of East Anglia as the project's landscape management consultant, with an initial strategy proposal produced in June 2010 (see abstract in annex). Gill provides regular input to the development of project strategy and research via email, including providing links to other specialists in the field of communication and mapping. She has been invited to join the SMT in the UK before a June meeting with the project manager in the UK. A second mission to the Comoros is planned for July 2011.

Dr Tim Brewer of Cranfield University has continued to support the development of habitat mapping using satellite images via email and face-to-face meetings in the UK.

One issue identified at the end of Year 1 was the project's relative isolation, with only one other international NGO operating in the Comoros (although collaboration occurs with the UN agencies present in the field). Effort has been made to combat this by improving regional contacts and learning opportunities through exchange visits to projects in Madagascar. Field visits during January-March 2011 have included projects run by the World Wildlife Fund (WWF), Conservation International (CI), Blue Ventures, Centre International de Recherche Agronmique pour le Développement (CIRAD) and Agriculteurs et Veterinaires Sans Frontières (AVSF). Meetings have also been held in Antananarivo with a range of local NGOs. Following these visits, CI have agreed to support the strategic planning process for the local NGO, with other organisations providing support on participatory mapping processes and integration into regional training networks (including Durrell).

The SMT has also recognised the need to involve an institution with rural development expertise in project implementation. The field visit with AVSF in March and subsequent meetings has resulted in the preparation of a reconnaissance mission by AVSF to provide support on conservation agriculture, agro-forestry, integrated livestock-agriculture models, and landscape modelling. The mission is programmed for mid-May, with one planned output the development of an initial partnership agreement to cover support during the project term. AVSF has experience of intervention in the Comoros, particularly in the livestock sector, but does not currently have any ongoing projects, mainly due to a lack of reliable local counterparts.

4. Project progress

4.1 Progress in carrying out project activities

***Output 1*: Innovative participatory biodiversity conservation and community sustainable development model defined for the Comoro Islands, supported by local policy-makers, and publicised locally and internationally.**

	Activity	Months	Year 2			
			1	2	3	4
1.1	Model elaborated based on community engagement during first two and a half years of project	4				
1.2	Creation of government-led project steering committee and regular meetings	6	X		X	
1.3	National communication strategy launched and implemented	30	X	X	X	X
1.4	Publication of academic articles	6				X

The engagement strategy developed in Year 1 was expanded into a full project communication strategy this year, encompassing outreach and engagement at the village level and communications at the national and international levels (see annex for the 2010-11 communications plan). The document evaluates communications methods used since the beginning of the project, and identifies target audiences at each level, the messages we want to get across and the most appropriate communications tools to be used. The strategy formed the basis of a detailed communications plan for the year which focussed on consolidating and building on the project's presence, both in the Comoros and regionally/internationally. A project presentation style has also been developed, with the production of a set of style guidelines ensuring that all publications and documents produced are professionally presented with a distinctive project identity. Communications outputs this year have included a brochure in French providing background on the project and its approach (see Publications); and the first project newsletter for national and regional/international audiences (in both French and English), which will be produced and distributed every six months (emailed to Darwin in April 2010, see Publications). Press coverage has continued, with two articles covering the project steering committee meetings published in one of the national newspapers.

At the international level, a dedicated area of the BCSF website was created in September 2010 covering project background, activities and team (see Dissemination) This will be reviewed and updated at the start of Year 3. We have also reworked our content on the Darwin website, and will be adding content to FDA, Durrell and WWF websites during Year 3. Members of the project team have also started contributing to the Durrell field blog (see Dissemination), and regular updates are planned for Year 3.

These activities aim to pave the way for communicating project results and the model developed by raising the level of awareness of the project's activities and approach amongst key national, regional, and international contacts. The strategy will be reviewed and updated for Year 3, with a communications plan produced for the year.

The model for participatory integrated landscape management continues to develop, with participatory landscape mapping and zoning being a key element of this next stage. The zoning plans for land use produced as a result of this process will be an important communication tool at the village level, as well as for communicating the overall approach to a wider audience.

Principle communication activities planned for the year to come include: further films on the agricultural activities and techniques supported by the project, steering committee meetings to be held in Anjouan, and the project newsletter. The project will continue to seek press coverage at the national level where appropriate.

Publication of academic articles is planned for Years 3 and 4 of the project, with the first - a paper on research into the Anjouan scops owl (*Otus capnodes*) currently being prepared for publication. Members of the project will also be named authors on a paper on Comorian reptiles being prepared for publication with a German PhD student, with whom the project has been collaborating. First efforts will also be made during Year 3 towards publishing species ID guides through a potential collaboration with Conservation International.

***Output 2*: At least 9 local communities surrounding remaining forest on Anjouan empowered to develop sustainably in a manner compatible with forest conservation and management**

	Activity	Months	Year 2			
			1	2	3	4
2.1	Training in participatory approaches to community work	6				
2.2	Awareness raising, rapport-building and engagement interactions with forest adjacent communities	12				
2.3	Facilitating communities' to analyse the forest conservation and sustainable livelihood situation, and to envision and develop 'win-win' solutions that reduce poverty and protect forest habitat for biodiversity, with the support of community facilitators;	30	X	X	X	X
2.4	Support for self-implementation of community pilot actions and self-development plans, including strengthening of support networks and creation of links with funders and the necessary expertise at all levels	30	X	X	X	X
2.5	Creation of community conserved areas	12				

At the end of Year 2, the community team consists of five village facilitators, and three agricultural technicians. The team is managed by a Belgian Head of Agricultural Development, Joris Backaert, who joined the team in December 2010 bringing over 10 years' experience from East and Central Africa, and Dr Saido, the local Coordinator who joined in July 2010 having previously held the post of Assistant Head of Livestock Support at the Environment and Agriculture Ministry. Expertise is being developed within the local team in the fields of participatory research, NGO development, agricultural development, and project and team management (2.1). The current facilitators are also tasked with training new team members, with three internships during this year, one resulting in a new contract with the project.

This team is currently working in nine villages in the Moya region of Anjouan. As detailed in the Year 1 report, the project has identified support for the intensification of agriculture on an agro-ecological model as a key driver towards protecting forest. Support in this area has continued to develop and expand during Year 2. The project enlarged its work on improving field structure to reduce erosion through the plantation of tree cuttings on over 500 fields (details in annex). The use of these techniques has substantially improved field fertility in other regions of Anjouan, so organising exchange visits to these areas serves as a good entry point for individual and communal natural resources management. Support for crop production was provided to 88 farmers on vegetable market gardening, with 22 demonstration plots developed in the villages using the credit scheme for seeds and agricultural equipment developed during Year 1. Technical support on improved field structure and crop production is provided by the agricultural team and, since July 2010, by 18 village 'relay trainers'. These are local farmers selected on the basis of their motivation and performance in field improvements over the previous season who have been trained by the project to support others from their village. The

project will continue to work with those who have shown good results during Year 2, based on evaluations conducted in the field.

Though the focus had already shifted away from communal activities during Year 1 (see Year 1 report for explanations), poultry farming was still supported as a group activity. Despite several restructuring efforts, group organisation remained problematic for the communal poultry unit, and at the end of Year 2 activities are at a standstill. Efforts have been concentrated on developing micro-poultry breeding at the household level, with 5 households engaged at the end of Year 2. The project provides technical advice and credit for small poultry housing equipment.

More recently the project has started to support the livestock sector through providing access to local breed cows in order to integrate livestock into improvement of fertility levels. Demonstration plots are being set up to show the benefits of careful manure use (a Masters study organised by the project in Year 1 showed that the use of manure was poorly understood in the project zone), with each field owner receiving a local breed cow. Following insemination and gestation, calves produced will be left with the cows until they have been weaned. At this point the project will pass the mother onto a new farmer. In this way the farmer has a vested interest in looking after the cow so that the calf they receive develops healthily.

A test-phase was supported through a change request made in July 2010. The first cow was bought and allocated to a farmer in December 2010, and a further four will be allocated in April, allowing for evaluation and lesson-learning in the meantime. One of the challenges for the farmers is maintaining a constant supply of forage for the cow; this is being partly addressed by planting forage trees and grass crops.

The agricultural support at the individual level links directly to the wider landscape management process that has been developed. As discussed in the Year 1 report, natural resource protection is based around water management. The agricultural support offered, in addition to reducing agricultural extension pressure on remaining forest, contributes to water retention through improved soil fertility and increased vegetative cover.

At the communal level, efforts have focussed on developing activities with the three water management committees created during Year 1. Water management workshops for the three villages of Nindri, Ouzini and Outsa were held in November – December 2010 to plan activities for a six month period. Activities over the year have concentrated on restoration of informal water protection zones identified in Year 1 through tree planting coupled with small investments in improving water infrastructure in the villages. Water infrastructure is over twenty years old on the most part and is now in very poor condition in most villages. Financing small rehabilitation of these systems is seen as a way of encouraging the water groups and villagers whilst they engage in the much longer-term process to achieve water security through improved management of forest and agro-forestry areas. Improvements to field structure have also, where possible, been focussed in fields above water sources in order to reduce erosion in these areas and contribute to securing water resources.

In the last two months, the project has embarked on a participatory mapping process in these three villages that will be key to developing the sustainable land management model, integrating the different strands of the project, and for communication purposes at all levels. The first stage consists of mapping rivers, village boundaries, and traditional agricultural zones. This serves as an entry point to developing a clearer understanding of the differences in the landscape in terms of the crops farmed, trees cultivated or used, problems faced by the farmers, and potential management solutions at both the individual and communal level.

The process (developed with technical support from Dr. Gill Shepherd and the Malagasy NGO Fanamby) starts with participatory zoning sessions with the water committees in the villages. High-resolution images from Google Earth are used, with team members helping the villagers to use permanent markers to identify important features and delineate zones on a plastic

cover. These maps are then validated with different groups and individuals within each village (see annex for an image of the results of this first phase in two villages). The next stage involves field visits with farmers to agricultural zones in order to improve understanding of the different zones. The last stage consists of participatory focus group meetings in the villages with groups of farmers from each zone. Information gathered in the field is validated, allowing identification and agreement on potential individual and collective management actions within the zone.

Though this last stage has yet to be completed, potential management actions at the individual level include improved agricultural techniques and disease control, appropriate rotations that improve field fertility and identification of tree crop demands to assist in tree nursery development. Potential actions at the collective level include improved protection of forest areas, pathway construction, and development of small watering holes or tree nurseries.

The second layer of the map will thus consist of different zones marked for different management actions. Eventually a third layer will be added – the results of the habitat mapping and species modelling (Output 3). This will allow villagers to integrate this data into their collective management decisions by, for example, prioritising high-biodiversity forest areas for protection over low-biodiversity areas, or organising special protection for particular areas such as Livingstone's fruit bat (*Pteropus livingstonii*) roost sites. Simple GPS units that include a Dictaphone function are being ordered so that villagers will be able to delineate zones themselves, with data inputted directly into Google Earth on a computer in the field. We hope the result will thus be the development of a truly participatory land management process, with all actions contributing to improved management of natural resources, whether soil, water, forest or biodiversity.

Activities during Year 3 will focus on the water catchment and forest areas above the three villages where nascent water management committees have developed. This will ensure that we do not overstretch resources as management activities are identified and implemented. Support for sustainable agricultural intensification will be continued in the other six villages, with the mapping process rolled out once the team is ready to enlarge the scale of intervention.

As detailed in the partnerships section, this component of the project is to receive additional support from AVSF, an organisation specialised in agricultural development, from Year 3 onwards (funded through the FDA). Their expertise in conservation agriculture will be particularly important in identifying crop types, rotations and vegetative cover that can be introduced in different agro-ecological zones to improve both fertility and water infiltration into underground aquifers.

***Output 3*: Protected area zoning plan produced from a biodiversity perspective, and biodiversity and habitat quality monitoring system created**

	Activity	**Months**	**Year 2**			
			1	**2**	**3**	**4**
3.1	Training in biodiversity and habitat monitoring techniques	30	X	X	X	X
3.2	Annual surveys of forest quality, butterflies, birds, mammals and reptiles	12			X	X
3.3	Development of models and gap analysis based on monitoring data	6			X	X
3.4	Development of zoning proposal based on models and gap analysis	6				X
3.5	Publications of survey results and model participatory ecological monitoring system	6				X

The ecological research and monitoring team currently consists of an expatriate head employed by BCSF, an expatriate field biologist employed by Durrell, and three local technicians. The Durrell field biologist arrived in February 2011, allowing an intensive training plan for team development to be put in place in March 2011 (3.1). Weekly training sessions are

now being held, with scores noted to allow for evaluation of progress. The training includes development of species identification, GPS use, logistical planning, monthly reporting, data analysis techniques, GIS, and critical reviewing of scientific papers. Potential for external training or training support will be discussed with the Durrell International Training Centre during Year 3.

Two technicians from Mohéli and four students from Grande Comore have participated in surveys and been trained in the field methods and techniques, but the limited time spent on these islands means it is not possible to train them to a level permitting independent data collection.

The data set (including habitat data and abundance and presence data for birds, reptiles, butterflies and important mammal species) for wet and dry season surveys was completed for Anjouan (29 transects) and Mohéli (14 transects) in January 2011. Following this, the team has focused on opportunistic surveys to explore areas not covered by the transects and gain valuable presence-absence data which will be integrated into the species distribution mapping. To date, these surveys have been conducted in Anjouan and Grande Comore (Karthala region). Several patches of good quality remaining forest have been recorded and data from the Moya region will be integrated into the participatory zoning process.

Additional effort has been focussed on surveying the Anjouan scops owl. In May 2010 a student from Imperial College London supported by project ecological technicians completed his Master's thesis on the distribution and population estimation of this species. Repeat surveys have been carried out by the project team during the 2010-2011 wet season. A peer reviewed publication from the results of the dry season is currently in production (3.5); this will be followed by a publication of the results of the wet season surveys.

Completion of the initial data set has taken extra time due to the low capacity of local field staff – the reason for the hiring of a second expatriate. Data analysis and production of initial distribution maps (3.3) will now be completed in May-June 2011 following a dedicated training workshop organised by Durrell, to be held in Madagascar. Species distribution modelling will be conducted for the different taxa surveyed in order to produce maps of the predicted distribution of species richness. From the produced predicted distribution maps, areas of high biodiversity will be identified. This will provide the information necessary for the development of the zoning proposal throughout the three islands (3.4), and for integration of results into the participatory mapping and zoning process underway in three villages.

The land cover mapping process started in April 2010 with satellite image purchased from RapidEye (5m resolution imagery) using Darwin funds. Ground-truthing data collection was completed from July to September using a hand held GPS unit. This data was then manually digitised for used in training and testing the land cover classifications. Initial pixel and object based classifications were developed for Anjouan between November and January and for Grande Comore between January and March (see images in annex). Accuracy assessments of the produced maps using the ground-truthing data will be conducted and final maps produced by June. These maps will be used to assess the current extent of remaining forest and for the species distribution modelling of the taxa surveyed. Cloud cover over highland forest areas is a major issue on the satellite images; Dr Tim Brewer Cranfield University is working with the project team to try and resolve this issue before first publication.

***Output 4*: New local NGO created and shows commitment to be developed into a major independent force for conservation in the Comoros** (NB the indicators and activities under this output have been changed; see discussion in progress towards project outputs)

	Activity	Months	Year 2			
			1	2	3	4
4.1	Personalised development plans created for local team members	3			X	X
4.2	In-house training programme developed, with higher-level training delivered through Madagascar networks	24	X	X	X	X
4.3	Engagement of further local, regional and international partnerships through development of steering committee and Madagascar exchange visits	24	X	X	X	X
4.4	Strategic planning workshops	2			X	

Long term training and personal development plans were developed and agreed upon for each member of the team, completed in March-April 2011 (4.1). The training identified includes organised 'in-house' training sessions, engaging staff from relevant NGOs in Madagascar to deliver training on specific subjects, mentoring within the team, and self-driven improvement of knowledge and skills through reading and research. A lack of IT skills had already been identified in evaluation sessions as a major hindrance to the team developing project management, fundraising and administrative skills, so in-house training this year (4.2) has focussed on building these skills through practising producing documents and processing data related to the project. Training focussed on specific roles within the team is discussed in the relevant sections above.

Training activities for Year 3 will be focussed on developing skills in project management, fundraising, and project communications, as well as field based skills such as agricultural techniques, facilitation, and social research and analysis according to individual team members' development plans and roles.

A key activity this year was the organisation of exchange visits to Madagascar (4.3). In January 2011 a group of four facilitators, the project coordinator and the communications officer were hosted by project teams from WWF, CI and Blue Ventures). The trip had two main objectives: to learn about different approaches to conservation and natural resource management in order to improve the projects' strategy, and to learn about the process of developing a local NGO from the staff of home-grown Malagasy NGOs including Fanamby, l'Homme et L'Environnement and Asity. Relationships with these organisations will be developed in order to garner support for the future NGO, and to benefit from training networks in Madagascar.

A day-long NGO strategic planning session was organised in-house in January 2011 to build on the results of the NGO planning workshop held in March 2010 (4.4). This produced draft strategic objectives for each of the new NGO's fields of intervention, and discussed the results of an initial consultation carried out on the legal implications of different options for the structure of a new NGO. However, it was felt that the project team need further expert involvement to be able to progress successfully on this activity. Discussions were held with Conservation International in January and March 2011, resulting in an offer of support to complete strategic planning. A further workshop is thus programmed for 2011.

***Output 5:* Monitoring and evaluation**

5.1 Participatory community livelihood, institutional and attitude monitoring

The collection of data on participating farmers and fields worked on allows for monitoring of the major project activities, most notably concerning field improvements and landscape management (data in annex). Livelihood monitoring consisted of poverty analyses conducted in four villages, and a study conducted by a French Masters student on agricultural and forest

resources in two villages. Participatory mapping combined with livelihood monitoring is now being put in place to allow for a more in-depth livelihood analysis as project activities enlarge.

5.2 Annual analysis of biodiversity and habitat data by Durrell
Data for taxa surveyed (3.3) has been entered into a database. Analysis is underway and will include investigations into endemicity, species richness and diversity, community composition, encounter rates and habitat suitability modelling, with first models produced in June following the training workshop in Madagascar.

4.2 Progress towards Project Outputs

***Output 1*: Innovative participatory biodiversity conservation and community sustainable development model defined for the Comoro Islands, supported by local policy-makers, and publicised locally and internationally.**

Development of the project strategy towards a conservation and sustainable development model for the Comoros has continued this year, following input from Dr Gill Shepherd, integration of lessons learnt from exchange visits to Madagascar, and feedback from the project's steering committee. The participatory mapping currently being applied is seen as a key tool that will better integrate the results of the different components of the work, start to develop a sense of land management planning within the villages, and serve as an important communications tool at all levels.

The improvement in project communications this year following the recruitment of a dedicated expatriate communications officer is an important step in building project credibility, and improving knowledge of the project and its activities among key audiences. New project communication materials developed this year including the project brochure and newsletter have been distributed widely and well received, building the project's profile at the national, regional and international levels. Strong communication at this stage acts as a precursor for dissemination of the project results and landscape management model in Years 3 and 4.

Nevertheless, a commitment for the model to be integrated into local policy was felt ambitious for the timeframe of this first phase, particularly as this would be dependent on government intervention, which is to some extent out of project control. The output has therefore been modified to 'supported by local policy-makers', with the steering committee meetings supported by improved communications the key activities as the project develops during Year 3.

***Output 2*: At least 9 local communities surrounding remaining forest on Anjouan empowered to develop sustainably in a manner compatible with forest conservation and management**

The project is now working in the nine villages on Anjouan planned for support during this phase. Expansion of agricultural support has been an important achievement this year, with over 500 farmers engaged. Other indicators monitored include the amount of credit provided and reimbursed, the number of tree cuttings and trees planted, and the number of fields under sustainable management (see annex for full data).

The large expansion of agricultural intensification this year has stretched project resources. In order to target priority forest areas, the project will now concentrate efforts on water catchment and forest areas, while continuing agricultural intensification support at a lower level in the six other villages. The villages of Outsa, Ouzini and Nindri have been selected on the basis of their proximity to and use of forest areas, and progress in the development of water management committees during the first years of the project, although several of the other villages in which the project works impact on the selected zone. Participatory mapping and research into land use in these targeted zones has commenced in order to identify different agricultural and

natural resource management actions that can be developed at both the individual and communal levels. The engagement of AVSF will allow the targeting of different geographical zones with specific agro-ecological advice.

***Output 3*: Protected area zoning plan produced from a biodiversity perspective, and biodiversity and habitat quality monitoring system created**

Excellent progress has continued on this outcome, with the full data set now complete for dry and wet seasons across the three islands of the Comoros. The first versions of land cover maps for Grande Comore and Anjouan have been produced; these will be completed in May - June 2010. Data analysis and initial species distribution modelling to identify high biodiversity zones will then be completed in June 2011. The arrival of the second expatriate biologist has already enabled much swifter advances on all aspects of the ecological work, and will ensure that training for the local technicians can be reinforced.

Initial activities in Year 3 will concentrate on gap analyses of the current dataset, reporting of current findings, and publication of the land cover and species distribution maps. With an annual dataset complete for the three islands, during Year 3 we will be focusing the field research in the project zone of the Moya forest. This will enable the necessary detailed zoning by importance for biodiversity. The research will also incorporate community integration to further understand the value of biodiversity at the community level and identify the appropriate approaches to biodiversity conservation.

In addition, the detailed research on species of conservation concern will be enlarged to encompass not only the Anjouan scops owl but also Livingstone's fruit bat. Research on Livingstone's fruit bat will initially focus on roost counts to estimate current population size, building on information previously held by the partners. In September 2011 an MSc student from Bristol University will be conducting her research project on the dietary requirements of the species.

***Output 4*: New local NGO created and shows commitment to be developed into a major independent force for conservation in the Comoros**

Following an SMT meeting in the UK in February 2011, it was agreed to concentrate on progress in the field, and wait until the second half of Year 3 before working on strategic planning for the NGO. At the same time, doubts were raised about whether the NGO would be viable within the lifetime of the project, partly due to the lack of appropriate leaders and overall capacity. Whilst the current team is highly motivated and committed to the development of an NGO, and several individuals could become future leaders, the project has struggled to find appropriate people to fill leadership roles in the shorter term. As discussed in the Year 1 report, this is due to the very small pool of local candidates, and the general low levels of capacity within the Comoros.

It therefore seems likely that NGO development will have to be based on developing the skills of capable but relatively low-skilled staff, which will be a longer process. Conservation International has committed to sending experts from Madagascar to support a second strategic planning workshop in the second half of Year 3. A decision will be taken at that time as to whether the NGO will be created before the end of project, or during a second stage of intervention, and based on this a timetable towards NGO creation will be produced. In the meantime, efforts will continue to be made to recruit higher-level local staff, and activities under this output will concentrate on training, and development of partnerships with local and regional institutions that could support the future NGO.

The engagement of regional partners will be crucial to the development of an effective NGO in the longer-term. The commitments of CI to support strategic planning and AVSF to provide

agricultural expertise are thus very positive developments. With the support of these and other regional institutions for training of the project team, the goal of NGO is realistic, whether before the end of project or during a subsequent phase of intervention.

4.3 Standard Measures

Table 1 Project Standard Output Measures

Code No	Description	Year 1 Total	Year 2 Total	Total
2	Number of Masters Students research dissertations supported	2	4 (1 French, 1 British, 2 Comorian)	6
4A 4B	Number of undergraduate students to receive training Number of training weeks to be provided	0	4 (Comorian) 4	4
5	Comorian project staff trained in participatory engagement methodologies	6	8	14
	Comorian project staff trained in agricultural support	8	8	16
	Comorian project staff trained in ecological monitoring techniques	2	3	5
6A 6B	Comorian project interns trained in participatory engagement methodologies	2 staff x 2 weeks	3 staff x 2 weeks	76 weeks
	Comorian project interns trained in agricultural support	6 staff x 1 week	3 staff x 2 weeks	
	Comorian project interns trained in ecological monitoring techniques	4 staff x 2 weeks	3 staff x 6 weeks	
	Comorian project staff with improved IT skills	6 staff x 1 week	11 staff x 2 weeks	
8	UK project leader visits	4 weeks	2 weeks	242 weeks
	UK Project Manager	49 weeks	45 weeks	
	UK Head of Ecological Research and Monitoring	29 weeks	47 weeks	
	UK Field Biologist (Durrell post)	n/a	4 weeks (first recruit) 7 weeks (new recruit)	
	UK Communications and Outreach Officer	n/a	47 weeks	
	Durrell staff visits	3 weeks	1 week	
	UEA – project evaluation and livelihood consulting	2 weeks	0 weeks	
	IUCN – project evaluation and orientation	n/a	2 weeks	
12A	Ecological monitoring and agricultural support monitoring databases established	2	0	2
15A	Number of national press releases in Comoros	3	0	3
15B	Number of local press releases in	5	0	5

	Comoros			
15C	Number of national press releases in UK	2	0	2
15D	Number of local press releases in UK	2	0	2
16A 16B 16C	Number of newsletters produced Estimated circulation of each newsletter in host country Estimated circulation of each newsletter in the UK (Estimated circulation to regional institutions)	0	1 80 50 80	1 80 50 80
18A 18C	Number of national TV programmes/features in Comoros Number of local TV programmes/features in Comoros	1 3	0 0	1 3
19A 19C	Number of national radio interviews/features in Comoros Number of local radio interviews/features in Comoros	2 3	0 0	2 3
22	Number of permanent field plots to be established during the project and continued after Darwin funding has ceased	45 transects		45
23	French Development Agency – €750,000 signed	~ £25,000 so far	~ £250,000	£451,450
	Bristol	£36,000	£25,000	
	Durrell	£18,500	£12,250 £20,000 new post	
	Global Environment Facility	£13,000	£9,000	
	Planet Action – satellite images and software	~ £12,000		
	Birdlife International – scops owl research	£8,700		
	Comorian government	£8,500	£8,500	
	British High Commission Mauritius	£5000		

Table 2 Publications

Type (e.g. journals, manual, CDs)	**Detail** (title, author, year)	**Available from** (e.g. contact address, website)	**Cost £**
Strategy document	ECDD Communication Strategy, September 2010	The project	n/a
Information brochure	Project ECDD information brochure, March 2011	Project website (in French)	n/a
Newsletter	Mahabari – the ECDD project newsletter, 2010 round up, March 2011	Project website (in French)	n/a
Masters dissertation	Habitat suitability modelling for the Anjouan Scops owl, a cryptic unstudied species, Samuel Pelham Lloyd. Presented at Imperial College London, 2010.	ICCS / The project	n/a
Masters dissertation	Etude des modalités d'exploitation des terroirs villageois et de la ressource forestière dans 2 villages riverains de la forêt de Moya à Anjouan : Adda et Outsa (Union des Comores), Baudouin Xavier. Presented at Université Paris I, 2010.	The project	n/a

4.4 Progress towards the project purpose and outcomes

1. Threatened forest areas managed more sustainably by communities in Anjouan
The project has continued to support natural resource management groups from the villages of Nindri, Ouzini and Outsa. Progress this year has been focussed on building the capacity of the management groups through facilitating workshops to fix long term goals for the groups, and create action plans.

The participative mapping and zoning process described earlier is an essential stage in the development of community landscape management as it gives all stakeholders a better understanding of how the landscape is used and how sustainable management across the whole landscape can be achieved, resulting in zoning of agricultural, agro-forestry and forested areas across the landscape, with management actions and rules of use identified for different zones.

2. To ensure forest based livelihoods of at least 9 communities surrounding the remaining forest are more compatible with forest conservation
Over 500 people have been engaged in agricultural activities aimed at improving fertility and yields during the past year, which will contribute to reducing pressure on remaining forest areas from agricultural extension. The support of AVSF will be important in developing further agro-ecological agricultural support towards improving yields during Year 3.

Monitoring indicators are included in the attached annex. Support towards the development of a more detailed livelihood analysis to form a basis for future monitoring will form part of the Terms of Reference for Gill Shepherd's next visit in July.

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

The work on intensifying agriculture aims to improve sustainability of use of natural resources – forest, water and soil. The techniques introduced take many years to become established and show results. While the project has managed to get a large number people on board with these new techniques this year, it is still a small proportion of the population. However, experience from the Niumakélé area of Anjouan shows that once these techniques and the species of trees used have been introduced to an area, they are replicated widely over a longer timescale.

5. Monitoring, evaluation and lessons

A system of reporting against a wide range of indicators to monitor community actions was introduced at the start of Year 2. Results against each indicator are included are included as an appendix.

A new methodology proposed by Dr Gill Shepherd for analysing relative poverty levels in each village was introduced towards the end of Year 2. The process involves a subset of the community classing each household in the village into different poverty 'levels' according to factors they decide upon. The results of these analyses are being cross-referenced with the beneficiaries of project support to find out to what level the project is helping the poorest members of the community - who are most likely to rely on forest livelihoods or upland farming. The results will also be linked to the participatory mapping to identify land tenure of different classes in different areas. The project is now developing more detailed socio-economic indicators to integrate with this data.

Year 2 has seen a large expansion in project activities. Whilst this has been successful, it was felt that the project was in danger of overreaching its resources, and that the key was to develop a strong working model, rather than cover more ground. With this in mind, it was decided during Year 2 to concentrate integrated landscape management work on forest areas and water catchment areas above three villages. Agricultural intensification and livelihood support will continue in nine villages, with land management planning rolled out when the team is ready.

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

A list of acronyms is provided at the start of this report.
Basic socioeconomic data has been compiled for each village and is included as an appendix.

7. Other comments on progress not covered elsewhere

1. FDA administration: The financial and administrative requirements of the FDA, including an audit every six months, have placed a significant constraint on project progress in the field this year. It has been difficult to recruit local secretarial support for the project, but a strong local secretary was found on a second attempt. The result was that the burden of work has fallen heavily on the project manager, restricting his engagement in other areas of the project. Following a support mission in December from auditors, the project manager and team have met FDA requirements and implemented most of the requirement management and reporting systems. The annual audit in April was completed successfully. The FDA has now agreed to offer the local secretary a full-time role so that she can be trained to take responsibility for finances and administration away from the project manager.

2. Higher-level local posts: The difficulties described in the Year 1 report continue to impact on the project, with a potential knock-on effect on the timeline for the creation of the local NGO.

The project will be launching a recruitment for a new local coordinator in Madagascar in July 2011 so that the facilitation team can benefit from the support of an experienced conservation and development practitioner. A further call for higher-trained agronomists and ecologists will be put out from August 2011.

3. Social complexity in the villages: The complicated power relationships within Comorian villages, and the ability of powerful development 'courtiers' to capture project benefits for a small network of influence continue to cause difficulties for the project, particularly in the first two villages of intervention, Kowé and Nindri, where the project has been working since 2008. In some ways this is encouraging: lessons learnt have been applied in subsequent villages, and the facilitator team have developed strategies for working around the courtiers and reaching more people. At the same time, engagement in activities in Kowé is at a minimal level as the courtiers (who formed part of 'village committees' in 2008 and stole money from collective actions), have succeeded in deterring interest in project interventions. The project plans to create a strong communications drive in Kowé later in the year, when the impact of interventions in other villages can be clearly seen.

8. Sustainability

Much is covered in earlier sections on communications, NGO development, and sustainable use benefits.

As detailed in the Year 1 report, FDA funding will continue until at least the end of December 2012, and Darwin has accepted a no-cost extension to fit with that timeframe. The partners are committed to seeking funds for a subsequent intervention, during which further support will be given to the local NGO on a pathway towards independence.

9. Dissemination

A4 tri-fold leaflet explaining approach followed by the project
Target audience: Key contacts at the national level: decision makers (national and local government), international and local environmental and development organisations and agencies operational in the Comoros, media organisations.

1st issue of bi-annual project newsletter detailing project developments
Target audience: Key contacts at the national level: decision makers (national and local government), international and local environmental and development organisations and agencies operational in the Comoros, media organisations.

30 minute film on intensifying agriculture to launch the 2010-11 engagement campaign
Target audience: projected in six villages during evening events

Project website at www.bcsf.org.uk/comoros aiming to share experiences, raise awareness and gain support and recognition at the international level. So far in English only, but looking to develop French version. 885 unique views of project homepage since October.
Target audience: Partners, funders all international contacts, interested UK public Also national and regional level when French version online.

Three entries posted on Durrell blog at http://blog.durrell.org
Target audience: Interested UK audience, project followers
Links from and to the project website, thereby increasing relevance of project pages in Google search results and therefore readership of website contributing to an ongoing search engine optimisation process for the website. Three articles viewed 885 times combined.

Two articles in national press covering the steering group meetings.

Two articles in the BirdLife Africa magazine covering the project's research into the Anjouan scops owl.
Target audience: BirdLife Africa's distribution is likely to include conservation organisations and interested parties across Africa.

10. Project Expenditure

Table 3 Project expenditure during the reporting period (Defra Financial Year 1 April 2010 to 31 March 2011)

Figures in the budget refer to the original budget, incorporating the change request accepted by Darwin in July 2010.

Item	Budget	Expenditure	Variance	Notes
Salaries				
Richard Young				
Hugh Doulton (PM)				
Katie Green (Ecol)				<+/- 10%
Kitty Brayne (Comms)				As per change request (Comms Officer)
Anjouan Coordinator				As per change request (to Comms Officer)
Anjouan facilitators				<+/- 10%
Overheads - UK				UEA overheads for OSB; other half integrated in Gill Shepherd's salary
Comoros				<+/- 10%
Travel and subsistence - UK				<+/- 10%
Comoros				<+/- 10%
Operating costs - Comoros				<+/- 10%
Capital items/equipment				Google Earth licences (as per exchange request for fund to support community actions below)
Consultancy - Dr Oliver Springate-Baginski (UEA)				OSB replaced by Gill Shepherd halfway through year as per email exchange with Darwin
Dr Gill Shepherd (IUCN)				
Tim Brewer (Cranfield - GIS)				<+/- 10%
Conferences, seminars, etc - UK				
Comoros				
Agricultural experimentation funds (formed from Mohéli salaries)				
TOTAL				

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

Photographs available on request:
Forest/landscapes
Birds, reptiles, butterflies, orchids
Community research/consultation sessions
Agricultural activities: techniques
Team photos in the field

Report of progress and achievements against Logical Framework for Financial Year: 2010/11

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2010 - March 2011	Actions required/planned for next period
Goal: *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* *The conservation of biological diversity,* *The sustainable use of its components, and* *The fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilisation of genetic resources*			*(do not fill not applicable)*
Purpose 1. Threatened forest areas managed more sustainably by communities in Anjouan 2. To ensure livelihoods of 9 communities surrounding the remaining forest are more compatible with forest conservation	Agreements on natural resource management of remaining forest operational by End of Project Livelihood monitoring shows improved sustainability and reduced poverty by End of Project	Mapping process in places to define community landscape management strategy and zones for forest protection 500 farmers engaged in implementing sustainable techniques to intensify agricultural production in zones surrounding the Moya forest.	Mapping process described under output two to be completed in at least three villages; individual and collective management actions identified and implemented
Output 1 Innovative participatory biodiversity conservation and community sustainable development model defined for the Comoro Islands, supported by local policymakers, and publicised locally and internationally	Process recorded and evaluated by partners; Government participation in process development; Successful local awareness campaign established in partnership with local media	Evaluation mission by Government representatives; second steering committee meeting Communication materials distributed to a wide range of contacts informing and updating them of project approach and progress Popular film produced on agricultural techniques and diffused in intervention zone	First steering committee meeting in Anjouan at start of Year 3 to involve local media, villages and representatives from government and partner institutions Year 3 communications plan will focus on local level, plus continued production of tools developed at national and international levels
Activity 1.1 Participatory conservation model elaborated and published based on community engagement during first two and a half years of project		Major developments in defining model based on participative mapping process Communication materials laying ground for publicising model	Mapping process to be defined through testing and evaluation from consultants
Activity 1.2 Creation of government-led project steering committee; discussion of wider application of project results		Two successful steering group meetings during Year 2 involving prominent representatives of key organisations within the Comoros	Third and fourth steering committee meetings to be held in Anjouan

Activity 1.3 National communication strategy launched		In-depth strategy developed and implemented producing new communication tools at the local, national and international levels	Updated strategy and Year 3 communications plan to be produced at start of year
Activity 1.4 Publication of academic articles		Paper in preparation on Anjouan scops owl research	Anjouan Scops Owl paper sent for publication; potential collaboration with CI on publishing species identification guides
Output 2 At least 9 local communities surrounding remaining forest on Anjouan empowered to develop sustainably in a manner compatible with forest conservation and management	Success of micro-solutions implemented by each community; Operational agreements active on natural resource management; Livelihood monitoring shows empowerment progress	Sustainable intensification of agriculture promoting forest conservation, water management and reduced erosion widely taken up across 9 villages Natural resource management committees active in three villages Participative process developed to empower these three villages to manage their landscape sustainably	Targets for number of direct beneficiaries to be completed at start of Year 3; Possibility for implementation of protection of some forest areas to be implemented by end of year
Activity 2.1 Training in participatory approaches to community work		Training ongoing with the creation of personal development plans for each team member Facilitation team trained in new methodologies including poverty analysis and participative mapping	External training to be sought from Madagascar; new research programmes to be developed with Gill Shepherd
Activity 2.2 Awareness raising, rapport-building and engagement interactions with forest adjacent communities		Project staff continue to enjoy good relationships within the communities targeted Film evenings, group meetings and exchange visits have proved successful in awareness-raising and engaging with new people	Improved local communication to be main focus of Year 3 communications plan
Activity 2.3 Facilitating communities' to analyse the forest conservation and sustainable livelihood situation, and to envision and develop 'win-win' solutions that reduce poverty and protect forest habitat for biodiversity, with the support of community facilitators		Participative approach to analysing problems and finding solutions has continued to be applied by the facilitation team to develop ways for the project to support individuals and groups to improve their livelihoods in a sustainable manner Where activities developed earlier have proven unsuccessful, (i.e. collective poultry farming), efforts have been focussed elsewhere so as to provide	Participatory mapping process to be used to engage more villagers in activities at individual and collective levels

		the maximum benefits in terms of livelihoods and conservation	
Activity 2.4 Support for self-implementation of community pilot actions and self-development plans, including strengthening of support networks and creation of links with funders and the necessary expertise at all levels		Workshops were held in three villages with natural resource management committees to develop long term visions for each group, and action plans for the short term Over 600 direct beneficiaries engaged in livelihood activities	Next set of workshop to be held at start of Year 3 Development plans for local committees to be created and implemented
Activity 2.5 Creation of community conserved areas		Participative mapping process developed this year will be a key tool for the project and the targeted communities to designate areas for conservation Designation of important areas for conservation in terms of biodiversity richness are nearing completion through analysis of monitoring data and the production of high resolution land cover maps	Potential for small community conserved areas to be operational by end of year
Output 3. Protected area zoning plan produced from a biodiversity perspective, and biodiversity and habitat quality monitoring system created	Full set of monitoring manuals produced in French; Data collection and analysis reviewed and published annually; Zoning plan created in consultation with government and local communities	In depth training programme for ecological monitoring team in place and team showing progress Methodologies consolidated and written up in French as working documents Data collection and entry complete, and analysis underway	Training in analysis and modelling methods with Durrell in Madagascar scheduled for early Year 3; Habitat maps to be completed; First species distribution models completed and potentially integrated into community forest management decisions
Activity 3.1 Training in biodiversity and habitat monitoring techniques		Team receiving on-going training in methodologies in the field, and intensive training programme ongoing	Reinforced training programme to be implemented
Activity 3.2 Annual surveys of forest quality, butterflies, birds, mammals and reptiles		Wet and dry season surveys complete for all three islands	Ongoing
Activity 3.3 Development of models and gap analysis based on monitoring data		Data prepared	Training in Madagascar will allow this activity to be completed in early Year 3; gap analysis conducted and surveys targeted to these areas
Activity 3.4 Development of zoning proposal based on models and gap analysis			Towards end of Year 3

Activity 3.5 Publications of results and model participatory ecological monitoring system			Planned for Year 4
Output 4 New local NGO created and shows commitment to be developed into a major independent force for conservation in the Comoros	Capacity building of local project team; Development of partnerships with Comorian, regional and international institutions Strategic pathway for NGO creation elaborated	Training programme in place, further opportunities for training being sought, particularly within networks in Madagascar Existing project partners committed to supporting a new NGO, and securing funding for a second phase Partnerships with University developing, AVSF in Madagascar and other regional and international institutions	Strategic planning developed in Year 2 will be further elaborated with the support of CI during Year 3 to produce a realistic timeline and plan for NGO development External training opportunities sought and implemented Further exchange visits with Madagascar planned
Activity 4.1 Personalised development plans created for local team members		Training needs identified on an individual basis through evaluation of strengths, weaknesses, career progression and role requirements	Training plans and results reviewed every six months
Activity 4.2 In-house training programme developed, with higher-level training delivered through Madagascar networks		Skill-sharing programme in place between team members, in particular the ex-pat and Comorian staff Further opportunities identified in Madagascar	Continued training to be delivered and reported
Activity 4.3 Engagement of further local, regional and international partnerships through development of steering committee and Madagascar exchange visits		Two visits to Madagascar during year with good results; one further steering committee meeting	Accent of development of local partners early in Year 3; further exchange visits with Madagascar planned
Activity 4.4 Strategic planning workshops		Follow up to three day workshop held in March Year 1 produced basic strategic objectives	Further workshop planned benefitting from support from CI in around six months time

Project's full current logframe (NB includes tracked changes from last version submitted in October 2010 following email exchanges with Eilidh Young in April 2011)

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
Goal: Effective contribution in support of the implementation of the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Convention on Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), and the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species (CMS), as well as related targets set by countries rich in biodiversity but constrained in resources.			
Sub-Goal: Anjouan endemic forest biodiversity conserved through sustainable management of remaining forest	GIS monitoring shows reduced forest loss; Ground habitat surveys show forest regeneration; Biodiversity monitoring surveys show stable populations (all within 2 years of End of Project)	Data from local NGO's annual ground surveys and government and NGO's annual GIS models	
Purpose: 1. Threatened forest areas managed more sustainably by communities in Anjouan 2. To ensure ~~forest based~~ livelihoods of ~~at least 10~~ 9 communities surrounding the remaining forest are more compatible with forest conservation	Agreements on natural resource management of remaining forest operational by End of Project Livelihood monitoring shows improved ~~sustainability and reduced poverty~~compatibility with forest conservation by End of Project	Accords signed and published; community conserved areas created Data published from locally-adapted livelihood monitoring in each engaged community at halfway stage and End of Project	Political situation remains stable; Government remains committed to project; Remaining unengaged communities support project following initial contact
Outputs: 1. Innovative participatory biodiversity conservation and community sustainable development model defined for the Comoro Islands, ~~integrated into local policy~~supported by local policymakers, and publicised locally and internationally	Process recorded and evaluated by partners; Government ~~integration of process into policy documents by End of Project~~participation in process development; Successful local awareness campaign established in partnership with local media	Evaluations published and reviewed by external consultants; At least 2 academic papers published; ~~Government policy documents~~Steering committee minutes; 'How-to' guide published locally, and regionally/ internationally if demand At least 3 films shown and 10 articles published in local press	Sufficient alternatives to unsustainable actions can be defined and implemented; Government remains committed to learning from~~integrating~~ new approach, and integrating lessons into conservation and rural development plans
2. At least ~~10~~ 9 local communities surrounding remaining forest on Anjouan empowered to develop sustainably in a manner compatible with forest conservation and management	Success of micro-solutions implemented by each community; Operational agreements active on natural resource management; Livelihood monitoring shows empowerment progress	Internal project reports on communities' progress; Evaluation reports by ~~UEA~~ consultants ~~academic~~ at halfway stage and End of Project; Data from livelihood monitoring	Communities commit to long-term empowerment for sustainable development following engagement; Macro-level issues do not cancel out local-level improvements

3. Protected area zoning plan produced from a biodiversity perspective, and biodiversity and habitat quality monitoring system created	Full set of monitoring manuals produced in French; Data collection and analysis reviewed and published annually; Zoning plan created in consultation with government and local communities	Protocols printed and available electronically on partner websites; Biodiversity data published annually; Data analysis reviewed annually; At least 2 scientific papers published; Zoning plan published	Levels of capacity within local ~~NGO~~ team to carry out biodiversity assessment work maintained and developed Issues surrounding cloud cover over highland forest areas on satellite images can be resolved
4. New local NGO created and shows commitment to be developed into a major independent force for conservation in the Comoros	~~NGO able to devise, finance and manage ICDPs;~~ ~~Local biodiversity field team independently producing publishable data by End of Project;~~ ~~Local management team, village facilitators and agricultural technicians functioning independently on the community aspects by End of Project~~ Capacity building of local project team; Development of partnerships with Comorian, regional and international institutions Strategic pathway for NGO creation elaborated	~~NGO evaluation and planning mission by external consultant at start and End of Project;~~ ~~Bi-annual progress evaluation by BCSF and DWCT;~~ ~~Evaluation reports by UEA academic at halfway stage and End of Project~~ Personal development plans and training reports; Partnership agreements and records of collaboration, participation in steering committee; Workshop reports, strategic plan for NGO development	Local ~~NGO~~ project team remains committed to development route; Local and regional partners remain committed to supporting development of a new local NGO

Activities (details in workplan)

1.1 Participatory conservation model elaborated and published based on community engagement during first two and a half years of project
1.2 ~~Work on forestry legislation and policy documents to integrate community ownership and management~~Creation of government-led project steering committee; discussion of wider application of project results
1.3 National communication strategy launched
1.4 Publication of academic articles

2.1 Training in participatory approaches to community work
2.2 Awareness raising, rapport-building and engagement interactions with forest adjacent communities
2.3 Facilitating communities' to analyse the forest conservation and sustainable livelihood situation, and to envision and develop 'win-win' solutions that reduce poverty and protect forest habitat for biodiversity, with the support of community facilitators;
2.4 Support for self-implementation of agricultural innovations and community natural resource management plans, including strengthening of support networks and creation of links with funders and the necessary expertise at all levels
2.5 Creation of community conserved areas

3.1 Training in biodiversity and habitat monitoring techniques
3.2 Annual surveys of forest quality, butterflies, birds, mammals and reptiles
3.3 Development of models and gap analysis based on monitoring data
3.4 Development of zoning proposal based on models and gap analysis
3.5 Publications of results and model participatory ecological monitoring system

~~4.1 Mission by BCSF, DWCT and external consultants to plan development route for NGO with local staff~~
~~4.2 Creation of structure for new NGO to meet legal requirements, and including a internationally-respected governance body~~
~~4.3 Training in administrative tasks, project identification and management, fundraising skills, business planning~~
~~4.4 Necessary institutional and sustainable financing mechanisms elaborated~~
4.1 Personalised development plans created for local team members
4.2 In-house training programme developed, with higher-level training delivered through Madagascar networks
4.3 Engagement of further local, regional and international partnerships through development of steering committee and Madagascar exchange visits
4.4 Strategic planning workshops

4. Monitoring activities:
Indicator 1: Participatory community livelihood, institutional development, and attitude monitoring implemented in engaged communities.
Indicator 2: Annual analysis of biodiversity and habitat data by DWCT;
Indicator 3: Project mid-term and final evaluation by consultants (University of East Anglia – community aspects; DWCT – biodiversity aspects; Partner from Madagascar – Local NGO progress)