

Darwin Initiative – Final Report

Darwin project information

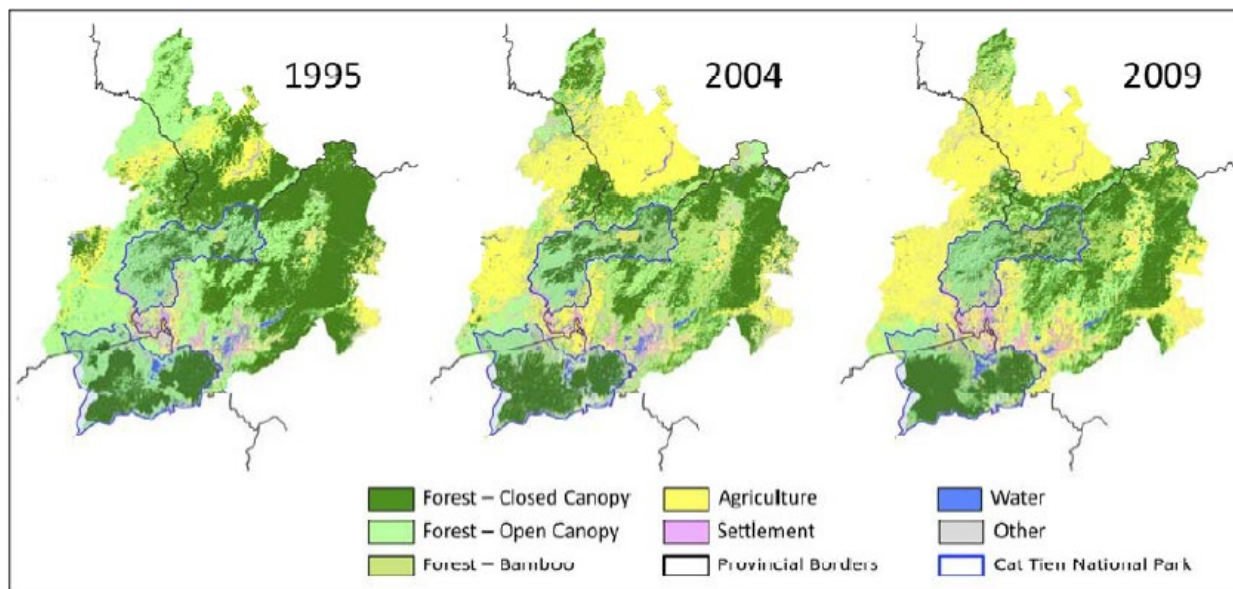
Project Reference	17-015
Project Title	Harnessing Carbon Finance to Arrest Deforestation: Saving the Javan Rhinoceroses
Host country(ies)	Vietnam
UK Contract Holder Institution	International Institute for Environment & Development (IIED)
UK Partner Institution(s)	
Host Country Partner Institution(s)	SNV – The Netherlands Development Organisation
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Project Leader Name	Maryanne Grieg-Gran
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Report Author(s) and date	Maryanne Grieg-Gran, Essam Yassin Mohammed, Nguyen Trung Thong, Steve Swan. June, 2012

1 Project Background

Cat Tien National Park (CTNP), situated in the province of Lam Dong in southern Vietnam, is a critically important biodiversity hotspot in mainland Southeast Asia and is home to at least 82 species listed as threatened in the Vietnam Red Book. However, this habitat is threatened by forest encroachment. As can be seen from the below map large areas around the northern section (Cat Loc) of Cat Tien National Park have been deforested. The purpose of this project was to support local institutions to establish a properly functioning and equitable forest carbon facility to compensate local villagers for arresting degradation and deforestation in and around Cat Tien National Park in order to conserve large mammals particularly the critically endangered Javan rhinoceros.

The most outstanding achievements of the project are:

1. Project activities, particularly those focused on , benefit distribution system (BDS) and participatory forest monitoring (PFM) , raised awareness at all levels, from local villager to national government departmental heads, on some of the issues and challenges of designing and implementing a REDD+ programme that delivers both carbon and non-carbon benefits.
2. The project raised capacity of national and provincial authorities in relation to REDD+ programme design and future implementation, for forest development and protection in Vietnam.
3. Models and experiences developed under the DI project have informed national REDD+ programme design in Vietnam and elsewhere in the region.



2 Project support to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

The project supported two main articles of the CBD:

11. Incentive Measures – the project explored economically and socially sound incentives to conserve and promote sustainable use of biological diversity through attempts to develop a viable voluntary carbon market REDD+¹ project and in the latter part of the project to link the Cat Tien initiative to the emerging national REDD programme.

12. Research and Training – IIED and SNV-Vietnam have worked collaboratively on several areas of research. The resulting publications have been made available online for use by interested groups working on conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity with a specific focus on Vietnam. Please see Annex 4 and 5 for details.

In addition, the project developed a PCM manual and conducted initial classroom and field training for local government and villager participants in Year II. Draft PCM manuals were also produced in Year II.

17. Exchange of Information – the project facilitated information exchange on the development of REDD+ in the Vietnamese context in addition to contributing to national REDD+ readiness in the key areas of local benefit distribution systems (BDS) and participatory forest monitoring (PFM) models.

The project has also contributed to efforts under the CBD to provide parties with advice on the application of relevant REDD+ safeguards² for biodiversity, and on possible indicators and potential mechanisms to assess impacts of REDD+ measures on biodiversity. The project contributed to the CBD's first (Asia-Pacific) regional consultation and capacity-building workshop on REDD+, including relevant biodiversity safeguards, in March 2011.

Subsequently, the project partners developed a dialogue with the CBD Secretariat (SCBD) forest biodiversity programme and contributed to draft advice on the application of REDD+ safeguards for biodiversity prepared by CBD Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) for discussion at their 16th meeting in April 2012, soon after project closure. The legacy of this project's support to Vietnam's commitments under the CBD is evident in the High Biodiversity REDD+ project (see section 3), which intends to support integration of REDD+ safeguards into the revision process for the National Biodiversity Strategy & Action Plan (NBASP) in 2012.

¹ Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries

² United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (2010), Conference of the Parties Decision 1/CP.16: Outcome of the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group on long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention

3 Project Partnerships

The project was implemented through a partnership between the UK lead institution, IIED, and the host country organization, SNV Vietnam. Building on this partnership, the two organizations have since commenced work on complementary projects in the Cat Tien landscape, including:

- *Poverty and Sustainable Development Impacts of REDD+ Architecture* ('Pro-Poor REDD+' project) - funded by the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD); 2010-2013
- *Exploring Mechanisms to Support High-Biodiversity Conservation through REDD+ Piloting in Vietnam* ('HB-REDD+' project) - funded by the German Ministry of Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety's (BMU) International Climate Initiative (ICI); 2011-2013

The Darwin project was endorsed in 2010 by Lam Dong provincial People's Committee, who assigned the provincial Department of Agriculture & Rural Development (DARD), and their divisions of Forestry (DoF) and Forest Protection (FPD), as local government partners to the project. To facilitate broader participation in the project the DARD established a provincial REDD+ technical working group. This served as a forum for local government stakeholders to develop technical capacities for project activity implementation and outputs in addition to strengthening political ownership of the project. .

At the national level, SNV assisted the Vietnam Administration of Forestry (VNFOREST), and the REDD+ Office (VRO), establish and chair the first REDD+ sub-technical working group on local implementation. This open multi-stakeholder forum served as an in-country platform to sharing experiences in field-level REDD+ implementation. As the first REDD+ intervention in Vietnam, this project contributed significantly to discussions of this working group, particularly on lessons learnt from attempting voluntary carbon REDD+ project development in the Vietnamese context.

4 Project Achievements

4.1 Impact: achievement of positive impact on biodiversity, sustainable use or equitable sharing of biodiversity benefits

The purpose of this project was to support institutional capacity - *'to establish a properly functioning and equitable forest carbon facility'*, in support of biodiversity conservation – *'in order to conserve large mammals, particularly the Critically Endangered Javan rhinoceros'*.

The project has laid the foundation for financing through a national REDD+ programme. This has the potential to achieve a positive impact on biodiversity at a much larger scale than the aspirations of the original project design.

As such, the project can be considered relevant to the following (Aichi) targets set under the current CBD Strategic Plan, 2011-2020:

- 5 By 2020, rate of loss of...forests, is at least halved and where feasible brought close to zero...degradation and fragmentation is significantly reduced
- 7 By 2020, areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity
- 11 By 2020, at least 17 % of terrestrial...areas...are conserved through...systems of protected areas...integrated into wider landscapes
- 14 By 2020, essential [ecosystem] services...are restored and safeguarded, taking into account needs of women, indigenous peoples, local communities, poor and vulnerable
- 15 By 2020...contribution of biodiversity to carbon stocks has been enhanced...including restoration of at least 15 % of degraded ecosystems

The project has also leveraged funding for biodiversity conservation and poverty reduction through contributing to national REDD+ strategy and programme designs in Vietnam, at the same time informing broader international dialogue on biodiversity, forests and climate change (see Section 3). Models and experiences developed under the DI project have informed national REDD+ programme design in Vietnam and elsewhere in the region, and this influence continues. By the time of project closure, Laos and Bhutan had expressed interest in importing benefit distribution systems (BDS) and participatory forest models designed under this project for national REDD+ and payment for forest ecosystem service (PFES) applications.

Within Vietnam, the BDS and PFM activities, raised awareness at all levels, from local villager to national government departmental heads, on some of the challenges of designing and implementing a REDD+ programme that delivers both carbon and non-carbon benefits. Many of the lessons from this project are now being applied in Vietnam to broader PFES schemes recently codified in national policy³. For example, building on the initial field testing and political momentum achieved under this project, Lam Dong province, immediately after project closure, started to develop a proposal for further PFM piloting with a focus on monitoring forest carbon and biological diversity⁴.

At the national level, the project has influenced national REDD+ programme design and further plans for piloting, through the UN-REDD programme. Lessons and design elements from the local BDS model developed under this project have been recognised by UN-REDD and VNFOREST on several occasions as highly valuable for national REDD+ programme application.

4.2 Outcomes: achievement of the project purpose and outcomes

The project purpose was to support local institutions to establish a forest carbon facility to compensate local populations for reducing deforestation and degradation in and around Cat Tien National Park in order to conserve large mammals particularly the critically endangered Javan Rhinoceros. Much of this purpose has been fulfilled, in that the project raised capacity of national and provincial authorities in relation to REDD+ programme design for forest development and protection, a key purpose-level indicator. This was done by actively engaging national and sub-national authorities in the design activities through technical sub-working groups. Substantial fulfilment of the other main indicator of achieving project purpose, scaling up of project lessons to government REDD+ programmes in Vietnam, can also be claimed. Lessons from this project on the development of the BDS and PFM have been discussed in the national sub-technical working groups, which are key platforms for decision making in Vietnam. These lessons have helped shape the direction of the UN-REDD Phase 2 document, which will look to further pilot test BDS and PFM models across six Provinces, including Lam Dong. As such the project will provide important lessons for further shaping the local level architecture of future REDD+ in Vietnam.

However, for the reasons set out in the Year 2 annual report, it was not possible to deliver the project purpose in full. A forest carbon facility was not fully functioning by the end of the project. Moreover, any resulting improvements in forest conservation when the facility would have been fully in operation would have been too late for the Javan rhinoceros. During the lifetime of the project, the last remaining population of Javan rhinoceros in Vietnam was confirmed as extinct in the project site, CTNP. It was not possible to deliver a fully functioning forest carbon facility because of slow progress in development of a national REDD programme, in particular the establishment of the interim national REDD+ fund, and unsuitability of the project site for the voluntary carbon market. For the first two years of the project, efforts were made to develop a project design document (PDD) for Verified Carbon Standard (VCS) and Climate, Community & Biodiversity Standard (CCBS) validation and certification with a view to targeting the voluntary carbon market. By the close of Year II, with much of the necessary

³ On 1 January 2011, Vietnam enacted nationwide PFES policy for five forest ecosystem services: hydrological cycle management; soil conservation; carbon sequestration; ecotourism; and mangrove services to aquaculture.

⁴ SNV and VNFOREST are providing technical assistance to Lam Dong provincial stakeholders to further develop and field test PFM, as a contribution to informing national PFES/REDD+ policy reform/formulation, under the HB-REDD+ project (2011-2013); funding levered by this DI grant.

baseline work completed, it was evident that the costs of bringing credits to the voluntary markets, with certification to international standards (VCS and CCBS), would be far in excess of any potential revenue from voluntary market carbon financing. This was partly due to recent reduction in the rates of unplanned deforestation in and around CTNP (except in a few “hot spots”) This means that the opportunities may lie more in reducing forest degradation and in forest carbon stock enhancement activities. However, standards for such activities are methodologically restrictive in the voluntary carbon market.

Consequently, a strategic shift from the voluntary carbon market to other sources of funding was made, in particular to target the “interim national REDD+ fund” established under UN-REDD Phase II. However, the slow pace of implementation of the national REDD programme in Vietnam has hindered the progress of setting up the interim national REDD fund. But, project proponents still remain optimistic that process of setting up the fund will gain momentum and that in the near future financial resources will be channelled to the project site.

4.3 Outputs (and activities)

Output 1 – CTNP (and the greater landscape of Lam Dong) identified as a REDD pilot project area

This output, and component activities, was achieved: a project site was delineated in a GIS in preparation for spatially delimited PDD development. National and local governments recognised the project as the first on-the-ground REDD+ intervention in Vietnam.

Activity 1.1 Project initiation. The project was initiated through a provincial inception workshop in Year I, attended by the national REDD+ focal point. The project area was extended beyond Cat Tien district to include Bao Lam district, also in the buffer zone of CTNP, following recommendations made by local government during the inception workshop. Results of a remote sensing analysis indicated high rates of deforestation in Bao Lam district, suggesting great potential for a pilot REDD project in this district. Field visits and (provincial-through to village-level) stakeholder consultation meetings provided further support for the proposition to expand the project area.

Activity 1.2 Establish working groups on technical aspects of REDD and benefit distribution. A provincial REDD+ technical working group was formally established in Year II, pursuant to a decision by Lam Dong provincial DARD. The working group is chaired by DARD and has members from its sub-departments such as FPD, DoF, CTNP management board and state-owned Loc Bac Forestry Company. The main role of the technical working group is to participate in and facilitate project activities and serve as a core body of technical competency for developing REDD+ structures and processes in this pioneering province in Vietnam. The REDD+ technical working group has continued to operate since the end of the DI project with technical assistance from SNV. This assistance has been made possible because of finance from ongoing projects that were levered by the DI project. The technical working group is currently drafting a proposal for follow up work on PFM piloting, including biodiversity indicators, for submission to Lam Dong provincial government.

Activity 1.3 Planning meetings for REDD and benefit distribution. A number of initial project planning meetings were held with relevant stakeholders, at all levels from provincial to village level, during Year II.

Output 2 Internationally recognized system in place to value, monitor and estimate reduced carbon emissions in the landscape

Preliminary emissions reduction estimations were conducted, the results of which informed the decision to no longer pursue certification to VCS and CCBS standards. Monitoring of emissions reductions was continued with the development of participatory carbon monitoring (PCM) (as a component of broader participatory forest monitoring).

Activity 2.1 Sourcing of most recent available satellite images of the project area. An important part of the work in the first year was to access the remote sensing images to map deforestation in the landscape. The expectation was that Landsat images could be used, as these can be downloaded for free. However, we could not get the appropriate tiles required under the VCS methodology (they needed to be 2009 which meant there was no Landsat available). For this reason we had to buy SPOT images from the remote sensing centre. Even though the VCS methodology was not pursued, the benefits of buying these images were twofold; (1) they were transferred to government institutions and thus (2) helped improve capacity and understanding of deforestation trends.

Activity 2.2 Generation of maps of forest cover and biomass in the project area. In order to design a sampling strategy for permanent plots for carbon measurement and monitoring, the project had obtained existing (2009) forest classification maps of the project intervention area from the Forest Inventory and Planning Institute (FIPI), in addition to ASTER imagery acquired in Year I. Based on these maps, the Vietnam Space Technology Institute (STI) were commissioned to improve forest sub-classifications in accordance with different forest status for carbon measurement and monitoring and produce maps of forest cover and biomass for the project area. Field verification of the new sub-classifications was conducted at the beginning of Year II.

Activity 2.3 Development of baseline rate for deforestation and degradation. The carbon baseline assessment included: i) forest classification following biomass and carbon classes using remote sensing; and ii) application of methods of biomass and carbon inventory based on sample plots and prediction for individual status (homogeneity in biomass/carbon). By the close of Year II, 40 of the 113 plots identified throughout the project area, had been sampled. Five forest carbon pools - i) above ground biomass, ii) below ground biomass; iii) litter; iv) dead wood; v) soil - were measured in sample plots to estimate stored carbon and absorbed CO₂.

User-friendly technical guidelines, produced by the project for government forest rangers, provide step-by-step instructions showing how to calculate carbon stocks in the sample plots within each forest stratum and monitor changes of carbon pools in the REDD project area. The project also produced a companion manual of participatory forest carbon measurement for local people and field staff.

Training was also provided by the project for government rangers and local villagers in methods for the inventory and monitoring of biomass carbon stocks. Three training courses were conducted in the four communes of the project area (Loc Bac, Loc Bao, Dong Nai Thuong and Tien Hoang), with a total of 73 trainees who are technical staff of FPD, Loc Bac State Forest Company, Cat Tien National Park, villagers, and village heads. The course consisted of two days of classroom sessions (first day and last day) and three days of field activities. The training was divided into three main parts: introduction and theory presented in the class; field carbon measurement; and stored carbon calculation for technical government staff.

Classroom and field training was also reinforced with two two-day study tours to Dak Nong – a neighbouring province where there is a good model of community forest management (CFM) and participatory carbon monitoring. In total, 30 participants from the Cat Tien REDD project site (community members and government project partners) participated. The objective of these study tours was to show an example of CFM as well as participatory carbon monitoring including procedure, practical measurements, and a benefit sharing mechanism to local communities from the project sites in Lam Dong. Training and study tour reports are available on request.

Output 3 Finance is supplied through international carbon markets for REDD in the landscape.

At the end of Year II, project partners decided to discontinue pursuit of a project REDD+ intervention bringing verified forest carbon credits to the voluntary market (see section 4.2 Outcomes). In Year III, the intention was to strategically align the project with UN-REDD Phase II, which proposes to fund results-based REDD+ actions in Lam Dong province.

Activity 3.1 Study estimating income generating potential of REDD in the project area. During Year I an opportunity cost analysis (OCA) was conducted for the project, linking with the IIED-SNV Norad-funded project on poverty and sustainable development impacts of REDD architecture. Opportunity cost curves were produced, incorporating key historical drivers of deforestation, primarily perennial cash crops, such as rubber, cashew, cassava and coffee.

Activity 3.2 Socio-economic survey of buffer zone communities. Surveys of socio-economic status of buffer zone communities and business interests in the area around Cat Tien were incorporated into a more holistic assessment of drivers of deforestation and forest degradation. Two consultant teams were hired to conduct studies on drivers of deforestation in Cat Tien and Bao Lam districts, which were completed in Year I. A synthesis report has been produced and published, in English and Vietnamese.

Activity 3.3 Survey of business interests in the area around Cat Tien. See Activity 3.2.

Activity 3.4 Adapt internationally accepted carbon monitoring methodologies to project area. In parallel with UN-REDD piloting in neighbouring districts within Lam Dong province, the project developed a PCM manual and conducted initial classroom and field training for local government and villager participants in Year II. Field training established a partial (40/113 plots) baseline of forest carbon stocks for the proposed REDD+ project area. Draft PCM manuals were produced in Year II. In the final year of the project, globally applicable PCM methodology and protocols were produced (to be published by SNV in English only), in addition to a draft operational framework for PFM (including PCM) in Vietnam.

Activity 3.5 Baseline and monitoring methodologies for project certified under VCS. Certification under VCS standards was not pursued further after the end of Year II because of concerns about costs relative to potential carbon revenue (see section 4.2 Outcomes)..

Output 4 REDD policies and measures agreed to enable communities to receive support from carbon markets.

As indicated under Output 3, the change in target from the voluntary carbon market to the interim national REDD fund and the slow progress in implementation of the latter, led to a rethink about the approach to involving communities. The participatory village-level emissions reduction planning which had been identified as a focus of activity for Year 3 was considered too risky as it could create unrealistic expectations. Instead, the project team focused in Year III, on the participatory development of a pro-poor local REDD+ benefit distribution system for Cat Tien with a view to inform national REDD+ programme design. This drew from international experiences on developing REDD+, PES and integrated conservation and development projects for multiple benefits.

Activity 4.1 Meetings with community members to discuss design of benefit distribution system. Household-level interviews and focus group discussions on BDS design options - benefit types, levels, scheduling, delivery mechanism and monitoring systems - were conducted across four communes (engaging c. 130 villagers), in Year III. These activities informed pilot national BDS design for UN-REDD Vietnam Programme Phase I.

Activity 4.2 Study assessing legal framework relevant to REDD benefit distribution. In collaboration with the IIED-SNV Pro-Poor REDD+ project, a study on establishment of a local fund for REDD+, incorporating legal framework assessment, was produced in Year III (unpublished report by SNV). Additionally, a review of international experience with benefit distribution in PES, integrated conservation and development projects and development

transfer programmes and lessons for REDD+ in Vietnam (Pro-poor benefit distribution in REDD+: Who get what and why does it matter) was produced in Year III - published by IIED.

Activity 4.3 *Development of plan for distribution of funds generated by REDD.* The study on establishment of a local fund for REDD+ (see Activity 4.2) indicates options for REDD+ BDS. This study has informed REDD+ BDS for the Vietnam national REDD+ Programme during the project's lifetime.

Activity 4.4 *Meetings with communities to consult on benefit distribution system.* Throughout Year III, community-level consultations were held on the operation of a local BDS as part of a national REDD+ programme, complementing earlier consultations on BDS design issues (see Activity 4.1).

Activity 4.5 *Produce final version of plan for benefit distribution.* See Activities 4.2 and 4.3.

Activity 4.6 *Workshops in target communities on how REDD benefits will be distributed.* Consultations, employing workshops, focus groups and key informant interviews, on local BDS for REDD+ were conducted at all administrative levels: national, provincial, district and commune in Year III. See Activities 4.1 and 4.4 for details of community-level engagement.

Activity 4.7 *Facilitate establishment of community management board REDD funds.* Recommendations for community fund management are presented in the local REDD+ BDS study (see Activity 4.2). Establishment of such a fund was not facilitated due to the absence of carbon financing for the foreseeable future.

Output 5 Project successes communicated nationally and internationally for wider replication (e.g. international climate negotiations on REDD)

A focal area of activity in Year III, the project has communicated lessons drawn from project experiences in voluntary market REDD+ projects, BDS and PFM. Presentations have been made in a number of international, national and subnational fora, including, *inter alia*: national sub-technical working group meetings on local implementation and BDS; at national workshop on nested approaches to REDD+ and international workshops in Nairobi and Washington DC.

Activity 5.1 *Provincial workshop on project experience with regional (local and international) partners and other organizations working in Lam Dong Province.* This workshop was originally intended as a means of formalising transfer of knowledge and responsibilities for a local forest carbon facility. This workshop was not held and resources were concentrated instead on supporting and participating in a number of national and provincial level workshops and meetings on REDD+ (see Activity 5.2). This decision was taken largely because the local forest carbon facility was not functioning by the end of the project. The knowledge transfer of the project was therefore targeted at national level, to inform the national REDD programme. Moreover, the host-country organization continues to provide technical assistance, under funding leveraged by this DI grant, in areas of BDS and PFM development with the same local stakeholders in the same locations.

Activity 5.2 *Policy recommendations submitted to MARD and MONRE.* Lessons learnt on voluntary carbon market REDD+ project development in a Vietnamese context have been shared with VNFOREST (MARD) through various national fora in Year III. MoNRE have yet to be engaged in national REDD+ programme readiness in any substantive way. Options for BDS models have informed national REDD+ design (see Activity 4.3) feeding project lessons through UN-REDD Vietnam, and have been extensively discussed in the BDS sub-technical working group. Similarly, PFM operational systems and methodologies have been communicated to VNFOREST, and broader REDD+ practitioners, through the sub-technical working group on local implementation, in addition to specific PFM technical meetings with relevant national government agencies.

Activity 5.3 National workshop on REDD as a sustainable financing mechanism. This workshop was originally intended to present lessons learned from the establishment of the local carbon finance facility. With the switch in target to the interim National REDD+ fund and the delays experienced in establishment of this fund, it was clear that this workshop would not be appropriate. Instead resources were concentrated on communicating lessons learnt on REDD+ preparation through other national fora convened and/or co-chaired between SNV and VNFOREST (see Activity 5.2), including a national workshop on nested approaches to REDD+ implementation.

Activity 5.4 Documentation of project activities; production of communication materials. Project activities have been documented as published and unpublished technical reports (see Outputs 2-4), in addition to papers and presentations given at provincial, national and international fora. The project has been communicated internationally through IIED and SNV websites and nationally through the REDD+ Vietnam and Forest Sector Support Partnership websites.

Activity 5.5 (see Activity 5.1)

Activity 5.6 Final Report and Project Audit. Final report contained herein. Project audited in-country as part of the broader SNV Vietnam programme (audit reports available on request).

4.4 Project standard measures and publications

See Annexes 4 and 5 for details.

4.5 Technical and Scientific achievements and co-operation

The project has contributed to technical co-operation in two key areas :

- PFES/REDD+ local BDS design - led by Essam Yassin Mohammed (IIED), Adrian Enright (SNV), Nguyen Vinh Quang (SNV), Vu Van Me (independent consultant), using literature review, in-depth key informant interviews and focused group discussion methods. The research gave recommendations on designing a BDS for a local project REDD+ fund, in addition to providing guideline regulations on fund operation and management with a view to potential nationwide application.
- PFM – global PCM methodology and protocols produced by Patrick van Laake (independent consultant), and PFM operational framework produced by Nguyen Chi Thanh (independent consultant). Applying comparative analysis and expert knowledge, the PCM methodology outlines how local stakeholders, including villagers, can participate in the monitoring of forest resources, in particular the assessment of carbon and carbon dynamics in the forest; the operational framework outlines how such participatory monitoring would be institutionally organised in the Vietnamese context.

4.6 Capacity building

Capacity of local and national stakeholder has been built by the project in two different ways:

1. Formal training interventions – targeting local stakeholders in the collection and management of PCM-generated data
2. Knowledge and information exchange through direct participation of these stakeholders in the project's activities, in addition to presentations at specific events and fora

Capacity of in-country partners has largely been supported in the area of establishing a enabling environment for an effective 'high-biodiversity', 'pro-poor' national REDD+ programme, which could provide sustainable financing for biodiversity, and incentives for policy makers and land managers alike to conserve and sustainably manage forests.

As the first on-the-ground REDD+ intervention in Vietnam, the experiences of attempting to develop a voluntary carbon market project, and the designing and field testing of BDS and PFM models, have been invaluable to government agencies responsible for the development of a national REDD+ programme, in additional to development partners assisting Vietnam in REDD+ readiness.

This project was also SNV's first experience with REDD+ implementation; lessons learnt from the challenges this project has faced have been instrumental in the development of the organisation's capacity in a global REDD+ programme. The programme strategically focuses on key intervention areas assisting national governments develop REDD+ programmes, as opposed to pursuing voluntary carbon market projects.

4.7 Sustainability and Legacy

As indicated above, the enduring elements of the project are likely to be the BDS and PFM interventions. These continue to be developed by project partners through the Pro-Poor REDD and High-Biodiversity REDD+ project in Vietnam. Concepts and models developed under this DI project, and refined further on subsequent projects, are likely to be transferred to other Asian countries in the near future (resources for Laotian and Bhutanese BDS/PFM interventions are already in later stages of development).

As mentioned previously, in Vietnam, BDS and PFM elements have been adopted by the UN-REDD programme and are likely to feature as key elements of Phase II demonstration REDD+ actions over the next five years. The experiences in developing a local BDS under this DI project have been directly fed into design of a pilot model design for nationwide application under the results-based action phase of REDD+. PFM continues to be developed in Lam Dong, by the local government. By the time of project closure, initial dialogue with relevant national agencies, on the potential of PFM for nationwide adoption (contingent upon successful piloting in Lam Dong and elsewhere) had been facilitated. These agencies have expressed keen interest in the potential of PFM, not just for future REDD+ applications, but also for operationalising existing PFES policy, as this currently lacks an effective mechanism to demonstrate quality of service provision.

IIED and the host-country organisation continue to collaborate in Vietnam on REDD+ through the Pro-Poor and High-Biodiversity REDD+ projects.

5 Lessons learned, dissemination and communication

As highlighted in the previous sections, the key lessons from the experience of this project relate BDS and PFM. These are key to effective design of REDD+ as a biodiversity conservation mechanism.

BDS

1. A commune-level⁵ REDD+ fund would be most appropriate for sharing benefits from a REDD+ intervention in the Cat Tien landscape
2. Local level recourse mechanisms should be established with leadership coming from the leader of the Commune People's Committee, and represented by a suite of commune-level stakeholders (including the Farmers and Women's Unions)
3. In general, most households involved in the focus group discussions preferred a cash payment from REDD+ as opposed to any in-kind benefits. A follow up study will be conducted to cross-check the validity and reliability of this finding.
4. REDD+ funds could be directed through the existing Forest Protection Development Fund (FPDF), but should be kept separate from funding sources for non-REDD+ related activities
5. The current lack of national and international legal frameworks on REDD+ BDS makes the establishment of a robust and internationally credible system difficult and will continue to pose challenges for the implementation of local-level BDS.

⁵ Commune is the lowest official administrative subdivision of Vietnam. Rural communes are subdivisions of counties, which are in turn subdivisions of provinces.

PFM

1. A participatory approach to monitoring forest resources, including carbon and biodiversity, is highly relevant in the Vietnamese context
2. Local actors are identified as responsible for monitoring activities in the Forest Protection and Development Law
3. PFM has been identified in the pilot province of Lam Dong as having significant potential to contribute to operationalizing pilot PFES schemes in Vietnam
4. An a focus on operational systems is as equally, if not more important than, technical methodological aspects of PFM, in terms of communicating with decision makers
5. The role of PCM for emissions reductions/enhanced removals measurement, reporting and verification remains contested, but other REDD+ applications are acknowledged
6. PFM has much broader application than REDD+ carbon stocks/flows, and non-carbon safeguard monitoring, e.g. generating data on performance against CBD Aichi Targets

These lessons have been communicated to national government stakeholders and REDD+ practitioners within Vietnam and internationally through a number of national and international fora. Within Vietnam, the STWGs on local implementation and BDS have been the main platforms for disseminating project achievement and on-going implementation experiences (see Annex 4). As REDD+ remains within a readiness phase in Vietnam, with significant and persistent uncertainties in terms of international negotiations and long-term financing, the project has strategically limited the extent of dissemination at the local level in an attempt to manage expectations, particularly in the case of hypothetical BDS design activities.

5.1 Darwin identity

As the first on-the-ground REDD+ activity in Vietnam, the project has received a high profile in country and internationally, through websites, such as the REDD+ Desk. The project has been showcased and lessons disseminated at a number of international events such as CBD COP 10 and UNFCCC COP 17. The DI logo has been applied to all workshop banners and published outputs (see Annex 5), in addition to IIED and SNV websites.

Within Vietnam, DI support has been recognised from the inception workshop event in Lam Dong, through to frequent national STWG meetings. The project had a strong identity as the 'Cat Tien REDD+' project.

6 Monitoring and evaluation

The project has not commissioned external evaluations and has relied on internal evaluation through frequent programmatic team meetings and socialising of project lessons through provincial TWG and national STWGs on BDS and local implementation. Project team meetings were held at the end of each year of the project period to monitor progress and to consider the need for adjustments in planned activities.

Inherent in the project's original design is the need to collect and analyse information on a range of variables: forest carbon stocks and flows; socio-economic conditions; and drivers of deforestation and degradation in order to establish 'business as usual' baselines. These baselines were established and in the process highlighted the need for adjustments to the project. This led to the decision towards the end of year II of the project reorient towards REDD+ public funding pledged by the Government of Norway as part of a proposed UN-REDD Vietnam Phase II. The broad proposition for UN-REDD Phase II, was that in addition to the participating UN agencies providing technical assistance to GoV, an interim national REDD+ fund would be established for the purpose of compensating local actors for land use, land use change and forestry (LULUCF) emissions reductions or enhanced removals of greenhouse gases in six demonstration provinces, including Lam Dong.

SNV Vietnam continues to work closely with the GoV to develop models such as BDS and PFM initiated under this Darwin Initiative project. This continued demand from policymakers for these approaches is an indication of project effectiveness.

6.1 Actions taken in response to annual report reviews

Annual report reviews were provided for Year I report only. Information which addresses the gaps identified by the review of first year's report was included in the Half Year II report and the Annual Year II report.

- We highlighted the main outcomes and important recommendation from the planning workshop to extend the project area.
- We also discussed the status of the Javan Rhinoceros and the possibility that it may already be extinct in Vietnam.
- We provided information on the resources deployed for community outreach.

7 Finance and administration

7.1 Project expenditure

Staff employed (Provide name and position)	Date work commenced and finished	Proportion of this time spent on this work	Cost (£)
Maryanne Grieg-Gran/James MacGregor	Apr 10-Mar 12	10	
Essam Mohammed	Jan 10-Mar 12	30	
Kate Lee	Apr 09-Mar 12	15	
Richard McNally	Apr 09-Mar 12	25	
Forest mapping	Apr 09-Dec 09	15	
Socio-economist	Jan 10-Mar 10	50	
CDM/Community liaison	Apr 09-Mar 10	100	
M&E	Apr 09-Mar 10	10	
REDD expert	Apr 10-Mar 11	10	

Current Year's Costs	Grant (£)	Total actual Darwin Costs (£)	Variance %	Comments (please explain any variance)
Staff costs			1.6	
Overhead Costs			-1.4	
Travel and subsistence			-4.6	
Operating Costs			-5.6	
Capital items (see section 8)			-4.5	
Others (see section 9)			0	
TOTAL			-0.1	

7.2 Additional funds or in-kind contributions secured

As indicated above, this project, as a partnership between IIED and SNV Vietnam, has led to a number of additional REDD+ project grants, and has been instrumental in the development of a global SNV REDD+ programme. The grants most relevant to this project that were secured and operationalized concurrently with the DI project are: an IIED led *“Poverty and Sustainable Development Impacts of REDD+ Architecture (‘Pro-Poor REDD+’ project)”* - funded by the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD); 2010-2013 (c. GBP 1,300,000) – BDS development; and host-country organisation led *“Exploring Mechanisms to Support High-Biodiversity Conservation through REDD+: Piloting in Vietnam (‘HB-REDD+’ project)”* - funded by the German Ministry of Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety’s (BMU) International Climate Initiative (ICI); 2011-2013 (c. GBP 780,000) – further PFM development (including biodiversity methods)

7.3 Value of DI funding

The main legacy of the project is the knowledge developed on BDS and PFM which is being taken forward in complementary follow-on activities funded by other donors. The DI project also raised the profile of biodiversity aspects of REDD+ in Vietnam and was instrumental in the securing of finance for the High-Biodiversity Redd project, which is examining and testing environmental safeguards for REDD+. This latter project has enabled SNV Vietnam to go beyond the original biodiversity objectives of the DI project. This organisation now provides technical assistance to national governments (such as Vietnam) on REDD+ and biodiversity issues, in addition to feeding lessons to the CBD Secretariat.

As the first on-the-ground REDD+ activity in Vietnam, the project has made significant contributions to local and national government partners’ understanding of the practicalities of REDD+ development. The learning drawn from this project on challenges of a voluntary carbon market project-based approach, and on the BDS and PFM elements of REDD+ readiness, are all invaluable for government decision makers responsible for designing and implementing a national REDD+ programme (see section 5).

Annex 1 Report of progress and achievements against final project logframe for the life of the project

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements: April 2009 - March 2012
<p>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</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 		<p>Significant understanding and capacity within Vietnam, on how an innovative financing mechanism for conservation, REDD+, may contribute to the sustainable use of biodiversity (carbon sequestration services), in addition to fair and equitable sharing of the benefits from the provision of these services.</p>
<p>Purpose To support local institutions to establish a properly functioning and equitable forest carbon facility to compensate local villagers for arresting degradation and deforestation in and around Cat Tien National Park, in order to conserve large mammals particularly the critically endangered Javan rhinoceros.</p>	<p>Capacity of national and provincial authorities to receive, manage and disseminate REDD forest carbon funds for forest development and projection raised</p> <p>Scaling up of project lessons to other REDD governmental programs in Vietnam</p>	<p>Capacity of national and provincial authorities to receive, manage and disseminate <i>potential future</i> REDD+ forest carbon funds for forest development and projection has been raised by the project</p> <p>Project lessons have also informed national REDD+ readiness in general, thus contributing to development of a national REDD+ programme in Vietnam.</p>
<p>Output 1. Cat Tien National Park (and the greater landscape of Lam Dong) identified as an REDD pilot project area</p>	<p>GoV agrees to establish REDD initiative in the greater landscape of Cat Tien National Park</p>	<p>Provincial government agreed to establish REDD+ initiative in Cat Tien landscape. In cooperation with the DARD of Lam Dong province, project partners revised the project document, and received formal approval to implement from Lam Dong People's Committee in Year II. Building on pioneering PFES piloting and UN-REDD Phase I, national GoV has identified Lam Dong province as one of six pilot provinces for demonstration of results-based REDD+ under UN-REDD+ Phase II.</p>
<p>Activity 1.1 Project initiation - Extension of the project area</p>		<p>Project area extended to include Bao Lam district following a recommendation from the launching workshop in Year I.</p>
<p>Activity 1.2 Establish working groups on technical aspects of REDD and benefit distribution</p>		<p>A provincial REDD+ TWG, which is chaired by DARD and involves members from DARD's sub-departments, FPD, DoF, CTNP management board, and Loc Bac forestry company established in Year II</p>
<p>Activity 1.3 Planning meetings for REDD and benefit distribution</p>		<p>A number of meetings were held with DARD at provincial level, district divisions of agriculture, environment and natural resources, district forest and forest protection departments, commune authorities, state forestry</p>

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements: April 2009 - March 2012
		company in the project area and community members. Specific meetings for BDS are recorded under Output 4.
Output 2. Internationally recognized system in place to value, monitor and estimate reduced carbon emissions in the landscape	Forest owners in the Cat Tien landscape registered on UN-REDD multi-donor trust fund (MDTF) database of eligible recipients	Preliminary emissions reduction estimations and valuation analyses were conducted, the results of which informed the decision to no longer pursue certification to CCBS and VCS standards. Monitoring of emissions reductions was continued with the development of PCM (as a component of broader PFM).
Activity 2.1 Sourcing of most recent available satellite images of the project area		Satellite images of the project area sourced in Year I
Activity 2.2 Generation of maps of forest cover and biomass in the project area		Sub-classification of maps obtained from FIPI and ground truthed in Year I Technical report prepared (available on request)
Activity 2.3 Development of baseline rate for deforestation and degradation		Forest classification following biomass and carbon classes using remote sensing; and application of methods of biomass and carbon inventory based on sample plots conducted in Year I User friendly technical guidelines produced and provided to government forest rangers (available on request) in Year I Draft manual for participatory forest carbon measurement prepared and made available for local communities and field staff in Year II
Output 3. Finance is supplied through international carbon markets for REDD in the landscape	Carbon financing leveraged by the project Mechanism developed for Cat Tien to reward conservation	At the end of Year II, after reviewing costs and economic viability, project partners decided to discontinue pursuit of a project REDD+ intervention bringing verified forest carbon credits to the voluntary market. In Year III, the intention was for the project team to align the project with UN-REDD Phase II, which proposes to fund result-based REDD+ actions in Lam Dong province (among six others). On-going delays in the development of UN-REDD Phase II, beyond the control or influence of the project in particular the establishment of the interim national REDD+ fund, have meant that finance has not yet been available. However this situation is likely to change in the near to medium future.

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements: April 2009 - March 2012
Activity 3.1 Study estimating income generating potential of REDD in the project area		Study completed in Year I (available on request)
Activity 3.2 Socio-economic survey of buffer zone communities		Surveys of socio-economic status of buffer zone communities and business interests in the area around CTNP incorporated into a more holistic assessment of drivers of deforestation and forest degradation completed in Year I (published in Vietnamese and English)
Activity 3.3 Survey of business interests in the area around Cat Tien		Incorporated into a more holistic assessment of drivers of deforestation and forest degradation completed in Year I (published in Vietnamese and English)
Activity 3.4 Adapt internationally accepted carbon monitoring methodologies to project area		Global PCM methodology and protocols produced in Year III (to be published by host-country organization) Draft PCM manuals produced in Year II (to be revised under subsequent HB-REDD+ project and published in Vietnamese and English)
Activity 3.5 Baseline and monitoring methodologies for project certified under VCS		Certification under VCS standards was not pursued further after the end of Year II because of concerns about costs relative to potential carbon revenue Delays in UN-REDD Vietnam Programme Phase II could mean that lessons learnt under this project could inform requirements under UN-REDD-supported demonstration REDD+ activities
Output 4. REDD polices and measures agreed to enable communities to receive support from carbon markets	Funds from carbon financing flow to community for conservation. Community agrees to adopt pro-poor REDD policies and measures as identified through participatory village-level emissions reduction planning	Due to the change in target from the voluntary carbon market to the interim national REDD fund and the slow progress in implementation of the latter; funds were not transferred to local communities for conservation. This led to a rethink about the approach to involving communities. The participatory village-level emissions reduction planning which had been identified as a focus of activity for Year 3 was considered too risky as it could create unrealistic expectations. Instead, the project team focused in Year III, on the participatory development of a pro-poor local REDD+ benefit distribution system for Cat Tien with a view to inform national REDD+ programme design. This drew from international experiences on developing REDD+, PES and integrated conservation and development projects for multiple benefits.
Activity 4.1 Meetings with community members to design of benefit distribution system		Household-level interviews and focus group discussions on BDS design options (benefit types, scheduling, scale, delivery mechanism and monitoring systems) conducted in four communes (engaging c. 130 villagers), in Year III. These activities informed pilot national BDS design.

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements: April 2009 - March 2012
Activity 4.2 Study assessing legal framework relevant to REDD benefit distribution		<p>Paper on benefit distribution systems for REDD+ produced in Year III (published by IIED).</p> <p>Study on establishment of a local fund for REDD+, incorporating legal framework, produced in Year III (unpublished report by SNV).</p>
Activity 4.3 Development of plan for distribution of funds generated by REDD		Study on establishment of a local fund for REDD+ (see Activity 4.2) indicates options for REDD+ BDS
Activity 4.4 Meetings with communities to consult on benefit distribution system		Community-level consultation undertaken on the operation of a local BDS as part of a national REDD+ programme, complementing earlier consultations on BDS design issues (see Activity 4.1) in Year III.
Activity 4.5 Produce final version of plan for benefit distribution		See progress under Activities 4.2 and 4.3
Activity 4.6 Workshops in target communities on how REDD benefits will be distributed		Consultations conducted at all administrative levels: national, provincial, district and commune in Year III; see Activities 4.1 and 4.4 for details of community-level engagement.
Activity 4.7 Facilitate establishment of community management board REDD funds		Recommendations for community fund management presented in the local REDD+ BDS study. Establishment of such a fund not facilitated due to the absence of carbon financing during the project period and need to manage expectations.
Output 5. Project successes communicated nationally and internationally for wider replication (e.g. international climate negotiations on REDD)	National and international presentations Media communications	National and international (in addition to subnational) presentations on project experiences on voluntary market REDD+ projects, BDS and PFM. Lessons learnt from voluntary carbon market REDD+ project shared in national STWG meetings on local implementation and BDS; national workshop on nested approaches to REDD+ and international workshops (Nairobi; Washington DC) on engaging private sector in REDD+. Project products have been very well received by many media outlets across the world. See Annex 4.
Activity 5.1 Provincial workshop on project experience with regional partners and other organizations working regionally.		<p>This workshop was not held and resources were concentrated instead on supporting and participating in a number of national and provincial level workshops and meetings on REDD+.</p> <p>This decision was taken because the local forest carbon facility was not functioning by the end of the project and the knowledge transfer of the project was targeted at national level, to inform the national REDD programme.</p>

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements: April 2009 - March 2012
Activity 5.2 Policy recommendations submitted to MARD and MONRE.		<p>Lessons learnt on voluntary carbon market REDD+ project development in a Vietnamese context shared with VNFOREST (MARD) through various national fora (see Activity 5.1) in Year III</p> <p>Options for BDS models informed national REDD+ design (see Activity 4.3) feeding project lessons through UN-REDD Vietnam during Year III</p> <p>PFM operational systems and methodologies communicated to VNFOREST through STWG and specific technical meetings in Year III</p> <p>Both BDS and PFM dialogues will be sustained through on-going (pro-poor REDD+ and HB-REDD+) projects involving IIED, SNV and VNFOREST, beyond lifetime of this project</p>
Activity 5.3 National workshop on REDD as a sustainable financing mechanism.		<p>The original aim of the workshop was to present experience of a local forest carbon facility was not possible. With the switch in target to the interim National REDD+ fund and the delays experienced in establishment of this fund, it was clear that this workshop would not be appropriate. Instead resources were concentrated on communicating lessons learnt on REDD+ preparation through other national fora convened and/or co-chaired between SNV and VNFOREST, including a national workshop on nested approaches to REDD+ implementation.</p>
Activity 5.4 Documentation of project activities; production of communication materials.		<p>In addition to project cycle reporting to Darwin Initiative, project activities have been documented as published and unpublished technical reports (see Outputs 2-4), in addition to papers and presentations given at provincial, national and international fora (indicated under Output 5)</p> <p>The project has been communicated internationally through IIED and SNV websites and nationally through the REDD+ Vietnam and Forest Sector Support Partnership websites</p>
Activity 5.5 Participatory project evaluation.		<p>A participatory project evaluation was not conducted due to discontinuation of voluntary carbon market REDD+ project development.</p> <p>The continued demand from the GoV for collaboration with SNV on developing models such as BDS and PFM initiated under this Darwin Initiative project, is an indication of project effectiveness. .</p>
Activity 5.6 Final Report and Project Audit.		Final report contained herein

Annex 2 Project's final logframe, including criteria and indicators

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
<p>Goal:</p> <p>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.</p>			
<p>Sub-Goal:</p> <p>Conservation of the large mammals of Cat Tien National Park through the introduction of appropriate financing and management mechanisms</p>	<p>Numbers of large mammals in the park</p> <p>Financial budgets and reports on mechanism development and implementation</p> <p>Financing mechanism exists</p>	<p>Regular project reports monitoring select indicator species as well as forest coverage, quality and type</p> <p>Official budgets and reports</p> <p>REDD mechanism reports</p>	
<p>Purpose:</p> <p>To support local institutions to establish a properly functioning and equitable forest carbon facility to compensate local villagers for arresting degradation and deforestation in and around Cat Tien National Park, in order to conserve large mammals particularly the critically endangered Javan rhinoceros.</p>	<p>Capacity of national and provincial authorities to receive, manage and disseminate REDD forest carbon funds for forest development and projection raised</p> <p>Scaling up of project lessons to other REDD governmental programs in Vietnam</p>	<p>REDD mechanism reports</p> <p>Trainings conducted</p> <p>Communities conversant with process (using M&E)</p> <p>Lessons documented are cited by MARD/DoF in their work with WB FCPF, UN-REDD, USAID/Winrock, German/GTZ and other initiatives</p> <p>Press outreach (no. Media "hits")</p>	<p>The Government of Vietnam (GoV) continues to support PES mechanisms; including REDD</p> <p>The Forest Development and Forest Protection fund can receive financing from international carbon financing sources</p> <p>Forest carbon buyers continue to view carbon as viable investment</p> <p>Rates of deforestation/degradation are indeed decreased by project efforts, leading to the generation and receipt of forest carbon credits and long-term financing for the fund</p> <p>The Javan rhinoceros remains a viable population in Cat Tien NP</p>

<p>Outputs:</p> <p>1. Cat Tien National Park (and the greater landscape of Lam Dong) identified as an REDD pilot project area</p>	<p>GoV agrees to establish REDD initiative in the greater landscape of Cat Tien NP</p>	<p>Reports on the pilot development and implementation</p> <p>Media reports highlighting REDD actions and benefits shared</p>	<p>The GoV seeks to develop the enabling legal framework both project-based REDD as well as a national REDD framework, which is being supported by the World Bank and UN</p>
<p>2. Internationally recognized system in place to value, monitor and estimate reduced carbon emissions in the landscape</p>	<p>Forest owners in the Cat Tien landscape registered on UN-REDD multi-donor trust fund (MDTF) database of eligible recipients</p>	<p>Project documentation for UN REDD multi-donor trust fund</p> <p>REDD mechanism reports</p>	<p>Information is readily available and authorities are willing to share information</p> <p>A forest carbon buyer is established and another donor is brought in to prime the conservation activities necessary to produce the necessary “decrease” in deforestation/ degradation rates to produce such credits</p>
<p>3. Finance is supplied through international carbon markets for REDD in the landscape</p>	<p>Carbon financing leveraged by the project</p> <p>Mechanism developed for Cat Tien to reward conservation</p>	<p>REDD mechanism reports</p> <p>Press releases on website</p> <p>Financial transfer statements</p>	<p>The community fund can receive financing from international sources</p> <p>There is local interest in capacity building in “climate justice”</p> <p>UN-REDD MDTF becomes operational within project lifetime</p>
<p>4. REDD polices and measures agreed to enable communities to receive support from carbon markets</p>	<p>Funds from carbon financing flow to community for conservation</p> <p>Community agrees to adopt pro-poor REDD policies and measures as identified through participatory village-level emissions reduction planning</p>	<p>Official decrees, circulars and management decisions</p> <p>Financial transfer statements to communities</p> <p>Report on Community-REDD process in public domain</p> <p>Press releases, media hits</p>	<p>The Government is willing and capable of establishing district and commune level fund mechanism and funds transferred in are indeed transferred out</p> <p>Communities are able to receive funds through financial systems</p> <p>The local community changes its behaviour and deforestation/degradation rates decrease over time</p>
<p>5. Project successes communicated nationally and internationally for wider replication (e.g. international climate negotiations on REDD)</p>	<p>National and international presentations</p> <p>Media communications</p>	<p>Powerpoint presentations on website</p> <p>Press releases on website.</p> <p>Report in public domain, written up for academic journals</p>	<p>Project proceeds successfully and enables learning that are worth sharing</p>

Activities

Planning

- 0.1 Project initiation and planning workshop.
- 0.2 Establish working groups on technical aspects of REDD and on benefit distribution.
- 0.3 Planning meetings for REDD and benefit distribution.

Socio-economic assessment

- 1.1 Study estimating income-generating potential of REDD in project area.
- 1.2 Socio-economic survey of buffer area communities with particular focus on financial value of expansion into forest areas.
- 1.3 Survey of business interests, particularly cashew plantations, in the area around Cat Tien.

Carbon baselines and monitoring

- 2.1 Sourcing of most recent available satellite images (Landsat) of project area, as well as images from 2002/03 and 1997/98.
- 2.2 Generation of maps of forest cover and biomass in project area.
- 2.3 Development of baseline rate for deforestation and forest degradation.
- 2.4 Adapt internationally accepted (Voluntary Carbon Standard) carbon monitoring methodologies to project area.
- 2.5 Baseline and monitoring methodologies for project certified under Voluntary Carbon Standard's REDD guidelines.

REDD benefit distribution

- 3.1 Meetings with community members to identify priorities for the design of benefit distribution.
- 3.2 Study assessing legal framework relevant to REDD benefit distribution.
- 3.3 Development of plan for distribution of funds generated by REDD.
- 3.4 Meetings with communities to present and gather feedback on benefit distribution plan.
- 3.5 Produce final version of plan for benefit distribution.
- 3.6 Workshops in target communities explaining how REDD benefits will be distributed.
- 3.7 Facilitate establishment of a community management board for future funds generated from REDD.

REDD policies and measures

- 4.1 Meetings with community members to design of benefit distribution system
- 4.2 Study assessing legal framework relevant to REDD benefit distribution
- 4.3 Development of plan for distribution of funds generated by REDD
- 4.4 Meetings with communities to consult on benefit distribution system
- 4.5 Produce final version of plan for benefit distribution
- 4.6 Workshops in target communities on how REDD benefits will be distributed
- 4.7 Facilitate establishment of community management board REDD funds

Evaluation and information dissemination

- 5.1 Provincial workshop on project experience with regional partners and other organizations working regionally.
- 5.2 Policy recommendations submitted to MARD and MONRE.
- 5.3 National workshop on REDD as a sustainable financing mechanism.
- 5.4 Documentation of project activities; production of communication materials.
- 5.5 Participatory Project Evaluation.
- 5.6 Final Report and Project Audit.

Annex 3 Project contribution to Articles under the CBD

Project Contribution to Articles under the Convention on Biological Diversity

Article No./Title	Project %	Article Description
6. General Measures for Conservation & Sustainable Use		Develop national strategies that integrate conservation and sustainable use.
7. Identification and Monitoring		Identify and monitor components of biological diversity, particularly those requiring urgent conservation; identify processes and activities that have adverse effects; maintain and organise relevant data.
8. In-situ Conservation		Establish systems of protected areas with guidelines for selection and management; regulate biological resources, promote protection of habitats; manage areas adjacent to protected areas; restore degraded ecosystems and recovery of threatened species; control risks associated with organisms modified by biotechnology; control spread of alien species; ensure compatibility between sustainable use of resources and their conservation; protect traditional lifestyles and knowledge on biological resources.
9. Ex-situ Conservation		Adopt ex-situ measures to conserve and research components of biological diversity, preferably in country of origin; facilitate recovery of threatened species; regulate and manage collection of biological resources.
10. Sustainable Use of Components of Biological Diversity		Integrate conservation and sustainable use in national decisions; protect sustainable customary uses; support local populations to implement remedial actions; encourage co-operation between governments and the private sector.
11. Incentive Measures	50	Establish economically and socially sound incentives to conserve and promote sustainable use of biological diversity.
12. Research and Training	30	Establish programmes for scientific and technical education in identification, conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity components; promote research contributing to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, particularly in developing countries (in accordance with SBSTTA recommendations).
13. Public Education and Awareness		Promote understanding of the importance of measures to conserve biological diversity and propagate these measures through the media; cooperate with other states and organisations in developing awareness programmes.
14. Impact Assessment and Minimizing Adverse Impacts		Introduce EIAs of appropriate projects and allow public participation; take into account environmental consequences of policies; exchange information on impacts beyond State boundaries and work to reduce hazards; promote emergency responses to hazards; examine mechanisms for re-dress of international damage.
15. Access to Genetic Resources		Whilst governments control access to their genetic resources they should also facilitate access of environmentally sound uses on mutually agreed terms; scientific research based on a country's genetic resources should ensure sharing in a fair and equitable way of results and benefits.

Article No./Title	Project %	Article Description
16. Access to and Transfer of Technology		Countries shall ensure access to technologies relevant to conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity under fair and most favourable terms to the source countries (subject to patents and intellectual property rights) and ensure the private sector facilitates such assess and joint development of technologies.
17. Exchange of Information	20	Countries shall facilitate information exchange and repatriation including technical scientific and socio-economic research, information on training and surveying programmes and local knowledge
19. Bio-safety Protocol		Countries shall take legislative, administrative or policy measures to provide for the effective participation in biotechnological research activities and to ensure all practicable measures to promote and advance priority access on a fair and equitable basis, especially where they provide the genetic resources for such research.
Other Contribution		Smaller contributions (eg of 5%) or less should be summed and included here.
Total %	100%	Check % = total 100

Annex 4 Standard Measures

Code	Description	Totals (plus additional detail as required)
Training Measures		
6b	Number of training weeks not leading to formal qualification	3 weeks
7	Number of types of training materials produced for use by host country(s)	2x draft PCM manuals (1 x data collection; 1x data management)
Research Measures		
8	Number of weeks spent by UK project staff on project work in host country(s)	3.5 weeks
11b	Number of papers published or accepted for publication elsewhere	4 (see Annex 5 for details)
Dissemination Measures		
14a	Number of conferences/seminars/workshops organised to present/disseminate findings from Darwin project work	12: 2x national meetings/workshops on project REDD+ challenges 7x national/provincial meetings on PFM 3x BDS
14b	Number of conferences/seminars/ workshops attended at which findings from Darwin project work will be presented/ disseminated.	2x international meetings/workshops on project REDD+ challenges; BDS and PFM - CBD COP10 in Nagoya; side event organised by Nagoya University.
15c	Number of national press releases or publicity articles in UK	February 2012 Darwin News: Newsletter of Defra's Darwin Initiative http://darwin.defra.gov.uk/newsletter/Darwin%20News%202012-02.pdf 6 February 2012 News story on REDD Monitor website (United Kingdom) "REDD in the news: 30 January – 5 February 2012" http://www.redd-monitor.org/2012/02/06/redd-in-the-news-30-january-5-february-2012/ 8 February 2012 Opinion article by Essam Mohammed of IIED on Reuters AlertNet website (United Kingdom) "Climate Conversations - How to design a REDD+ project" http://www.trust.org/alertnet/blogs/climate-conversations/how-to-design-a-redd-project

Code	Description	Totals (plus additional detail as required)
15d	Number of local press releases or publicity articles (<u>international media coverage</u>).	<p>8</p> <p>Details</p> <p>1 February 2012</p> <p>Interview with Essam Mohammed of IIED on Radio Channel Africa (South Africa)</p> <p>1 February 2012</p> <p>News story on CarbonoBrasil website (Brazil) – “Relatório delinea como garantir que o REDD beneficie as comunidades pobres” http://www.institutocarbonobrasil.org.br/redd_/noticia=729573</p> <p>1 February 2012</p> <p>News story on Forest Carbon Portal (United States) – “Ten pointers for making REDD+ equitable” http://www.forestcarbonportal.com/news/ten-pointers-making-redd-equitable</p> <p>2 February 2012</p> <p>News story on Mongabay.com website (United States) “10 rules for making REDD+ projects more equitable” http://news.mongabay.com/2012/0202-iiied_10_rules_redd.html</p> <p>4 February 2012</p> <p>Opinion article by Essam Mohammed of IIED on Eco-business.com website (Singapore) “REDD+ project design: 10 points to consider so the poor don’t lose out” http://www.eco-business.com/opinion/redd-project-design-10-points-to-consider-so-the-poor-dont-lose-out-by-essam-mohammed/</p> <p>9 February 2012</p> <p>Hour-long radio interview with Essam Mohammed of IIED by South African Broadcasting Corporation</p> <p>26 February 2012</p> <p>News story on UNREDD Newsletter http://www.un-redd.org/Newsletter26/PropoorBen</p>

Code	Description	Totals (plus additional detail as required)
		efitDistributioninREDD/tabid/79445/Default.aspx
17a	Number of dissemination networks established	1 (national STWG on local implementation)
17b	Number of dissemination networks enhanced or extended	1 (national STWG on BDS)

Annex 5 Publications

Type *	Detail	Publishers	Available from	Cost
(eg journals, manual, CDs)	(title, author, year)	(name, city)	(eg contact address, website)	£
Technical report	Pro-poor benefit distribution in REDD+: who gets what and why does it matter?	IIED, London	http://pubs.iied.org/pdfs/16508IIED.pdf	0
Technical report	Socio-Economic Baseline and Analysis of Drivers of Deforestation in the Cat Tien Landscape, Lam Dong Province, Vietnam. 2012	SNV, Hanoi	http://www.snvworld.org/en/sectors/redd/publications	0
Technical report	Framework Methodology for Participatory Carbon Monitoring for REDD+ Purposes. Patrick van Laake. 2012	SNV, Hanoi	http://www.snvworld.org/en/sectors/redd/publications (in press)	0
Technical report	Operational Framework for Participatory Forest Monitoring in Vietnam. Nguyen Chi Thanh. 2012	SNV, Hanoi	http://www.snvworld.org/en/sectors/redd/publications (in press)	0
Workshop powerpoints	All workshop PowerPoints can be downloaded here	IIED and SNV	http://www.iied.org/pubs/search.php?k=redd%20powerpoint&p=1	0

Annex 6 Darwin Contacts

Ref No	17-015
Project Title	Harnessing carbon finance to arrest deforestation: Saving the Javan rhinoceroses
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