



Darwin Initiative Annual Report

Important note:

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



Submission Deadline: 30 April 2013

1. Darwin Project Information

Project Reference	19-005
Project Title	Underpinning the design and management of Cambodia's first Marine Protected Area (MPA)
Host Country/ies	Cambodia
UK contract holder institution	Fauna & Flora International (FFI)
Host country partner institutions	Fisheries Administration (FiA), Royal Government of Cambodia
Other partner institutions	Coral Cay Conservation (CCC)
Darwin Grant Value	£293,526
Start/end dates of project	1 st April 2012 – 31 st March 2015
Reporting period (eg Apr 2012 – Mar 2013) and number (eg Annual Report 1, 2, 3)	Apr 2012 – Mar 2013, Annual Report 1
Project Leader name	Ms Rachel Austin
Project website	http://www.fauna-flora.org/explore/cambodia/ (there is no project specific website)
Report authors, main contributors and date	Mr Berry Mulligan, FFI Project Manager, with input from Kate Longhurst (CCC) and review of Annex 1 by Ouk Vibol (FiA), 02/05/2013

2. Project Background

Cambodia's waters support a rich and abundant marine life including coral reefs, seagrass meadows, extensive mangrove forests and threatened species such as the Critically Endangered hawksbill turtle. Years of political turmoil and economic instability have resulted in a lack of financial and human resources within research and government institutions to implement effective conservation measures. In the face of major threats including overfishing and large-scale poorly planned coastal development, the need to protect Cambodia's waters and the local communities who rely on them has never been so high.

In accordance with international commitments to the Convention on Biological Diversity, FiA has set a national target to protect 10% of its coastal and marine resources by 2020. Building on small-scale successes of locally managed Community Fisheries (CFI), the FiA is planning to designate Cambodia's first large Marine Protected Area (MPA), around the islands of Koh Rong (KR) and Koh Rong Sanloem (KRS). Through the Darwin Initiative Scoping Grant (ref: EIDPR125, 2010) FiA specifically requested technical and financial support for their efforts to establish an MPA, known in Cambodia as a Marine Fisheries Management Area (MFMA), a name which reflects the national Fisheries Law and a multiple-use approach that allows tourism, fishing and biodiversity conservation.

The islands of KR and KRS lie 20km off the coastal town of Sihanoukville in the Gulf of Thailand (Figure 1). The proposed MPA encircles these islands and includes fringing coral reefs, seagrass beds and mangroves, creating a total area of approximately 300km². The circa 2,000 island inhabitants depend heavily on fishing, particularly of crab and squid, with as many as 60-80% of people engaging in fishing and fishing related activities.

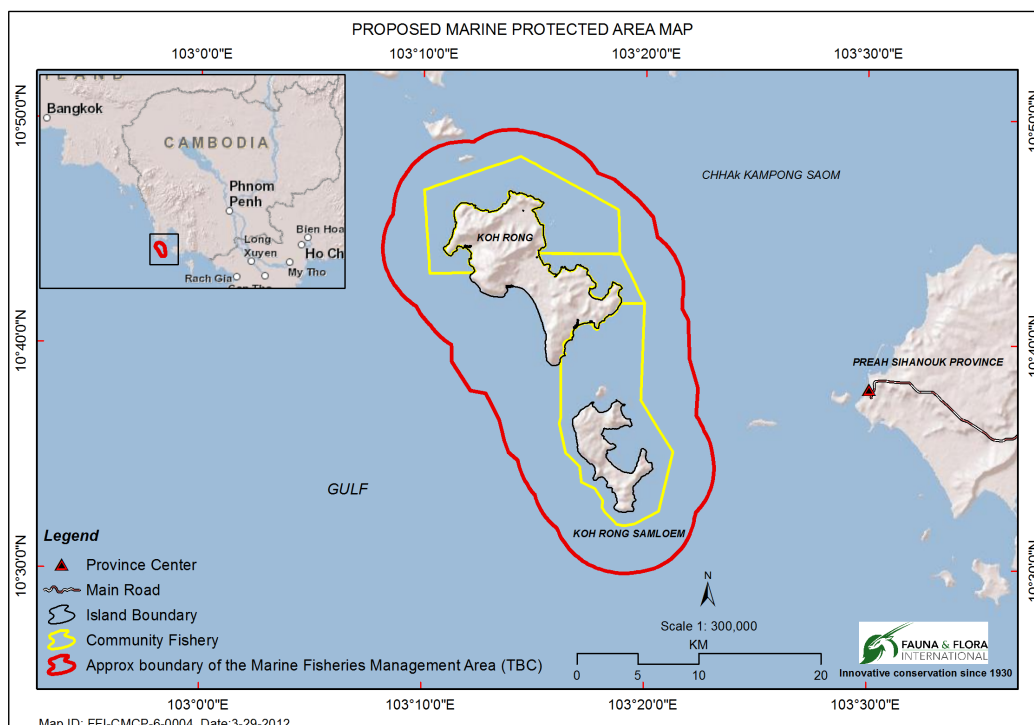


Figure 1. Map of the proposed MPA (N 10°39.962' E 103°16.386')

Recognising the lack of local and national capacity to manage MPAs and the scale of threats to biodiversity and island livelihoods, and the emerging potential for tourism revenues, the project will put the necessary capacity in place to establish the first model MPA for Cambodia.

3. Project Partnerships

Fauna & Flora International's (FFI) principal project partner is the Department of Fisheries Conservation of the Fisheries Administration (FiA), which had a central role in identifying the need for the project. Previous collaboration focused primarily on marine turtles and was housed under small project agreements. The Darwin Initiative project has facilitated a significant scaling up of collaboration between FFI and the FiA, including signature of a new Project Agreement, and assignment of 7 part-time FiA staff to various roles to support the design and management of the MPA. FiA roles are detailed in the Project Agreement, and range from representation of the project within senior government (by Mr Ing Try, National Project Manager) to field research and community consultation. Two of the staff are appointed from Cantonment (Provincial) FiA and play an important role in liaison with local authorities. While there have been no significant changes in management structure, it is expected that Cantonment staff will be increasingly important as the project moves through provincial consultation and towards the operational phase of the MPA in YR3.

Day to day oversight of the project is shared between the FiA National Coordinator Mr Ouk Vibol and FFI Project Manager Mr Berry Mulligan, with on-site activities and field work coordinated primarily between the FiA National Project Assistant Mr Kim Sokha, and FFI Project Officer Mr Chea Phallin. The FiA National Coordinator regularly meets with FFI project staff in Phnom Penh, and the FFI Project Manager reports progress or issues back to the FFI Cambodia Management team every other week.

Building on the existing MoU (Dec 2011 – Dec 2014), FFI and UK project partner Coral Cay Conservation (CCC) signed a Project Agreement to support the Darwin Initiative activities and clearly define expectations and roles. The CCC Head of Science visited both FFI UK headquarters and Cambodia office, and the Cambodia-based FFI Project Manager visited the CCC offices in Surrey, UK. There has been regular email and Skype communication, but the face-to-face meetings have helped to ensure clear communication and understanding of organisational approaches, roles and challenges. This has been particularly important as CCC had to temporarily suspend operations during the report period for logistical and safety reasons,

and several important staff changes occurred, including a change in the CCC Head of Science, appointment of a new CCC Project Manager and CCC Science Officer. Having CCC Project Manager Ms Sophie Clay based at the project site has been a very useful complement to FFI Project Manager's base in FFI's Phnom Penh office, ensuring both a site presence as well as regular access to key national FiA staff and offices in the capital.

In order to expand national marine research opportunities and training, FiA and FFI met with senior staff of the Royal University of Agriculture (RUA), including Professor Seng Mom (Vice-Rector) and Associate Professor Chhouk Borin (Dean of the Faculty of Fisheries), and there is a short field trip for 3rd Year BSc students proposed for the next project period. Collaboration with the Royal University (RUPP) is ongoing, including two MSc student thesis projects in the proposed MPA. FFI and partners have expanded regional links with the National University of Singapore (NUS) and with the Southeast Asia Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network (GCRMN) Node Coordinator Ms. Karenne Tun. Karenne Tun lead an FFI organised training programme in reef monitoring for Myanmar and Cambodian conservationists in Phuket, Thailand, attended by the FFI Project Manager and FFI Project Officer, and she has agreed for FFI/CCC to trial a newly developed sediment module in the Cambodian MPA, which is applicable as part of Reef Check methods. NUS lecturers in Environmental Studies Dr Jesse Hastings and Dr Joanna Coleman (Department of Geography and Biological Sciences respectively) also conducted a 2-day scoping trip to the site to ascertain suitability for NUS student field trips and research projects in collaboration with Cambodian students in early 2014.

Private sector engagement continued through activities with several companies. Song Saa Private Island has expressed interest in formalising their collaboration with FFI, and agreed to co-fund and co-supervise one of the RUPP MSc student research projects on fishing practices. FFI has renewed an agreement with Koh Rong Sanloem Island Resorts Pty Ltd (KRSIR), a beach front concessionaire that owns a large concession within the proposed MPA on Koh Rong Sanloem, to carry out terrestrial forest management and reduce coastal forest degradation. Marine Conservation Cambodia (<http://www.marineconservationcambodia.org>) is a business that has been active around Koh Rong Sanloem for over 4 years and is a close partner with FiA - to ensure alignment with their on-site conservation activities they were involved in the YR1 workplan design and are collaborating with the project.

FFI liaises regularly with the Ministry of Environment (MoE) Biodiversity Office for the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) although unfortunately Head of Office, Mr Seng Rathea, is no longer an FFI counterpart. Training and management planning processes underway (particularly in relation to logframe Outputs 1 and 2) are building capacity to help the FiA contribute Cambodia's CBD commitments to protect 10% of marine and coastal eco-regions by 2020.

4. Project Progress

4.1 Progress in carrying out project activities

Output 1. Activities contributing to Protected Area Management Planning have been delayed, specifically those relating to the establishment of the Management Committee (Activities 1.2-1.4). This has been caused in part by delay in the appointment of a full complement of seven FiA staff (Activity 2.1) and the recruitment of FFI Project Manager and Project Officer in September 2012, but also due to the prioritisation of zoning consultation during the reporting period.

The original implementation timetable envisaged submission of a proclamation document (Activity 1.1) to the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) early in Year 1, to then be updated in Year 3 (Activity 1.7) to form a decree once full zoning consultation and participatory management planning had been carried out. In order to reduce the number of potentially slow internal government processes to reach stakeholder consensus and full legal designation, and to expedite the operational establishment of the MPA, FiA advised that a Ministerial decree (*prakas*) be submitted as soon as possible in Year 2, and not be revised within the project timeframe. Project partners agreed this during annual work planning, but

sought to ensure sufficient time for consultation at both local and sub-national levels to maximise stakeholder input to zoning, which will be critical to the success of the MPA.

Three zone types have been proposed by FiA, on the basis of the Cambodian Fisheries Law:

1. **Conservation Zone:** a no take zone, with only research permitted;
2. **Protected Zone:** including already established CFIs, areas for ecotourism activities, family scale fishing or recreational fishing;
3. **Multiple-use Zone:** for constructing buildings/infrastructure, or other such activities, providing that they do not destroy coral reefs.

Initial village meetings introduced the project and zoning scheme. Ten targeted zoning consultation meetings and ground truthing sessions have so far taken place across 5 villages (Activity 1.5), involving 170 people (including 65 women) representing approximately 34% of the families of the archipelago, including CFI committee members, plus local authorities. Boat and land based 'ground-truthing' of proposed Conservation Zones was conducted with 27 CFI committee members, villagers and local authorities (including 3 Village Chiefs and 1 Commune Councillor) in February, collecting 90 waypoints marking 12 potential Conservation Zones, Protected Zones and 3 potential fish refuges for temporary closures. Information on existing local legislation and stakeholder priorities were also gathered from CFI members, such as previously identified small conservation areas approved at commune level in 2009, as well as identification of areas receiving support and protection from private sector, such as those surrounding Song Saa Private Island. Draft zoning maps indicating community priorities have been produced through this consultation process (Annex 3.1) in preparation for further Year 2 community focus group meetings and consultation. Initial responses from the CFIs suggest a desire to establish effective zones and improve income from fishing. For example, Mr Ouk Yana (CFI Administrator) said that he is 'happy that the project partners want to help create places to protect fish and other species to produce their offspring so in the future their marine resource will increase and his next generation will have seafood for eating and selling.'

Although not scheduled until Year 2, to start the management planning process (Activity 1.6) FFI and FiA initiated MPA vision, goal and objective setting during 2 meetings involving 4 national FiA and 2 FFI staff. This included a presentation by FFI Project Manager on the need for objectives to enable adaptive MPA management, incorporating international lessons and regional examples identified through a desktop review of Asia-Pacific MPA monitoring programmes (see Activity 3.1). The draft vision for the MPA is of:

A model marine fisheries management area [MPA] that supports sustainable fishing, resource conservation and growth in tourism in order to contribute to poverty reduction.

This enabled the identification of 9 preliminary MPA goals (3 biophysical, 2 socioeconomic and 4 governance) using as a basis the guidelines established by IUCN in "How is your MPA doing? A guidebook of natural and social indicators for evaluating Marine Protected Area Management Effectiveness" (Pomeroy, et al. 2004). The vision and goals will require further consultation, adjustment and ultimately approval by the MPA Management Committee in the next project period, but now form the basis for management planning and design of long-term monitoring framework.

Output 2. There has been good progress on **Training and Capacity Building** activities. In the first month of the project FFI lead a 5 day exchange visit to learn from experiences in marine co-management approaches in Aceh, Indonesia (Activity 2.9). From FiA Mr Kim Sokha and Mr You Chanpraseth were selected as National Project Assistant and Field Coordinator respectively, and joined the trip alongside the Commune Chief on the Koh Rong Archipelago Mr Doch Sokhom and private sector representative Mr Prak Saran (Community Engagement Officer, Song Saa Private Island). The visit allowed the Cambodian participants (including two FFI-Cambodia staff) to learn from the 6 years of experience of the FFI Aceh Marine programme and the experience of local government and traditional marine leaders (Panglima Laot) in charge of managing fisheries resources using customary laws within Locally Managed Marine Areas (LMMAs) around Pulau Weh. You Chanpraseth and Prak Saran then reported back on their experience and impressions from Aceh to Cambodian stakeholders during the project inception workshop in Phnom Penh (see activity 4.1), the latter presenting *Perspectives on*

Community Participation in Marine Resource Management on Pulau Weh, with recommendations that could apply to Cambodian small-scale marine fisheries.

The full FiA team was established (Activity 2.1) by September 2012, including 5 national Department of Fisheries Conservation staff, and 2 Cantonment FiA staff, each with their own Terms of Reference, for the following positions:

Mr Ing Try	National Project Manager
Mr Ouk Vibol	National Project Coordinator
Mr Duong Sam Ath	Provincial Coordinator
Mr You Chanpraseth	Field Coordinator
Mr Kim Sokha	National Project Assistant
Mr Hout Vuthy	Biological Researcher
Mr Khiev Tha	Biological Researcher and Community Facilitator

The MPA Management Committee has not yet formed, but it is expected that these staff will play a role either within the Management Committee, or proposed Technical Committee.

In January 2013 a SWOT analysis and needs assessment was carried out with a total of 27 CFI members, including 3 women, from each of the CFIs at the project site: Doem Thkov CFI (8 people), Prek Svay CFI (13 people) and Koh Rong Sanloem CFI (6 people). This highlighted CFI priorities and detailed available equipment and existing sources of support to CFIs on-site. The feedback was combined with information from meetings with private sector (Song Saa Private Island) and the FAO – Regional Fisheries Livelihood Programme (FAO-RFLP) Coordinator Mr Thay Somony, to identify capacity and equipment needs to be prioritised under Activities 2.6 and 2.8 of the project. Development of CFI management plans was highlighted as a priority– this is a standard step in the process of CFI design and implementation, and needs to be agreed with the authorities. CFI Committee elections, which happen every 5 years, are also due in 2 CFIs (Prek Svay and Koh Rong Sanloem). It was agreed with project partners that those CFI elections should take place before full training programmes are developed and implemented. Individual CFI management plans have also been prioritised in the Year 2 workplan, and will be completed prior to significant provision of equipment and training.

CCC initiated a socioeconomic assessment in the village of Prek Svay in March 2013, conducting community perception interviews with 33 of 149 households to determine personal skills, employment, reliance on fishing, perceptions of marine resources, training requirements, knowledge and the marine environment, opinion of the proposed MPA and aspirations (Activity 2.7). This has covered a cross section of the community including villagers, monks, teachers, the Village Chief and CFI Committee members.

Training in GPS use was identified through the SWOT analysis as a need within each of the CFIs (although as a lower priority by Doem Thkov CFI). In February FFI GIS Coordinator Mr Choun Phirom provided day long training sessions (Activity 2.6) in each of the 3 CFIs (26 participants in total) focused primarily on basic GPS use and topographic map reading, in order to support CFI management and monitoring by the community, and enable them to join in and better engage in ground-truthing of draft zoning maps for the proposed MPA. Fourteen of those trained then participated in these activities in the same month (see Activity 1.5). Choun Phirom also implemented a 3 day practical training in GPS and GIS usage for 6 FiA staff and 1 FFI staff (Project Officer) in Sihanoukville in March 2013 (Activity 2.2), focusing on basic introduction to GIS, upload and download of spatial data, basic map production, and integration of Google Earth with GIS software. While there were some challenges relating to familiarity with the software and usage of technical terms and equipment, by the end of the training each participant was able to produce a basic map, indicating improved knowledge and understanding of the spatial data and GIS software.

Output 3. There has been some delay in activities contributing to **Research and Monitoring**, primarily relating to continuous monitoring of coral reef health (Activity 3.3) and training of government staff in surveys methods (Activity 3.5). Project partner CCC conducted reef surveys in April 2012, but then had to relocate their base due to the fact that their third party provider, who supplied accommodation and logistics, was forced to move to new premises. A new CCC base was established in the village of Prek Svay and launched in October 2012 with

a new team of staff and volunteers. At the site an unprecedented outbreak of dengue fever in the area, effecting numerous staff and volunteers, caused CCC to temporarily put their operation on hold until January 2013, when the site re-opened with several new staff, including CCC Project Manager Ms. Sophie Clay.

CCC have nonetheless completed 22 full coral reef surveys around Koh Rong during the reporting period (Activities 3.2 and 3.3), which will strengthen the baseline data for zoning consultation. Through regular site visits and ground-truthing activities with local people, project partners have identified data gaps that are necessary to fill to inform MPA zoning (Activity 3.2) and management planning (Activity 1.6). Previous preliminary coastal surveys by FiA identified small seagrass beds in the area, however, their size and condition was largely unknown. A review of spatial data suggests that available maps for seagrass and mangrove distribution available nationally (e.g. JICA, 1997, 2005; Atlas of Cambodia, 2008) and from FiA do not match the current situation on site. Five meter resolution RapidEye satellite imagery from 30th January 2013 has therefore been obtained and once ground-truthed (in the next project period) will provide the baseline land-use map for monitoring terrestrial land-use change, as well as updated maps of mangrove distribution. Additional co-funding was secured from United States Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) to support rapid seagrass surveys – initial indications from community members and site visits during the report period suggest that there has been some habitat degradation in key areas, and that threats, including seagrass harvesting, remain high. FFI also conducted 6 visits to monitor terrestrial and coastal habitat on Koh Rong Sanloem (Activity 3.3) in collaboration with the Cambodian Navy, providing advice to KRSIR on how to reduce coastal forest degradation, to highlight laws protecting mangroves and to seek to reduce impacts of bungalow development on the marine environment.

Students from the MSc in Biodiversity Conservation at RUPP (Darwin ref. EIDPO028) Ms Leng Phalla and Ms. Thuang Ret designed research projects focused on the proposed MPA, and defended them in front of RUPP lecturers and their peers in January 2013 (Activity 3.4). Leng Phalla is conducting her thesis on the artisanal fisheries practices of local fishermen within the proposed MPA, and completed a pilot study of her research questionnaire and first field visit to all five villages in the MPA, carrying out semi-structured interviews with 55 people. Song Saa Private Island agreed to co-fund this important research and their Head of Conservation Mr Barnaby Olsen is co-supervising the dissertation. Thuang Ret is conducting *A comparative study of coral reef fish and invertebrate communities of Koh Rong and Koh Rong Sanloem*, and she is supervised and mentored by the CCC Project Manager and co-supervised by FFI Project Manager. The study will use existing and new data, collected by the student and CCC volunteers. During the reporting period Thuang Ret joined the CCC base in Prek Svay to begin dive and reef survey training, which is ongoing.

The hiatus in CCC on-site operations has limited the training delivered to communities and students originally expected to begin in Year 1 (Activity 3.5). One of the appointed FiA staff Hout Vuthy is already a qualified diver, with some experience in marine survey techniques. The remainder of the FiA project staff have been ruled out of taking part in the originally proposed full month of dive and reef survey training for health reasons, availability (of senior staff) and due to language barriers with provincial staff. The training approach for government staff will therefore be adapted by CCC in the next period, and consultation will continue with the FiA to identify other suitable candidates who could be involved in ongoing reef monitoring.

Activities enabling monitoring of MPA effectiveness and ecosystem health beyond the project period (Activity 3.1) included the drafting of preliminary MPA vision and goals (see Activity 1.6) and '*A review of Marine Protected Area monitoring programmes for the development of a good monitoring framework for an MPA in Cambodia*'. This desk-based review was carried out by a University of East Anglia (UEA) MSc student Ms Boon Pei Ya who conducted a short internship with FFI in Cambridge. Following a review of MPA monitoring programmes in Asia-Pacific, potential biophysical and socio-economic goals, objectives and indicators were identified for the proposed MPA, which will assist project partners to design monitoring plans and associated survey protocols. Completion of the activity was originally envisaged for Year 1, and has been delayed to Year 2, with subsequent delay in the establishment of a database (Activity 3.6). FiA National Coordinator Ouk Vibol chaired a meeting with multiple research groups (CCC, FFI, Marine Conservation Cambodia, Shallow Waters, Frontier) regarding monitoring and a national coral reef database, which the MPA database would align with. It was agreed that national

institutions conducting reef surveys should seek to standardise and follow existing adapted Reef Check procedures based on what has already been implemented by CCC and MCC within the proposed MPA, but further work (e.g. design of standard data entry forms) between the relevant organisations is required before this is implemented nationally.

CCC submitted an inventory of coral species recorded around Koh Rong island to the FiA (Activity 3.7) – this will form part of a national inventory of coral species, which will ultimately feed in a comprehensive assessment of the scleractinian corals in the South China Sea, an initiative being coordinated by Professor Chou Loke Ming of the National University of Singapore. FFI submitted two quarterly reports to FiA and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) to inform them of the project activities.

Output 4. Strong progress has been made on activities contributing to **Awareness and Dissemination** during the reporting period, largely in line with the project implementation timetable. The project inception workshop at the FiA in Phnom Penh included major stakeholders (total of 27 people) from national and provincial government, as well as NGOs, development partners and the private sector (Activity 4.1). British Ambassador to Cambodia Mr Mark Gooding launched the project alongside FiA Deputy Director General Mr Ing Try. As well as introducing the project and the previous research by organisations such as CCC and MCC, the workshop also allowed for a discussion about existing initiatives, the stakeholders that need to be engaged, available information to inform zoning plans and the potential project risks and mitigation measures. It also allowed for UK experts to provide input to the project design. Private sector was represented by 5 participants from island resorts and dive operators, including Mr. Prak Saran from Song Saa Private Island who presented his observations and lessons learned from the exchange visit to Aceh.

National project Coordinator Ouk Vibol introduced the project and circulated a short project synopsis to the 33 meeting participants at the Technical Working Group on Fisheries (Activity 4.5). With technical assistance from MCC (NB: an MPA stakeholder and project collaborator), Ouk Vibol also attended the 8th International Coral Reef Initiative East Asia Regional Workshop on regional MPA networks, Jeju, Korea, where he presented on the *Status and challenges of coral reef monitoring in Cambodia*, including monitoring in the proposed MPA.

A leaflet was produced (Activity 4.2) in Khmer and English, outlining the project, its purpose and the key players, including the Darwin Initiative. 1,000 copies were printed in Khmer and 500 in English, and approximately half have been distributed to collaborators or community members during zoning consultation on the islands. These have been used by collaborators such as Song Saa Private Island (see Annex 3.1). FiA also compiled information on key marine resources (seagrass, mangroves, and coral reefs), threats, and the relevant Fisheries Laws. This information has been used as a basis for presentation by FiA and discussion in 3 meetings with CFIs and fishing communities regarding the MPA and resource conservation.

There has been some delay in the development of best practice document regarding the design of the MPA, originally due to be initiated in Year 1 (Activity 4.4). The delay in Management Committee formation and formal private sector consultation pushes the activity back to the end of Year 2. Informal discussions with the private sector (including dive operators) during the reporting period will enable improved documentation and sharing of lessons and Song Saa Private Island have expressed interest in formalising their existing collaboration with FFI.

4.2 Progress towards project outputs

It is hopefully apparent from section 4.1 that strong progress was made towards outputs in the first year of the project, particularly relating to *training and capacity building of FiA to effectively design and manage MPAs* (Output 2.a) and *awareness and dissemination* (Output 4). FiA have appointed 7 part-time staff, 3 of which have been highly active since project inception, including National Assistant Mr Kim Sokha who travelled to Aceh to learn about local co-management, and is now leading the community consultation process in Cambodia. Partners have been actively promoting the MPA concept and project plan with local authorities (e.g. Annex 3.2), at key national forums (Annex 3.3), and have generated early high level political support (e.g. from the British Embassy, Annex 3.4). It is as yet too soon to ascertain if activities are generating a positive response and raising conservation awareness at site level.

Adjustments in the project plan relating to the proposed timing of the submission of the Ministerial decree to MAFF has caused substantial delay against the original activity plan in progress towards the *establishment of a multi-stakeholder management platform* (Output 1.a), and has led to the prioritisation of the participatory design of MPA zoning schemes to feed in to the management plan (supporting Output 1.b) in order to maximise the time for consultation, particularly at village level. Positive progress towards this is evidenced by the involvement to date of ~34% of island families and the Village Chiefs in the production of draft zoning maps (Annex 3.1) - this momentum is set to continue through village focus groups and private sector and provincial consultation in Year 2. While health and safety issues have also hampered progress towards research and monitoring, particularly *biological data collection and dissemination* (Output 3.a), 22 full reef surveys were achieved by CCC and two MSc thesis projects initiated with support from project partners and other collaborators.

The shift in planned proclamation submission date relatively early in the life of the project increases certain risks, such as reduced time for consultation processes affecting the level of stakeholder buy-in. An adaptable and collaborative approach has therefore been applied by FFI, FIA and CCC (as evidenced in by Year 1 + 2 Project workplans) which has enabled considerable progress towards MPA design and biological research, despite the delays in establishing a full project team and CCC staff and site changes. Important output level assumptions are still believed to apply. Certain areas, such as academic support and linkages (Output 3, Important Assumption 3), are moving in a positive direction to support project purpose, for example, RUPP MSc student projects, UEA monitoring internship and developing linkages with RUA and NUS. Emerging as a key assumption is that the proclamation process can proceed in a timely manner (Output 1, Important Assumption 2) - the shift of the Ministerial decree submission to Year 2 increases the chances of approval being reached. Currently all project outputs are deemed achievable by project close.

4.3 Standard Measures

Table 1 Project Standard Output Measures

Code No.	Description	Year 1 Total (including short description)	Number planned for reporting period	Total planned during the project
Established codes				
2	Number of people to attain Masters qualification (MSc, MPhil etc)	0	0	6
3	Number of people to attain other qualifications (ie. Not outputs 1 or 2 above)	0	2	10
4A	Number of undergraduate students to receive training	0	2	10
4B	Number of training weeks to be provided	0	0	4
4C	Number of postgraduate students to receive training	0	2	6
4D	Number of training weeks to be provided	0	1	4
5	Number of people to receive at least one year of training (which does not fall into categories 1-4 above)	0	0	5
6A	Number of people to receive other forms of education/training (which does not fall into categories 1-5 above)	1: FFI Project Officer, 4 day training in marine survey techniques lead by GCRMN node Karenne Tun, Phuket	0	0

Code No.	Description	Year 1 Total (including short description)	Number planned for reporting period	Total planned during the project
7	Number of (ie different types - not volume - of material produced) training materials to be produced for use by host country	0	0	4
8	Number of weeks to be spent by UK project staff on project work in the host country	4.4 weeks, spent by CCC Head of Science, FFI Regional Marine Programme Manager (and project leader), FFI Governance Specialist and FFI Regional Director, for inception workshop, site visits and project oversight.	6	20
9	Number of species/habitat management plans (or action plans) to be produced for Governments, public authorities, or other implementing agencies in the host country	0	0	3
11A	Number of papers to be published in peer reviewed journals	0	0	3
11B	Number of papers to be submitted to peer reviewed journals	0	1	5
12A	Number of computer based databases to be established and handed over to host country	0	0	1
14A	Number of conferences/seminars/workshops to be organised to present/disseminate findings	1: Inception workshop held in May 2012 and attended by major stakeholders.	1	4
14B	Number of conferences/seminars/workshops attended at which findings from Darwin project work will be presented/ disseminated.	1: The Aceh exchange visit provided an opportunity for the project team to share the project aims and design with delegates from Indonesia and Myanmar	1	4
15A	Number of national press releases in host country(ies)	0	0	3
15C	Number of national press releases in UK	0	0	1
17B	Number of dissemination networks to be enhanced/ extended	0	0	1
18A	Number of national TV programmes/features in host country(ies)	0	0	1
20	Estimated value (£'s) of physical assets to be handed over to host country(ies)	0	0	2,500
21	Number of permanent educational/training/research facilities or organisations to be established and then continued after Darwin funding has ceased	0	0	1

Code No.	Description	Year 1 Total (including short description)	Number planned for reporting period	Total planned during the project
22	Number of permanent field plots to be established during the project and continued after Darwin funding has ceased	0	5	40
23	Value of resources raised from other sources (ie in addition to Darwin funding) for project work	GBP 238,326: committed to support the outputs and purpose of the project (see section 10 for a breakdown)	£27,879	£131,063

Table 2 Publications

No publications planned for year 1

4.4 Progress towards the project purpose and outcomes

The approach in Year 1 has been to form a team within the FiA and to initiate training and learning while MPA design and management processes are established in parallel. While it is early to observe project outcomes, it is fair to say that strong progress has been made towards improving FiA capacity with several key individuals. CFI support and capacity building is also crucial to achieve the project purpose, and the development of a clearer picture of CFI need is expected to increase the effectiveness of support provide in following project years.

Purpose level assumptions are believed to hold true and related indicators are regarded as appropriate and achievable measures of project outcomes. The significance of assumptions relating to government willingness and ability to engage should be highlighted (Important Assumption 1+2). The need for an additional purpose level assumption was highlighted by the lack of suitable FiA staff available and prepared to take part in CCC training activities (see Activity 3.5). For example, some staff are reluctant to take part in activities that involve scuba diving due to cultural beliefs about going underwater. The busy work schedules of FiA staff also makes committing to CCC training more complicated. These issues are not insurmountable and the purpose level assumption would be that *existing staff capacity can be built*.

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

It is not possible to allude to biodiversity impacts within the first 12 months, particularly as the MPA is not yet formally approved. The project, in its first year, initiated the design of socio-economic and biophysical objectives for the MPA. In the next project year, UK expertise will be applied to define specific indicators for measuring changes in biodiversity, and the impact of the project on men and women living within the MPA. A shift to sustainable use and increasing benefits from biodiversity will result particularly from CFI support, to be scaled-up in Year 2.

5. Monitoring, evaluation and lessons

Internal monitoring and evaluation takes place through bi-weekly meetings with the FFI Cambodia management team and monthly meetings of the Project Manager with the FFI Country Representative and Operation Manager, during which the project is discussed and peer reviewed. An annual workplan has been developed by project partners and collaborators, against which activities and significant milestones contributing to the project outputs are monitored and adapted through regular meetings with the FiA team in Phnom Penh. FiA National Project Assistant also compiles monthly activity and financial plans in collaboration with FFI Project Officer at the start of each month, and submits to FFI short narrative reports at the end of each month, which are reviewed and approved by the FiA National Coordinator. FFI also submits short quarterly progress reports to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

In Prek Svay CCC have conducted short community perception interviews, which will assist in monitoring changes in opinion towards the MPA in subsequent project years. This complements the MSc thesis research by Leng Phalla, which will collect quantitative and qualitative data on fishing practices, as well as evaluating attitudes and perceptions toward CFIs. Establishing a more comprehensive and long-term monitoring plan has been initiated through goal and objective setting during YR1, on the basis of Pomeroy et. al (2004). With the possible exception of governance indicators, this monitoring is expected to show relatively limited change during the project lifetime, and will be used in conjunction with the MPA Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (METT). As a first tier assessment tool is geared towards planning, inputs, processes, rather than outcomes and is therefore likely to show more significant change during the project.

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

n/a

7. Other comments on progress not covered elsewhere

In order to enhance the project FFI and FiA identified priority areas requiring additional financial or technical support. Funding was confirmed from the USFWS - Marine Turtle Conservation Fund (USD 29,999), including for seagrass surveys. A second stage proposal to Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation, submitted in March, was approved in April, and is awaiting contract signature. This specifically supports major project outputs and will enhance biological monitoring (Output 3), awareness campaigns (Output 4) and analysis of sustainable financing mechanisms, contributing to project sustainability. Consultation on environmental impacts with island dive operators and island concessionaires developing bungalows within the proposed MPA has been carried out to seek to reduce negative terrestrial impacts on the marine environment, and co-finance was secured for this from Limetree Capital Investments for this, in-line with the original project budget.

Tweaking of project design to submit the ministerial decree earlier is expected to speed up the process of MPA declaration itself, but also reduces the time available for stakeholder consultation. The challenge has been to agree and balance the interests of the various partners to allow sufficient understanding and input from stakeholders to zoning schemes. Collaborative review of workplans has allowed agreement on target dates for submission of the ministerial decree to MAFF, as well as the adaptation of workloads to maximise consultation activities. The national elections on 28th July could cause disruptions in planned site visit with Dr Helen Schneider to develop socio-economic indicators, but the most significant risk is that the national election could lead to delay in CFI Committee elections two CFIs, which could further delay implementation of CFI support (Activities 2.6 and 2.8).

8. Sustainability

The expectation is that at project end the FiA will be in a much stronger position to implement the MPA, and early steps towards this are evidenced by the active participation of several key FiA staff to both the MPA design and promoting it internally with FiA and key development partners in the fisheries sector.

Additional funding has been leveraged from the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation that will allow for a more gradual phase out of CFI and FiA capacity building and support in 2015. The shift to the operational phase of the MPA by that point necessitates funding mechanisms to be designed and established, and a clear management plan that articulates the costs of running the MPA. This need has been built in to the project design, and a suitable candidate identified to collaborate with FFI's staff and partners as well as relevant line ministries to develop, research and deliver an assessment of sustainable financing streams in Year 2. The new funding secured will enhance this through a *willingness to pay* survey and assessment of sustainable funding options for CFIs.

While students, lecturers and government staff have highlighted the fact that marine conservation activities and research are perceived as higher risk (e.g. boat based dive surveys vs terrestrial forest research), during the first year national universities and students have been very eager to engage with the project and marine biodiversity research. For example, of 11 students in the current MSc in Biodiversity Conservation cohort at RUPP, 3 approached FFI with potential marine research projects, and 2 projects were initiated. This is significant as only 1 marine focused thesis has been completed on this course since it was established in 2005. While it is early to observe a significant improvement of capacity, initial government and student engagement in marine conservation during Year 1 bodes well for momentum towards the project purpose and sustainability of outcomes.

9. Dissemination

As well as dissemination on site with local stakeholders (e.g. Activity 4.2), a range of activities have been undertaken to promote the project, targeting national and international audiences:

- The project inception meeting, including a speech by the British Ambassador, was broadcast on national TV channels (TV Kampuchea, Apsara, TV 9), and was also covered on the website of the British Embassy to Cambodia.
- National Project Coordinator Ouk Vibol described the project and circulated a short synopsis highlighting the UK government support to key national development partners such as JICA, USAID, the EU, and the FiA Director General Dr Nao Thouk,
- The April 2012 exchange visit to Aceh was explored in a photo blog on the FFI website by then Country Manager Berry Mulligan, and featured in Song Saa Private Island's monthly conservation newsletter *Reef Notes*.
- FFI Project Manager presented on the DI funded activities to conservation practitioners in FFI's UK headquarters in January
- An article was included in FFI's Update newsletter reporting the Study Tour to Aceh which took place in April 2012 (Annex 3.5)
- An article on project process was submitted and included in the Darwin Initiative newsletter (April 2013 edition)

10. Project Expenditure

Table 3 project expenditure during the reporting period (1 April 2012 – 31 March 2013)

Item	Budget	Expenditure	Variance/ Comments
Staff costs specified by individual			
FFI Regional Director: Dr Tony Whitten			
FFI Regional Marine Programme Manager: Rachel Austin			
CCC Head of Science: Jan van Bochove/Kate Longhurst			
FFI Cambodia Country Manager: Berry Mulligan (until Aug 2012)			
FFI Project Manager: Berry Mulligan (from Sept 2012)			
FFI Project Officer: Chea Phallin			
FFI GIS Officer: Choun Phirom			
FFI Finance & Admin. Team: Kov Vannith/Hout Larkhena			

Item	Budget	Expenditure	Variance/ Comments
FFI Conservation, Governance & Livelihoods Director: Dr Helen Schneider			
National Project Manager: Ing Try			
FiA National Coordinator: Ouk Vibol			
Provincial Coordinator: Duong Sam Ath			
Field Coordinator: You Chanpraseth			
National Project Assistant: Kim Sokha			
Biological Researcher: Hout Vuthy			
Biological Researcher and Community Facilitator: Khiev Tha			
Overhead costs			
Travel and subsistence			
Operating costs			
Capital items/equipment (specify)			
Computer x 2 and GIS software/charts			
Laptop x 1 (Project Officer)			
Satellite Imagery (RapidEye Jan 2013)			
Others: Consultancy			
Others (please specify): Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices survey			
TOTAL			

* Indicate lines for which a carry forward to Year 2 was approved by DEFRA (total c/fwd GBP 10,494.94)

^ UK country partner travel lines for National travel and Fieldwork Travel and subsistence remain underspent by more than 10% in individual lines, due to fewer than expected provincial meetings. This expectation was flagged with LTS when a carry forward request (of GBP 775) was submitted

Over £238,326 of additional funding has been secured in direct support of project aims:

Source	Duration
US Fish & Wildlife Service	Sept 2012 - Aug 2013
Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation*	Jan 2014 - June 2016, TBC
Limetree Capital Advisors	Sept 2012 - May 2013
Song Saa Private Island	Feb - Dec 2013

* finance agreement pending

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

I agree for LTS and the Darwin Secretariat to publish the content of this section

In April of 2012, key members of the project team undertook a learning exchange visit to Pulau Island, Aceh. This exciting peer-to-peer learning event brought together government officials, practitioners, community members, customary marine leaders and NGO staff from Indonesia, Cambodia and Myanmar. It was a hugely successful week prompting a range of proactive discussions and exchanges.

Aceh was chosen as the site for the visit so that participants could learn first-hand from Aceh's successful model of local marine management based on customary law. Participants had the opportunity to discuss issues around shared challenges such as developing appropriate co-management models, socio-economic and biological monitoring, livelihoods activities, zoning enforcement, consensus building and options for sustainable financing.

There were discussions around socio-cultural contexts and how these would affect the design of management systems. Participants from Cambodia were particularly interested in the incentives for community members to comply with rules and regulations on coastal resource management, and were surprised that in Aceh these incentives were largely related to social norms (rather than financial incentives), established and maintained through customary governance institutions.

In so many ways, the exchange visit proved to be an inspiring way for our partners to embark on the Darwin Initiative project, drawing on real life examples and building relationships to create a supportive network of peers who are experiencing or have already developed solutions to common challenges in different Asian contexts.

(Images of exchange visit available to submit if required – mostly images of people.)

Annex 1: Report of progress and achievements against Logical Framework for Financial Year 2012-2013

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2012 - March 2013	Actions required/planned for next period
<p>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.</p>		<p>There has been no YR1 progress (i.e. MPA legal proclamation) contributing to the CBD commitment to protect 10% of Cambodian marine and coastal eco-regions by 2020.</p>	
<p>Purpose: To put the necessary capacity in place to establish the first model MPA for Cambodia</p>	<p><u>P1</u> First MPA planning and management processes in place to enable future MPA establishment</p> <p><u>P2</u> MPA management capacity built at all levels</p> <p><u>P3</u> Increase in marine area under full protection in Cambodia</p> <p><u>P4</u> Eight FiA staff trained and active in MPA management by YR 3</p>	<p>Good progress has been made towards the project purpose in YR1, despite some delays in the management planning process. Seven FiA staff have become active in MPA design. Training for government officials, local fishers and students has been initiated.</p> <p>The original assumptions still hold true, particularly relating to availability of busy FiA staff to join project activities and training.</p>	<p><i>Drafting and submission of the MPA Ministerial decree (prakas) and management plan</i></p> <p><i>Formal establishment of the MPA Management Committee and Technical Committee</i></p> <p><i>Further training for CFIs and FiA</i></p> <p><i>Ongoing reef surveys, research to fill data gaps (mangrove and seagrass) and two MSc theses finalised</i></p> <p><i>National awareness campaign and international MPA conferences</i></p>
<p>Output 1. Protected Area Management Planning</p> <p>a. Multi-stakeholder management platform formed and operational</p> <p>b. MPA management plan designed in a participatory way and agreed and approved by government</p> <p>c. MPA established and zoning formally recognised</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management stakeholder platform formed, with community representation, including women • Protocol for structure developed • Bi-monthly committee meetings • Agreement reached on MPA zoning and no-take zones • Management plan produced and operational by YR3 • Formal decree in place, boundaries and zones mapped and socialised 	<p>Progress towards this output has primarily been in the participatory development of zoning maps for the proposed MPA. The FiA has been keen to draft and submit the final legal instrument for the MPA (the Ministerial decree, including zoning maps) in YR2 of the project rather than YR3 as originally expected (see Activity 1.7). As a result, consultation activities with CFIs and local women and men have been prioritised and brought forward in order to ensure sufficient time for consultation. There has been a corresponding delay in the establishment of the Management Committee for the MPA, originally planned for this year.</p> <p>Note: <i>These indicators are believed to appropriately measure project progress.</i> Bi-monthly management meetings: consultations between project partners on the design of the MPA governance structure and the YR2 work plan suggest that there should be a MPA Management Committee and Technical Committee, with Management Committee meetings taking place quarterly and Technical Committee meetings taking place every other month.</p>	
<p>Activity 1.1. FFI to assist FiA in collating the submission to the Ministry for proclaiming the proposed MPA.</p>		<p>CCC, with input from FFI and its partners, has produced a draft technical report compiling existing data for the proposed MPA with recommendations for its design and implementation, which will accompany the Ministerial decree when submitted. The next phase will include the finalisation of the technical report, drafting of the Ministerial decree by FiA and submission to the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF), by YR2 Q3.</p>	

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2012 - March 2013	Actions required/planned for next period
Activity 1.2. FiA to appoint management committee positions to provincial and commune level government staff, MoE, FA and the Navy, representatives from the private sector and NGOs.		Following discussions about MPA governance mechanisms, FiA have decided that there should be a two-tier management structure, with a committee chaired by the Provincial Governor that would incorporate the relevant provincial line departments with interests in and around the MPA. Supporting that will be a separate Technical Committee, comprised of representatives from CFIs, NGOs, local authority and FiA tasked with development of the management plan, the design of monitoring schemes and long-term MPA management.	
Activity 1.3. Project partners to establish protocols and structure of management committee and develop strategy for first three years of the project.		The management committee structure has been proposed. Formalisation of the committee by provincial decree has been delayed (see also Y1 HY report), and will occur in YR2 (including development of TORs), with appointment of the Technical Committee by Q2. The MPA is expected to move into an operational phase by project end and FiA have identified priorities to strengthen project design and MPA effectiveness, specifically, expansion of awareness raising components and development of sustainable financing mechanisms.	
Activity 1.4. Management committee to hold bi-monthly meetings during the project period to consult on and develop the MPA management plan.		Project partners and collaborators have had regular meetings, particularly on zoning schemes, which will form a central component of the management plan. The inception meeting of the Management Committee is planned for YR2 Q2.	
Activity 1.5. Project partners to design and review zoning in a participatory way and reach an agreement within the management committee on MPA zoning and no-take zones.		Three zone types have been proposed on the basis of the Cambodian Fisheries Law. Consultations with local island stakeholders and existing CFI by-laws have identified priority areas to be allocated as Conservation Zones. Zoning consultation has so far taken place through 10 meetings across 5 villages, with a total of 170 people (including 65 women), involving -34% of the island families. The next phase will incorporate new biophysical information (see Activities 3.2 and 3.3), focus group discussions and private sector and provincial consultation.	
Activity 1.6. FiA/FFI to design an adaptive management plan for the operation of the MPA in a participatory way and use it to begin the operational phase.		In order to initiate the management planning process, partners have drafted a vision and identified nine potential MPA goals. These will be finalised and used to define MPA objectives and the associated indicators necessary to develop the long-term monitoring framework for the MPA, which is required to monitor management plan effectiveness and the outcomes beyond the life of the project.	
Activity 1.7. FiA to update the proclamation to formalise a decree with boundaries and zones mapped and socialised to all stakeholders.		The project design has been modified so that the submission of a fully socialised and final Ministerial decree to MAFF is brought forward to YR2. Originally, the partners envisaged the submission of a proclamation for the MPA boundaries in YR1 which would then be updated in YR3 once full consultation and socialisation of zoning schemes had been carried out with relevant stakeholders.	

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2012 - March 2013	Actions required/planned for next period
<p>Output 2. Training and Capacity Building</p> <p>a. Capacity of FiA built to effectively design and manage MPAs</p> <p>b. Community representatives and leaders effectively voice aspirations, concerns and knowledge to strengthen MPA design and management</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum eight FiA staff trained in MPA planning processes • FiA team successfully plans and implements first MPA • Team remains as permanent FiA MPA management team to effectively implement future MPAs • Improved CFI management within the proposed MPA by YR2 • Percentage attendance and participation by Cfi members and community representatives in the management committee • At least 15 key actors using skills and knowledge gained through training and exchange visit 	<p>The project made good progress towards this output during the reporting period, particularly through establishment and engagement of a capable team within the FiA, and with training and knowledge exchange to develop their understanding on potential MPA management approaches and tools. Assessment and consultation of existing CFI capacities took time, causing some delay in provision of financial support to CFIs. It is expected however that this assessment and dialogue with CFIs should improve the effectiveness of support provided to them in the next period.</p> <p><i>Note: These indicators are believed to appropriately measure project progress. The term management committee should be considered to also include the proposed Technical Management Committee (see Activity 1.2).</i></p>	
<p>Activity 2.1. FiA to appoint staff with expertise in management, communities, enforcement, research and sustainable financing, to join management committee.</p>		<p>FiA have developed TORs and appointed a full project team of 7 staff (5 National FiA, 2 Cantonment FiA), who will join the Management Committee once formed.</p>	
<p>Activity 2.2. Project partners to implement training for FiA, local government and CFI members in MPA management, monitoring and ecological connectivity.</p>		<p>Training by the FFI GIS Coordinator was given to 7 FiA staff and the FFI Project Officer on how to use GPS and GIS. A further session is planned during YR2 to assess retention and reinforce basic GIS skills. The next period will also include training for FiA on development of socio-economic indicators, plus CFI training (including bookkeeping and reporting).</p>	
<p>Activity 2.3. Project partners to coordinate the MPA management committee in management plan design, delivery of interim and operational site plans, monitoring, scientific reports, enforcement, community involvement and demarcation, to ensure effective long-term management of all aspects of the MPA.</p>		<p>This is an overarching activity considered to overlap primarily with Activity 1.6. and will be delayed until the Management Committee is formed during the next phase. Biological monitoring by CCC and community involvement in MPA design have nonetheless been conducted in YR1.</p>	
<p>Activity 2.4. FiA to mentor and train new staff so that the FiA team can continue and be utilised to plan and implement additional MPAs in Cambodia in the future.</p>		<p>YR3 Activity</p>	
<p>Activity 2.5. FFI/FiA to conduct a scoping trip and report on additional potential MPAs.</p>		<p>YR3 Activity</p>	
<p>Activity 2.6 FFI to provide training for community representatives to enable effective representation and leadership.</p>		<p>Training in GPS use was provided to 26 representatives from the 3 CFIs to facilitate their engagement in the design and ground-truthing of draft zone maps (under Activities 1.6 and 2.7). During the next period FiA and its partners will provide guidance and support for committee elections in two CFIs, and for CFI management plan development.</p>	

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2012 - March 2013	Actions required/planned for next period
Activity 2.7 Project partners to lead on community consultation for input and feedback during the process of MPA design, development and implementation.		Presentation of the project and MPA proclamation to island communities across 15 meetings including explanation and discussion of the zoning definitions and purpose, reaching 198 individuals (67 of which were women), including the Village Chiefs of the 5 villages, Navy representatives, local police, commune councillors, private sector (incl. MCC, Song Saa Private Island). CCC initiated socioeconomic assessment in Prek Svay, conducting community perception interviews with 33 households. Further interviews will be conducted in the next period in Prek Svay and focus group discussions in all 5 island villages, to refine draft zoning maps and increase participation in the consultation process.	
Activity 2.8 FFI/FiA to support improved management and administration of community fisheries (CFis).		A needs assessment and SWOT analysis with each of the 3 CFIs and meetings with previous and current supporters to CFIs identified community priorities for training and equipment. While some equipment has been procured, institutional processes (including the development of CFI management plans in the next period) and CFI Committee are necessary before full training programmes are delivered and equipment is supplied to CFIs.	
Activity 2.9 FFI to lead exchange for community representatives and FiA to learn from three years of experience of Locally Managed Marine Areas in Pulau Weh, Indonesia.		Two FiA staff, Field Coordinator and National Project Assistant, joined a 5 day exchange visit to learn from FFI and government experiences in marine co-management approaches in Aceh, Indonesia. The exchange included 2 FFI Cambodia staff, the Commune Chief for the Koh Roh Archipelago and a private sector representative (Community Engagement Officer, Song Saa Private Island).	
Output 3. Research and Monitoring a. Systematic biological and socio-economic information collected and disseminated for the proposed MPA b. Robust ecological and social monitoring systems in place	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survey protocols established, aligned with a monitoring plan. • Surveys completed • At least 6 RUPP MSc students and Royal University of Agriculture students conduct research projects in the MPA • Five FiA staff and 20 community representatives trained • Database set up and maintained 	Some delays in on-going monitoring of coral reefs and difficulties in identifying suitable candidates within the government to conduct dive and survey training have hampered progress towards this output. Research has got under way, including 22 reef surveys and 2 RUPP MSc student thesis projects on-site. Activities have been undertaken (including the drafting of a goals and vision for the MPA) to allow significant progress in monitoring in YR2. <i>Note: These indicators are believed to appropriately measure project progress.</i>	
Activity 3.1. Project partners to establish survey protocols to both inform zoning and monitor ecosystem health in the MPA for the project period and beyond.		A desk study was undertaken by an FFI intern and MSc student from the University of East Anglia (UEA) which identified potential biophysical and socio-economic goals, objectives and indicators for the proposed MPA. This will be expanded to a complete analysis of mid and long-term monitoring protocol, with recommendations for time intervals and implementation of long-term coral reef surveys protocols by CCC. Definition of MPA goals and objectives (see Activity 1.6) is necessary to establish suitable monitoring systems. These will be finalised in the next period and Dr Helen Schneider will travel to Cambodia to assist FiA to develop socio-economic indicators.	

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2012 - March 2013	Actions required/planned for next period
Activity 3.2. CCC to lead surveys to inform zoning demarcation around KR/KRS.		CCC conducted 22 full coral reef surveys around Koh Rong, strengthening the baseline data. During the next period, conservation management values will be generated, combining various sets of biological data related to reef quality, which will be used to refine draft zone maps generated through community consultation. Multiple site visits and ground-truthing of draft zone maps identified a gap in the available data for mangroves and seagrass. FFI obtained RapidEye satellite imagery from January 2013, which will be ground-truthed in the next period to develop updated mangrove distribution maps. Seagrass surveys have been organised for YR2 Q1 to update distribution maps.	
Activity 3.3. Project partners to conduct monitoring surveys of MPA health.		FFI conducted 6 visits to KRS to liaise with the Navy for monitoring terrestrial and coastal threats, including new bungalow development. In April 2012 CCC completed the first round of reef surveys for the MPA, however due to unforeseen closure of their on-site base in May and safety concerns CCC temporarily put their operation on hold until January 2013. Now fully staffed and with a suitable base in Prek Svay, a full 2nd round of KR surveys will be conducted during 2013	
Activity 3.4. RUPP and RUA students to conduct dissertation projects within MPA.		Two MSc students in Biodiversity Conservation from the RUPP, through FFI's University Capacity Building Project (Darwin ref. EIDPO028), have designed and defended MPA focused thesis research proposals. The first is conducting a study with FFI and private sector collaborator Song Saa Private island, to assess fishing practices. The second student is working with CCC and FFI on <i>A comparative study of coral reef fish and invertebrate communities of Koh Rong and Koh Rong Sanloem</i> . They will write up and defend their research during the next year, and at least 2 new students projects will be proposed.	
Activity 3.5. CCC to run training programme for FiA staff, community representatives and students in marine research techniques and monitoring.		Following consultation with FiA, initial plans to put several FiA Department of Fisheries Conservation and Provincial staff through training in reef ecology, diving and survey training were put on hold. Health reasons, availability of staff and language barriers excluded 6 of the 7 FiA project staff from taking part in a full 1 month programme. In order to ensure that key FiA staff are able to understand and interpret reef monitoring data, CCC will develop a condensed short training on the theory and practicalities of reef ecology and monitoring. MSc student Thuang Ret will receive the full 4 weeks training in marine ecology and diving.	
Activity 3.6. Project partners to establish monitoring plan and database.		FiA called a meeting with multiple research groups regarding standardising monitoring and a national coral reef database. It was agreed that national institutions conducting reef surveys should seek to standardise. To agree the details in the method and design a standard data entry form, CCC will co-organise and host an on-site workshop in the next period. The process for finalising a monitoring programme for the MPA is underway (see Activity 3.1) and database development is now planned for YR2 Q4.	

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2012 - March 2013	Actions required/planned for next period
Activity 3.7. CCC/FFI to finalise reports on research and monitoring to submit to FiA		Two short reports were submitted by FFI to FiA and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. CCC submitted an inventory of coral species recorded around Koh Rong island to the FiA – this will form part of a national inventory of coral species, which will feed in to the first comprehensive assessment of the scleractinian corals in the South China Sea. FFI will submit quarterly progress reports in YR2.	
<p>Output 4. Awareness and Dissemination</p> <p>a. MPA concepts socialised and community show positive response to sustain or support biodiversity</p> <p>b. Marine conservation awareness raised among MPA resource users</p> <p>c. Best Practice lessons from responsible private stakeholders used to inform MPA processes</p> <p>d. Project results disseminated nationally and internationally, and awareness raised about project lessons and successes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 3 stakeholder workshops with all major MPA actors • Trainings well attended by the target audiences • Awareness raising materials used and understood by stakeholders • Media campaign undertaken • Best practice documents developed on private groups are used in MPA design • Project results disseminated at least 1 international and 1 national forum per year • No. communications materials with DI logo disseminated in the UK and at international fora 	<p>Strong progress has been made towards this output during the reporting period. While the majority of activities relate to YR2 and YR3 of the project, national awareness, both through the project launch and dissemination at national forums, has been raised among national stakeholders during the reporting period. Awareness materials and workshops at a local level have targeted resource users, focusing on the project plan, the MPA zoning scheme and the significance of marine resources.</p> <p>Note: Formal consultation on zoning schemes with private sector did not begin during the reporting period. Due to the delay, use of best practice documents in MPA design may not be feasible within the lifespan of the project, at least use within other proposed MPAs (secondary sites) in Cambodia.</p>	
Activity 4.1. Project partners will hold stakeholder workshops to include the management committee and representatives from major stakeholder groups.		An inception workshop was conducted in May in Phnom Penh to socialise the project rationale with key actors and enable information sharing. British Ambassador Mr Mark Gooding and FiA Deputy Director General Mr Ing Try launched the project at the workshop, attended by 27 participants, including 5 representatives of the private sector. FiA and Song Saa Private Island staff reported back on lessons learnt from the exchange visit to Aceh (Activity 2.9) and CCC presented data on coral reefs. A workshop chaired by the Provincial Governor with relevant provincial authorities is planned for the next period.	
Activity 4.2. FFI/FiA to produce awareness raising materials for distribution at workshops and in the community.		A leaflet was produced which provides an overview of the project, its purpose and the partners and funders involved. 1500 copies were printed in Khmer and English. FiA National Project Assistant compiled information on key marine resources which has been used as a basis for discussion in 3 meetings with CFIs and fishing communities regarding marine resource conservation. Additional materials will be produced in the next period, including a 2 page brochure that will be finalised in YR2 Q1 for the FiA Deputy Director General to raise awareness within the Council for the Development of Cambodia about the MPA, and the need to involve the private sector in design and management. CCC Community Liaison Coordinator will also finalise marine focused educational games.	

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2012 - March 2013	Actions required/planned for next period
Activity 4.3. FFI to facilitate media campaign to raise awareness on MPA establishment.		As planned an awareness campaign will be initiated in YR2, including an event for World Ocean Day. British wildlife artist, Esther Tyson, will conduct a residency in collaboration with Song Saa Private Island to raise awareness.	
Activity 4.4. FFI to develop best practice documents in collaboration with private sector and project partners		While originally due to be completed in YR2, this will be delayed until the completion of the proclamation process, including the private sector consultation on zoning. Informal discussions with the private sector (including dive operators) during the reporting period will enable improved documentation/lessons sharing.	
Activity 4.5. Project partners to disseminate results in at least one international and one national forum per year, including the International Coral Reef Initiative.		Ouk Vibol announced the launch of the project to the Technical Working Group-Fisheries (TWG-F), disseminating a short project synopsis. He also attended the 8th International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI) East Asia Regional Workshop, Korea (NB: apart from FiA staff time this activity was not funded by the project, and received technical support from island stakeholder MMC). During the next phase partners will report progress at the TWG-F and will submit abstracts to the 3 rd International MPA Congress the 9 th ICRI regional workshop, if/when confirmed.	

Annex 2 Project's full current logframe

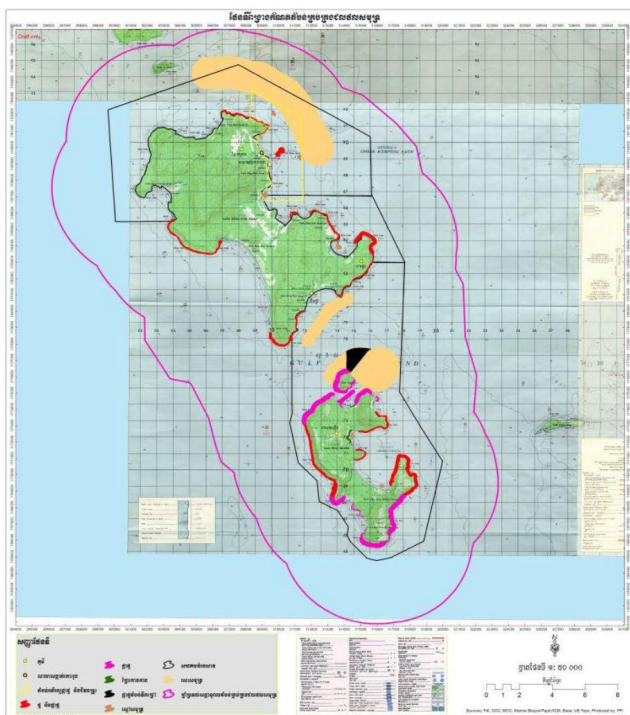
Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
<p>Goal:</p> <p>Effective contribution in support of the implementation of the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Convention on Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), and the Convention on the 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>Cambodia's marine resources conserved effectively and sustainably and diversified coastal livelihoods supported</p>	<p>One MPA proclaimed and issues surrounding marine conservation planning embedded in government structures and policy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proclamation for MPA establishment • Minutes of quarterly TWG meetings demonstrating functioning MPA management team within the FiA. • Policies and procedures for managing MPAs are in place • Socio-economic and biological monitoring confirms livelihoods and biodiversity benefits of MPA 	
<p>Purpose</p> <p>To put the necessary capacity in place to establish the first model MPA for Cambodia</p>	<p>P1 First MPA planning and management processes in place to enable future MPA establishment</p> <p>P2 MPA management capacity built at all levels</p> <p>P3 Increase in marine area under full protection in Cambodia</p> <p>P4 Eight FiA staff trained and active in MPA management by YR 3</p>	<p>P1 FiA MPA strategy document</p> <p>P2 Best Practice Manual and presentations by FiA staff on MPA management at national and international fora</p> <p>P3 First MPA and multi-stakeholder management committee established</p> <p>P4 Training reports, staff contracts.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued Government willingness to dedicate human and other resources to MPA management • FiA staff sufficiently committed and available for training and implementation. • FiA is committed to the concept of a functioning MPA and not just a paper park • Persons trained by the marine project will remain in posts in which they can apply their skills
<p>Outputs</p> <p>1. Protected Area Management Planning</p> <p>a. Multi-stakeholder management platform formed and operational</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management stakeholder platform formed, with community representation, including women • Protocol for structure developed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protocols (1a, 1 b) • Meeting minutes and agendas (1a, 1b) • Stakeholder collaboration documents (1a, 1b) • Zonation map endorsed by all 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stakeholders are willing to engage • The process can be undertaken in a timely fashion to allow the decree to be established within the time scale of the project • Government willing to engage

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
<p>b. MPA management plan designed in a participatory way and agreed and approved by government</p> <p>c. MPA established and zoning formally recognised</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bi-monthly committee meetings • Agreement reached on MPA zoning and no-take zones • Management plan produced and operational by YR3 • Formal decree in place, boundaries and zones mapped and socialised 	<p>stakeholders (1a, 1b)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management Plan endorsed by government (1b) • Decrees and Proclamation documents of MPA (1c) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government approval reached
<p>2. Training and Capacity Building</p> <p>a. Capacity of FiA built to effectively design and manage MPAs</p> <p>b. Community representatives and leaders effectively voice aspirations, concerns and knowledge to strengthen MPA design and management</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum eight FiA staff trained in MPA planning processes • FiA team successfully plans and implements first MPA • Team remains as permanent FiA MPA management team to effectively implement future MPAs • Improved Cfi management within the proposed MPA by YR2 • Percentage attendance and participation by Cfi members and community representatives in the management committee • At least 15 key actors using skills and knowledge gained through training and exchange visit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training registry; manuals and reports prepared by trainers (2a) • Natural and social MPA Management Effectiveness indicators (2a, 2b) • FiA workplans (2a) • Management plan authored by FiA staff (2a) • Staff in continuing positions in FiA MPA group (2a) • Additional MPAs proposed to the TWG – Fisheries (2a) • Exchange visit reports (2a, 2b) • Management committee meeting minutes (2b) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity can be built • Suitable capacity building activities can be undertaken by project partners • FiA staff willing to engage • Cfi and community leaders have sufficient time to engage in training
<p>3. Research and Monitoring</p> <p>a. Systematic biological and socio-economic information collected and disseminated for the proposed MPA</p> <p>b. Robust ecological and social</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survey protocols established, aligned with a monitoring plan. • Surveys completed • At least 6 RUPP MSc students and Royal University of Agriculture students conduct research projects in the MPA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survey protocols and complimentary monitoring plan (3a) • MSc students' theses (3a) • Database in YR3 (3a) • Technical reports (3b) • Peer reviewed papers published 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suitable survey methods can be designed that are appropriate and involves partners and MPA stakeholders. • Sufficient information can be collected • Technical and academic support continues from partners

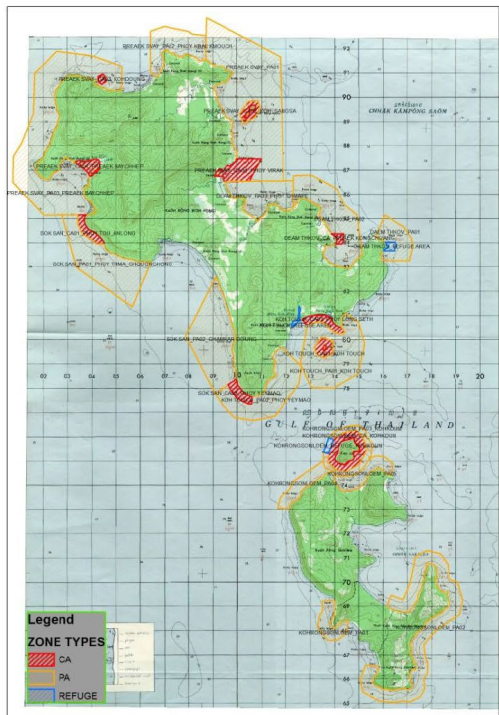
Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
monitoring systems in place	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five FiA staff and 20 community representatives trained • Database set up and maintained 	(3b)	
<p>4. Awareness and Dissemination</p> <p>a. MPA concepts socialised and community show positive response to sustain or support biodiversity</p> <p>b. Marine conservation awareness raised among MPA resource users</p> <p>c. Best Practice lessons from responsible private stakeholders used to inform MPA processes</p> <p>d. Project results disseminated nationally and internationally, and awareness raised about project lessons and successes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 3 stakeholder workshops with all major MPA actors • Trainings well attended by the target audiences • Awareness raising materials used and understood by stakeholders • Media campaign undertaken • Best practice documents developed on private groups are used in MPA design • Project results disseminated at least 1 international and 1 national forum per year • No. communications materials with DI logo disseminated in the UK and at international fora 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshop and training reports (4a) • Stakeholder attendance lists (4a) • KAP survey (4a, 4b) • FiA MPA awareness leaflets (4b) • Awareness materials incorporated into other media without project assistance (4b, 4d) • Local radio and tv exposure (4b) • Meeting agendas and minutes (4c) • Best practice documents, MPA management plan (4c) • Academic papers (publications in Cambodian Journal of Natural History anticipated) (4d) • International press releases and public media (4d) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stakeholders are willing to engage • Awareness raising methods are suitable for the variety of stakeholders • Private groups maintain engagement and continue with best practice, so they can be used as examples

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
<p>Activities (details in workplan)</p> <p>1.1 FFI to assist FiA in collating the submission to the Ministry for proclaiming the proposed MPA.</p> <p>1.2 FiA to appoint management committee positions to provincial and commune level government staff, MoE, FA and the Navy, representatives from the private sector and NGOs.</p> <p>1.3 Project partners to establish protocols and structure of management committee and develop strategy for first three years of the project.</p> <p>1.4 Management committee to hold bi-monthly meetings during the project period to consult on and develop the MPA management plan.</p> <p>1.5 Project partners to design and review zoning in a participatory way and reach an agreement within the management committee on MPA zoning and no-take zones.</p> <p>1.6 FiA/FFI to design an adaptive management plan for the operation of the MPA in a participatory way and use it to begin the operational phase.</p> <p>1.7 FiA to update the proclamation to formalise a decree with boundaries and zones mapped and socialised to all stakeholders.</p> <p>2.1 FiA to appoint staff with expertise in management, communities, enforcement, research and sustainable financing, to join management committee.</p> <p>2.2 Project partners to implement training for FiA, local government and CFi members in MPA management, monitoring and ecological connectivity.</p> <p>2.3 Project partners to coordinate the MPA management committee in management plan design, delivery of interim and operational site plans, monitoring, scientific reports, enforcement, community involvement and demarcation, to ensure effective long-term management of all aspects of the MPA.</p> <p>2.4 FiA to mentor and train new staff so that the FiA team can continue and be utilised to plan and implement additional MPAs in Cambodia in the future.</p> <p>2.5 FFI/FiA to conduct a scoping trip and report on additional potential MPAs.</p> <p>2.6 FFI to provide training for community representatives to enable effective representation and leadership.</p> <p>2.7 Project partners to lead on community consultation for input and feedback during the process of MPA design, development and implementation.</p> <p>2.8 FFI/FiA to support improved management and administration of community fisheries (CFis).</p> <p>2.9 FFI to lead exchange for community representatives and FiA to learn from three years of experience of Locally Managed Marine Areas in Pulau Weh, Indonesia.</p> <p>3.1 Project partners to establish survey protocols to both inform zoning and monitor ecosystem health in the MPA for the project period and beyond.</p> <p>3.2 CCC to lead surveys to inform zoning demarcation around KR/KRS.</p> <p>3.3 Project partners to conduct monitoring surveys of MPA health.</p> <p>3.4 RUPP and RUA students to conduct dissertation projects within MPA.</p> <p>3.5 CCC to run training programme for FiA staff, community representatives and students in marine research techniques and monitoring.</p> <p>3.6 Project partners to establish monitoring plan and database.</p> <p>3.7 CCC/FFI to finalise reports on research and monitoring to submit to FiA</p> <p>4.1 Project partners will hold stakeholder workshops to include the management committee and representatives from major stakeholder groups.</p> <p>4.2 FFI/FiA to produce awareness raising materials for distribution at workshops and in the community.</p> <p>4.3 FFI to facilitate media campaign to raise awareness on MPA establishment.</p> <p>4.4 FFI to develop best practice documents in collaboration with private sector and project partners.</p> <p>4.5 Project partners to disseminate results in at least one international and one national forum per year, including the International Coral Reef Initiative.</p>			

Annex 3.1 Maps and Photos



First draft MPA zone map, incorporating some existing biophysical spatial data



Digitised map with initial proposed Conservation Areas in red



Second draft zone map after 1st round of community consultation



Third draft zone map following ground truthing with CFIs and local authorities



Commune Chief Mr Doch Sokhom addresses Panglima Laot and Fisheries Officers in Aceh



Mr You Chanpraseth, FIA Field Coordinator, discussing fisheries management in Aceh



Zoning consultation in Sok San village with Kim Sokha, FIA National Project Assistant (right)



Zoning consultation in Prek Svay village with CFI Committee Chief and fishers



Song Saa Private Island staff Prak Saran (left) uses project leaflets to discuss the proposed MPA with local fishers



Ground-truthing of draft zoning maps with Prek Svay CFI members and FFI GIS Coordinator (left)



Presenting at the project inception workshop at the FIA in Phnom Penh.



Project inception workshop at the FIA in Phnom Penh included major stakeholders from national and provincial government, as well as NGOs, development partners and the private sector.



Early morning fishers around the island of Koh Rong



Village in Sok San

Annex 3.3 Project Summary for Fisheries Working Group

Project Summary

In March 2012 funding was approved through the UK Government's **Darwin Initiative** for a new marine fisheries conservation project in Cambodia.

The Darwin Initiative assists countries that are rich in biodiversity but poor in financial resources to meet their objectives under one or more of the three major biodiversity Conventions: the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD); the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES); and the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS), through the funding of collaborative projects which draw on UK biodiversity expertise.

Project Title: Underpinning the design and management of Cambodia's first Marine Protected Area (MPA)

Lead Partner: Fisheries Administration (FiA), Department of Fisheries Conservation

Implementing Institution: Fauna & Flora International (FFI)

Partner: Coral Cay Conservation (CCC)

Duration: 3 years, April 2012 – March 2015

Award: £293,526 (circa \$467,000)

Project Purpose: To build capacity to ensure the effective design and management of Cambodia's first and subsequent Marine Protected Areas.

Project Site: Cambodia's first large Marine Fisheries Management Area (MFMA) around the islands of Koh Rong and Koh Rong Sanloem (see map)

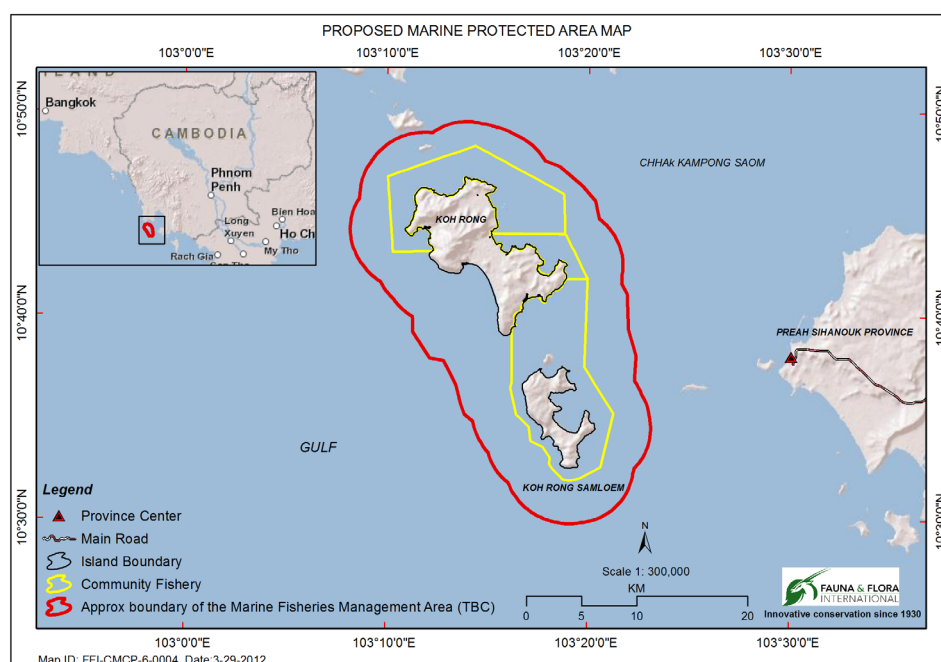
Focal areas and outputs:

Protected Area Management Planning: Establishing management structure, supporting proclamation, management plan, MFMA zoning.

Training and Capacity Building: Exchange visits, community consultation and training for MFMA management to FiA, Community Fisheries, local government and island community.

Research and Monitoring: Establishment of appropriate monitoring systems to track the biological and social impacts of the MFMA, and training in research techniques.

Awareness and Dissemination: raising awareness among local communities and other stakeholders of the MFMA and its potential benefits, and communicating lessons from the project nationally and regionally.



Annex 3.4 Opening Remarks Darwin Initiative Project Launch 18th May 2012

**Welcoming Remarks by
H.E. Mark Gooding
Her Majesty's Ambassador
of the United Kingdom to the Kingdom of Cambodia**
Delivered at
**The Inception Workshop for 'Establishing Cambodia's Marine Fisheries
Management Area'**
Delivered at
**The Inland Fisheries Research and Development Institute (IFReDI),
Fisheries Administration, Phnom Penh
18th May 2012**

Your Excellency, Dr Nao Thuok, Director General of the Fisheries Administration, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen.

It is my great pleasure to address this inception workshop on the establishment of Cambodia's Marine Fisheries Management Area around the islands of Koh Rong and Koh Rong Samloen.

Today we are here to discuss and learn from international and Cambodian experiences in the design and implementation of marine resource protection strategies. On behalf of the UK Government, I would like to thank Your Excellency and the Fisheries Administration for organising this important meeting in collaboration with Fauna & Flora International.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen!

The UK and Cambodia have good relations and cooperation in a number of strands including economic, trade/investment, human rights, security and sustainable development. The launch of this Darwin Initiative project involving Fauna and Flora International and Cambodia's Fisheries Administration, adds another important strand to what is an increasingly rich – and friendly- web of relations between our two countries.

The UK Government Darwin Initiative started in 1992 at the Rio Earth Summit. Since that time, it has invested £87.8 million – that’s around USD 142 million—to fund 756 projects in 155 countries around the world. And despite the difficult current financial climate, we have been able to commit to continued funding from 2010 to 2015. In March this year the Initiative celebrated its 20th birthday with an announcement of an additional £8.5m (around USD 13.7 million) funding for 33 new projects. These include projects from the Galapagos to Papua New Guinea, from Mongolia to Madagascar, and include the marine project in Cambodia that we are officially launching today.

The Darwin Initiative exists to provide assistance to countries that are rich in biodiversity, but lack the financial resources required to meet their obligations under one or more of the biodiversity conventions: the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES), and the Convention of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS). The Darwin Initiative provides funding for collaborative projects which draw on UK biodiversity expertise.

Of course, the Darwin Initiative is not just about biodiversity. Biodiversity loss and environmental degradation affect the ecosystem goods and services on which all our lives depend. These include provision of food, fuel and clean water, fulfillment of recreation opportunities and cultural values, as well as protection from natural hazards like flooding and erosion. To better reflect this interconnectedness between biodiversity and human wellbeing all Darwin Initiative funded projects are now required to demonstrate poverty reduction impacts and livelihoods benefits for local people.

This makes the Darwin Initiative more important than ever. It is timely therefore that we are launching it in Cambodia just ahead of the upcoming Rio+20 international conference in Brazil next month. Twenty years after the Rio Earth Summit, world leaders will again meet to discuss how we can put the world on the path towards sustainable economic development and green growth.

The UK government is committed to sustainable economic growth. And we have high ambitions for Rio+20. Rio is an important opportunity for international cooperation on sustainable development, to make the case for a global green economy, and to make clear that the major global challenges – food security, environmental degradation, climate change and poverty eradication – are inextricably linked. We will be pressing for more than just a communiqué; we will be pressing for action – globally, and by government and business.

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen,

The sound design and effective management of the ocean is one critical way of ensuring that marine resources are managed sustainably in order that they can continue to provide sources of food and income for generations to come. As you are all aware, the world's oceans are facing myriad threats, from overfishing and destructive fishing practices, to pollution and sedimentation. Marine and coastal habitats - and the services they provide to people - are also likely to alter with climate change. It is likely we will experience increased loss of coral reefs, sea level rise and ocean acidification. These factors make the sound management of marine areas even more of a priority. I applaud the Royal Government of Cambodia's efforts to meet its targets for marine protection under the Convention on Biological Diversity and help ensure sustainable livelihoods for Cambodia's nearly 1 million coastal inhabitants. The Royal Government of Cambodia has been proactive in seeking fisheries reform and the development of its Strategic Planning Framework (SPF) for Fisheries: 2010-2019, to which this project will contribute.

I would like to mention that the UK has its own initiative to protect its marine environment, and is working to create a series of 'Marine Conservation Zones' to protect important wildlife and habitats around England, Wales and Northern Ireland. These Marine Conservation Zones will act as a network and together provide more benefits than any single area could. I hope that this new project

in Cambodia will provide a stepping stone to expand effective marine resource management and that in future a network of Marine Fisheries Management Areas can be established.

I would like to thank the Royal Government of Cambodia Fisheries Administration for leading this initiative to establish a Marine Fisheries Management Area in Cambodia and I express my appreciation for the development of a strong partnership between the Fisheries Administration and Fauna & Flora International, which has led to the funding of such an important and exciting project.

Finally, let me again express my sincere gratitude to Your Excellency and the Fisheries Administration. And thanks to all participants for your valuable time and contribution.

I wish you all every success in this excellent example of collaboration between the UK and the Kingdom of Cambodia.

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Cambodia to get its first large-scale marine protected area

In May 2012, Fauna & Flora International (FFI) launched an exciting new project to support the Royal Government of Cambodia as it sets out to establish the country's first large-scale Marine Protected Area.

This will cover an area of approximately 300 km² (the size of 30,000 football pitches) and will allow local fishing communities to play an active role in the management of the new reserve.

To help officials from the Cambodian Fisheries Administration get a better understanding of the practicalities, challenges and opportunities associated with this ambitious project, FFI organised a study tour to one of its most successful marine projects in the region, which focuses on a network of Locally Managed Marine Areas in Aceh, Indonesia.

The tour gave the visitors an opportunity to meet with the Aceh Marine and Fisheries Agency, as well as local customary leaders and representatives from community patrols



CREDIT: JEREMY HOLDEN / FFI

▲ The new protected area will be formally known as a 'Marine Fisheries Management Area' under Cambodian fisheries law

to learn more about how governments and communities can work together to secure marine resources and the process for establishing a Locally Managed Marine Area.

A great example of how lessons can be shared between projects and teams, the work in Aceh both surprised and impressed the Cambodian

delegation, who were amazed at the level of community support and participation.

The tour has laid the foundation for future collaboration between FFI's marine projects in Southeast Asia, and the lessons learned from this trip will feed directly into the design of Cambodia's new Marine Protected Area. ■

Checklist for submission

	Check
Is the report less than 5MB? If so, please email to Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.uk putting the project number in the Subject line.	Y
Is your report more than 5MB? If so, please discuss with Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.uk about the best way to deliver the report, putting the project number in the Subject line.	N
Have you included means of verification? You need not submit every project document, but the main outputs and a selection of the others would strengthen the report.	Y
Do you have hard copies of material you want to submit with the report? If so, please make this clear in the covering email and ensure all material is marked with the project number.	N
Have you involved your partners in preparation of the report and named the main contributors	Y
Have you completed the Project Expenditure table fully?	Y
Do not include claim forms or other communications with this report.	