



Darwin Initiative Main Project 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 2015

Darwin Project Information

Project Reference	19-025
Project Title	Conservation of Ethiopia's Wild Coffee using Participatory Forest Management
Host Country/ies	Ethiopia
Contract Holder Institution	University of Huddersfield (UoH)
Partner institutions	Ethio-Wetlands and Natural Resources Association (EWNRA) Institute for Biodiversity Conservation (IBC) Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples Regional Government (SNNPRS) Sustainable Livelihood Action (SLA) (in the Netherlands)
Darwin Grant Value	£246,507
Funder (DFID/Defra)	Defra
Start/end dates of project	1 st April 2012 / 31 st November 2015
Reporting period (e.g., Apr 2015 – Mar 2016) and number (e.g., Annual Report 1, 2, 3)	Apr 2014 – Mar 2015 Report 3.
Project Leader name	Professor Adrian Wood
Project website/blog/Twitter	http://wetlandsandforests.hud.ac.uk
Report author(s) and date	Adrian Wood (UOH), Afework Hailu (EWNRA), Dr Tesfaye Awas (EIB) and Ziyenu Lemma (Project Coordinator), April 2015

1. Project Rationale

Coffea arabica evolved as an understory shrub in the Afromontane forests of south-west Ethiopia. Despite being a global commodity, conservation of this genetic resource and the forests where it evolved has been poor. Over the last 25 years 40% of these Afromontane forests have been lost. This is due to a lack of secure forest rights for communities, local population growth and the need for additional farmland, state allocation of land to investors and resettlement of drought victims. Further, while the importance of conserving the natural forests with wild coffee is now recognised, conservation policies, which exclude local people from any interaction with these forests where people have co-existed with wild coffee for centuries, have alienated these communities. Agricultural policies that favour improved coffee varieties in intensively managed areas of “coffee forest” also threaten to displace the largest amount of wild coffee genetic resources. Overall there is serious concern about the survival of these forests and their wild coffee genetic diversity. This will leave the global Arabica coffee industry with a very narrow genetic base.

With resettlement ended around 2007 and changes being made by the regional government to forestry laws so as to improve access and use rights for poor forest-fringe communities, opportunities appeared for participatory forest management (PFM) to be applied across Southern Nations, Nationalities and People's Regional State (SNNPRS). How this approach can be applied and, where necessary, specifically adapted for community-based conservation of forest biodiversity, especially wild coffee, as well as support poverty reduction was seen as both an opportunity and a challenge and led to this project.

In Sheko woreda of SNNPRS two major areas of "natural" forest exist, Kontir Berhan and Amora Gedel, totalling over 10,000 ha. In these forests stands of wild *Coffea arabica* exists. These are government forests where despite legislation there was effectively "open access". This had led to the progressive degradation of these forests. Around the "natural" forest there are extensive areas of "coffee forest" which has been developed over the last 30 years through the replanting of wild coffee seedlings from the "natural" forest. This coffee forest has been expanding into the natural forest and concern has existed for some time about the way in which this coffee forest expansion and the open access to the natural forest will destroy the areas where the wild coffee still remains in the natural state. These are the areas where it is hoped wild coffee can continue to evolve naturally in response to climate change and other environmental challenges. Hence the need has been identified for arrangements which can support *in situ* conservation of the wild coffee in this natural forest.

Participatory forest management (PFM) has been identified as one potential method which could support and sustain *in situ* conservation as well as provide new livelihood opportunities for forest-fringe communities. PFM methods have been developed for the south-west forests of Ethiopia over ten years since 2003 by three of the partners in this project (UoH, EWNRA and SLA) in collaboration with the relevant agencies of the government of SNNPRS. Applying these methods to *in situ* conservation of wild coffee began in 2010 with support from the EU for this six year project. Additional funding from DI after 2012 has released more of the EU funds and has allowed additional technical support for the project to better document and disseminate the experience of PFM as a method for *in situ* conservation and explore the relationship between PFM and other *in situ* conservation approaches, notably biosphere reserves.

The overall project within which the DI Project No 19-025 fits is known locally as the Wild Coffee Conservation by Participatory Forest Management Project, WCC-PFM Project. The current log frame as requested for this document has the areas where DI funding has been used shaded green to help clarify what activities and outcomes are supported by DI.

The project is located between 35 18 E and 35 37 E and 6 95 N and 7 12 N. (For Map see Section 3)

2. Project Partnerships

This WCC-PFM Project is the result of a long-term collaborative partnership of 3 organisations: UoH, EWNRA and SLA (acronyms are on page 1 Partner list) which goes back to 2000 when they were working on sustainable wetland management in another location in south-west Ethiopia. These three partners have legal responsibilities for the project under the EU contract with UoH as the overall contractor. Additional partners for this project are IBC (now called the Ethiopian Biodiversity Institute - EBI) and SNNPRS Bureau of Agriculture. The former brings in-country biodiversity expertise and links to international reporting, while the latter is essential for coordination of field activities and ensuring long term sustainable monitoring. The forests are a main responsibility of the Bureau of Agriculture.

The management structure of the project in terms of the roles and responsibilities of main partners is as follows:

UoH: is overall lead and responsible to DI and to the EU for technical and financial reporting, as well as undertaking daily liaison with the field based project coordinator (PC), senior technical staff (with cc. to the PC) and consultants – national and international.

EWNRA: registers the project in country and employs all field staff and provides support to the PC and undertakes annual appraisal of all staff and liaises with the Horn of Africa Regional Environment Centre – another funder of the project.

IBC/ EBI: provides local technical support and links to the national biodiversity database and to international biodiversity reporting. It is also a key beneficiary of the lessons from this work in terms of new methods for *in situ* conservation. EBI is where the project links to the national biodiversity focal point and through this to helping Ethiopia meet its international commitments.

SNNPRS: has the field staff on the ground with whom the project works (Development Agents and Woreda (District) experts). These are in the Bureau / Office of Agriculture. These are the staff for whom government training is directed and in which the new processes for biodiversity conservation will be institutionalised.

In addition there is one non-host country partner:

SLA: employs all of the international consultants and provides support in project operations.

The three EU contract partners (UoH, EWNRA & SLA) have been working together on forest related projects in this part of Ethiopia since 2003. In particular, they have worked for 10 years on the Non-Timber Forest Products – Participatory Forest Management Project (NTFP-PFM) Project which introduced PFM into south-west Ethiopia. (This is now a REDD+ project funded by Norway and implemented by EWNRA alone.) They have established a good division of labour (as explained above) as well as having developed a sound method for communication and cooperation. There have been no major changes to the management structure of the project or the relationship between these three partners over the reporting period. Project management is by email and phone communications with regular management meetings in Ethiopia involving UoH and EWNRA in person and SLA by email.

SWFLG - The three lead partners have worked closely over the last two years and developed a regional grouping called the “South-west Forests and Landscape Grouping” (SWFLG). This has been established in response to key issues being raised by different government and international agencies with respect to the southwest and in order to raise the profile of the work being done in this area. (See attachment 1 – SWFLG Brochure).

Government - Relations with the Federal government are strong as a result of regular contacts with the senior officials in the new Ministry of Environment and Forests. The project has responded to requests for support and run a specific workshop linked to policy making on PFM. The project has also responded to discussions with the regional and zonal government to support the application of PFM methods in the southwest. With the wereda government authorities fluctuate but are generally good. (Government staff taking natural forest for coffee planting is one issue.) In addition, government campaigns have pre-occupied government staff and made full and timely cooperation rather difficult to achieve. A further issue relates to the slow and weak support from the judiciary to enforce the new government forest policy, especially when government staff are the transgressors. These various experiences suggest that the communities need to develop their capacity to defend their forest rights and protect the natural forest in the future.

Biosphere Reserve Actors - An agreement was reached in 2013 with the zonal administration to explore how a biosphere reserve (BR) might be developed with a PFM method as the basis. This was to prevent a major new externally imposed initiative by NABU / GIZ to turn the project area into a BR once this project closes (at present in early 2016 once EU funding stops). Links with UNESCO have been developed and the recently retired head of the UNESCO HQ unit responsible for BRs undertook a consultancy to help clarify issues here (See attachment 2 – Mission Report of T Schaaf). A good relation was established with UNESCO in Ethiopia and discussions have been held with other interested parties, such as GIZ, the German Embassy, NABU and MELCA Ethiopia.

Kew Gardens - Other Collaboration involves contact with Kew Gardens, specifically Dr Aaron Davies who heads their project on Wild Coffee Conservation. So far this collaboration has confirmed that the project is correct to work on *in situ* conservation in Sheko and has identified additional areas into which the project is now expanding. (see 3.1 and 10b)

EECMY - The development wing of the Ethiopian Evangelical Church – Mekane Yesus (EECMY) is another key local collaborator as they work in Gurafada and N Bench on PFM. The PFM groups which they have established will join the woreda Forest Management Associations set up with support for this project in these two woredas.

3. Project Progress

3.1 Progress in carrying out project activities

Introduction:

The major portion of the funding for this project comes from the European Union. During the 2014-15 project year the expansion (started in 2013) beyond the core project area (Sheko woreda) was progressed into adjoining parts of three neighbouring (consolidation) woredas (districts) – Yeki, N Bench and Gurafarda (see Fig 1). This was in response to the mid-term review commissioned by the EU. This will create a buffer of community managed forest surrounding Sheko and so should better ensure the sustainability of the project's biodiversity protection goal. Signing of PFM agreements by got forest management groups in these new woredas is expected in the next 2 to 6 months, depending on security, the post-election situation and government staff availability.

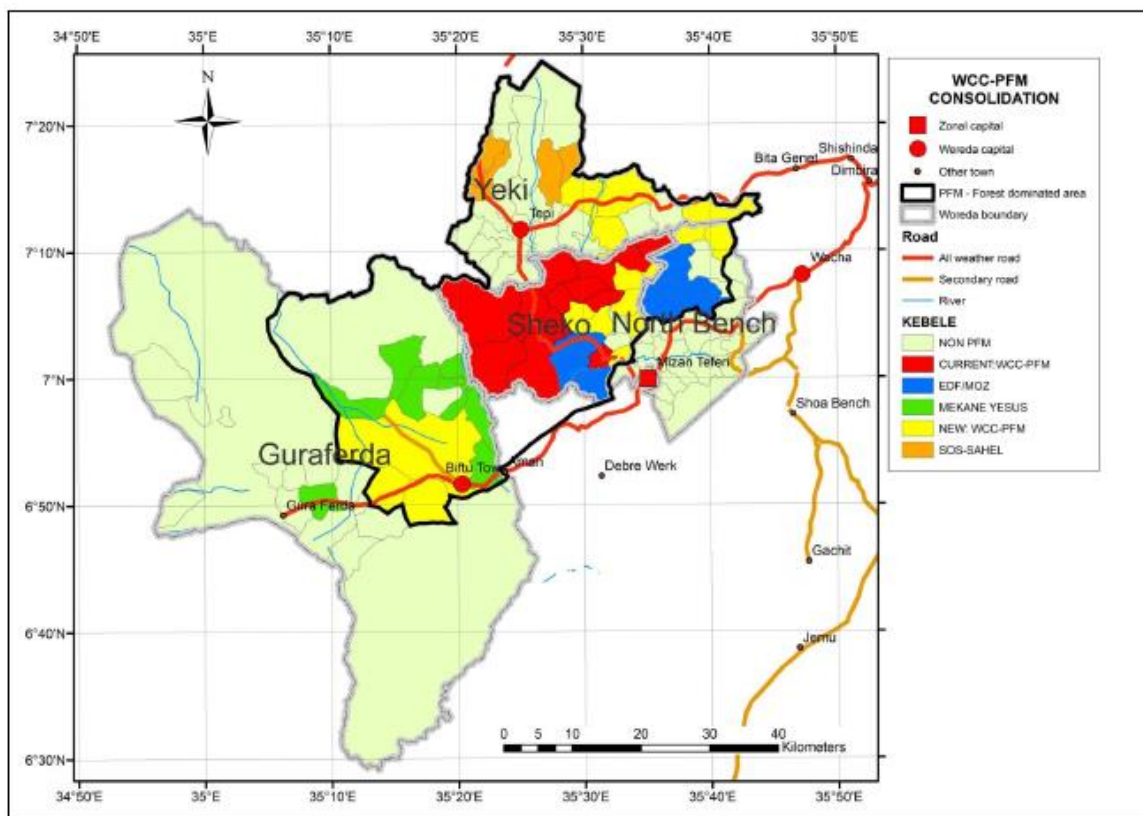


Figure 1: Intervention Weredas and Kebeles

1. Forest and Biodiversity Maintained as PFM Applied

The PFM process, to bring forest under community management and to end the *de facto* open access situation on the government forest, involves 7 steps as follows:

- awareness raising,
- boundary demarcation,
- forest resource assessment and management planning
- forest institutional development and bylaw preparation
- agreement signing
- implementation of PFM and forest enterprise development, and
- monitoring and evaluation.

1.1 PFM Training: Refresher awareness raising of PFM in communities and with government field staff (Development Agents – DA.s) is undertaken through regular, monthly or bi-monthly visits to all 60 gotts in the project area by the project field staff. A workshop was held with

government senior officials in October 2014 to ensure understanding of the PFM process and the improve government ownership of the process (Attachment 3 – Mizan Workshop Report).

In addition a series of meetings have been held with communities and government staff related to the formation of the Wereda level PFM Associations in the new 3 consolidation woredas leading to the establishment and legalisation of these bodies in Gurafarda and Yeki in February and March 2015 respectively (and in April 2015 for N Bench).

1.2 Forest Demarcation for PFM: Forest demarcation was already completed in Sheko before this year. During 2014 / 2015 it has been completed in 21 out of the 22 got's in the three new consolidation woredas.

1.3 PFM agreements signed: PFM agreements were signed in this project year between the woreda (district) government and 15 second priority got level PFM Groups in Sheko woreda. In 21 got's in the three new consolidation woredas progress through the first four steps was completed and different levels of progress was made in preparing the documentation for PFM agreement signing – this being completed in seven cases. One got in Yeki woreda remains inactive due to insecurity. (Attachment 4 – Got Monitoring Sheet).

2. PFM Fine-Tuned for in situ Conservation

2.1 PFM fine-tuned with respect to community-based biodiversity conservation: The process of fine tuning PFM in this project involves continual trial and testing and adjustment. The application of PFM is now being monitored in the 22 got's in the three consolidation woredas. The main area of adjustment of the PFM method is in the management planning which has developed specific plans for different forest areas - coffee forest and natural forest. Specific measures in the PFM agreements include the requirement on communities to maintain the wild coffee stands and to monitor against the biodiversity measures (Attachment 5 – Biodiversity Indicators)

2.2 Appropriate extension materials developed, distributed and applied: Extension materials which were developed to help the Got-level PFM groups discuss and to decide about the formation of the woreda PFM Association, as well as the translated PFM Guidelines, have been used in the three consolidation woredas in training of government staff, communities and project field staff.

2.3 Baseline mapping for the application of PFM: Baseline maps for each PFM got have been prepared. They show the demarcation of the got boundaries and the different types of forest, and will include the location of wild coffee stands with details of these geo-referenced. These maps are the basis for the regular field monitoring by the got communities and the annual monitoring which is undertake jointly by the government (Agricultural Office staff), the woreda Forest Management Association (FMA) and the got forest management group.

3. Capacity of Govt Staff & Communities Strengthened

3.1 Training in participatory processes, PFM, CBO management, leadership etc: Training is an on-going formal and informal part of project activities. Training for all PFM steps has been completed throughout the project area, but it has been found that regular revision training is needed. Remaining training for the first time is on PFM documentation and signing in the additional 21 new got's in the three new consolidation woredas. Capacity building for the FMA leaders and the got-level PFM committees as well as the coops in on-going both formally and informally so that the regular routine of activities for these groups is well established before the end of the project.

3.2 Training in joint planning, monitoring and evaluation: Joint planning and monitoring by the got-level PFM groups, the woreda FMAs and the government offices has been planned. To date only the FMA and got's have engaged jointly due to government commitment to campaigns and the elections.

3.3 Training & development of extension materials: The Amharic PFM Guidelines are now used in trainings provided to government and community groups in PFM, participatory processes, biodiversity issues, PRA tools. In addition guidance in GIS and GPS handling, and CBNRM are provided regularly through the fieldwork for PFM. Specific extension material has been developed for the coops, including guidance on the picking of wild coffee.

4. Community Based PFM Institutions

4.1 Training & support for PFM CBOs, PLCs and Coops: Training and support for these organisations has been increased now they have been legalised and begun activities. An MoU between the new Forest Management Association in Sheko and the two new forest marketing coops is agreed but implementation is yet to start as there are no profits from the trading activities to be shared as yet. Offices for the FMA in Sheko and offices with stores for the two new coops in Sheko have been built and working capital has been provided (from EU funds).

4.2 Development of byelaws and regulations for CBOs: Regulations for the two new woreda FMAs in Yeki and Gurafarda have been approved and are legalised through the registration of these FMAs. Internal byelaws for got-level PFM groups have been endorsed by each of the 15 second priority gots in Sheko now the PFM agreements are signed with the government. The same process will apply with the 22 remaining active gots in the three consolidation woredas.

4.3 Legalisation of CBOs: The formal legal signing for the two new coops in Sheko occurred on 31.04.14. For the FMAs in Gurafarda and Yeki the dates of legalisation were 03.02.15 and 31.03.15 respectively. The signing of the PFM agreements occurred on 17.02.15 for the 15 additional got PFM groups in Sheko and this legalised them as branches of the woreda FMA.

4.4 Support for operation of CBOs: Financial and technical support for the operations of the coops and woreda PFM Association is now being provided with training provided in routine operations.

5. Viable Forest Products Based Enterprises Operating

5.1 Support production of NTFPs focusing on quality and supply: High quality coffee from the natural forest and the coffee forest has been the focus of the coops activities for this year, with training on picking of ripe berries and post-harvest handling, especially drying, to ensure high quality produce suitable for export to “high end” coffee roasters. Honey is the other major forest product with training facilitated by the project, but provided by the buying organisations, to improve the quality. Following the initial assessment of the range of other potential NTFPs which could be marketed from the natural forest, the potential for developing market links for luya oil is being explored (*Trichilia dregeana*).

5.2 Assess market opportunities & develop strategies and links for CBOs: A contract for coffee export to DR Wakefield, a London-based coffee trading company, has been signed by the two project supported coops. The Wild Forest Products Coops is exporting wild coffee collected from the natural forest, while the Forest Coffee Cooperative is exporting coffee collected from the managed coffee forest where almost all coffee is from transplanted wild seedlings. Agreements for honey purchasing have also been made with Bezamar and Apinec honey trading companies based in Addis Ababa, who export to the Middle East and to Europe.

5.3 Explore incentive payments for environmental services, e.g. carbon: The Project Identification Note (PIN) has been approved by Plan Vivo in Edinburgh. This project seeks to obtain carbon payments in support of forest canopy recovery in the coffee forest in Sheko woreda. A Project Development Document (PDD) is now to be developed.

5.4 Facilitate links with funding mechanisms for PES & implement pilot: To be applied after 6.3 completed i.e. PDD

6. Dissemination to Govt & Civil Society Agencies

6.1 Dissemination of project findings: Discussions with local stakeholders and regular reporting to the woreda, zonal and regional government officials takes place. Two specific workshops were held this year, one at zonal level and one at national level. These were for government officials and technical staff to explain PFM in general as practiced by the SWFLG and communities in SW Ethiopia and to disseminate project lessons. Several visits have also been made to the SNNPRS government in Hawassa to develop and maintain positive links. Booklets summarising the two workshops have been produced and shared with participants and key stakeholders (Attachments 3 & 6 AA Round Table Meeting for MEF). Presentations relating to project work have been presented at the 16th Biodiversity and Economics for Conservation Conference held at Kings College, Cambridge University in September 2014 (paper on forest beekeeping and sustainable management of the natural forests in SW Ethiopia - Attachment 7) and to an international seminar on Biodiversity Sustainable Development and the Law at St Johns College, Cambridge (paper on PFM and Biosphere Reserves as alternative approaches to forest biodiversity conservation.- Attachment 8) A DVD film has also been produced and is downloadable from the project website at: <http://wetlandsandforests.hud.ac.uk>

6.2 Contributions to Policy Debates: One of the above mentioned workshops was a round table discussion with senior staff and advisers in the new Ministry of Environment and Forestry (MEF) on the lessons from PFM work in SW Ethiopia implemented by the SWFLG consortium. This contributed to the new draft federal forest policy which strongly supports PFM.

6.3 Advocacy: Two Briefing notes relating to the project's work have been produced and circulated. (Attachments 9 & 10) Further materials are under development, especially focusing on the biodiversity findings and the need for an economic approach to maintaining the forest, linking biodiversity conservation and livelihood development.

6.4 Biosphere Reserve Liaison: A major international consultancy was undertaken involving the former Director of the UNESCO HQ unit responsible for Biosphere Reserves (BR) (Attachment 2). This built on work undertaken in 2013 and 2014 by DI funded staff / consultants (Attachment 11). This has been used to discuss pro and cons of BR and PFM as ways to support biodiversity conservation in SW Ethiopia. Regrettably there has been a very defensive response from some NGOs supporting biosphere reserves in the follow up informal discussion. Hence the planned round table meeting has been deferred until a better atmosphere can be created. German planned funding of E20m into green sector activities, including BRs, make this a particularly sensitive matter.

3.2 Progress towards project outputs

Progress towards outputs is considered below by output.

1. The forest and coffee biodiversity maintained (by the application of fine-tuned Participatory Forest Management (PFM) approach applied by the local communities and officially recognised by regional and local governments.)

[Indicators: Forest and coffee biodiversity maintained in Amora Gedal and Kontir Berhan forests against baseline assessment. Coverage of intervention forests under PFM. Communities applying PFM for forest conservation. Recognition of PFM for biodiversity conservation in legislation /policy and by agreements with local government offices.]

Due to insecurity the fieldwork to re-assess the biodiversity in the project area was not undertaken as scheduled in the project year. The delayed study was completed in April 2015 and data analysis is on-going.

The area of forest now under PFM has increased during the project year from a total of 17,502 ha in March 2014 (corrected figure) to 28,773 ha in March 2015. This area will increase by an estimated 47,000ha once the PFM areas in the gots in the consolidation woredas now demarcated are subject to PFM agreements. (The main reason for this major increase is a large forest area which was not originally envisaged to be in one of the additional gots, but which is critical for "defending" other PFM areas from investors who regularly claim additional forest land to that allocate to them.)

Recognition of PFM as a method for biodiversity conservation is limited due to the delay in data from the biodiversity assessment to show how effective PFM can be. Once this is available the achievements of the approach will be disseminated through workshops and briefing notes. Work at present has focused on getting the government at federal, regional, zonal and woreda levels to better understand and support PFM as a process for achieving forest conservation. This has been achieved as seen in the new federal forest draft law, the support at the regional and zonal level which the project has, and with the woreda administration which signs the PFM agreements.

Project Close: Subject to government time to process documentation and attend the signing ceremonies, the whole of the areas targeted by the project will be under PFM by the end of the project, with PFM plans and monitoring arrangements requiring specific measures by the communities to maintain the wild coffee. Data from the biodiversity and carbon re-assessments will also be available to indicate the level of success of PFM and this data will be fed into revisions of PFM process and forest management planning.

2. Participatory forest management (PFM) methods developed in the region, are adapted, fine-tuned and applied specifically for in situ conservation of forests and coffee biodiversity

[Indicators: PFM Methods fine-tuned and applied for in situ conservation of forest and coffee biodiversity, with feedback from field experience incorporated in revision of methods.]

PFM methods have been subject to review during the year. Mapping of the wild coffee in the forest started where security has permitted and this data will be added to the got PFM maps, to the management plans, which are reviewed annually, and to the monitoring procedures. Specific requirements to maintain the wild coffee already exists in the PFM agreements, but these mapping additions, along with feedback from communities will strengthen the practice of PFM with respect to biodiversity.

Project Close: PFM methods adapted and fine-tuned for in situ conservation of wild coffee will be applied and documented by the end of the project.

3. The capacity of community organisations (PFM Associations) and government agencies for the effective conservation of coffee biodiversity using PFM is significantly strengthened.

[Indicators: 60 communities (gots) in 14 kebeles (lowest administrative units) implementing PFM for forest and coffee biodiversity conservation through their local PFM Associations over their recognised forest areas and reporting effective support from government extension staff and districts experts.]

59 got communities in 28 kebeles are actively engaged in PFM in four woredas. (One got is inactive due to insecurity and some others are delayed for this reason.) By March 2015, three woreda forest management associations (FMA), (four by the end of April 2015), which legalise the got level groups as FMA branches, were established. The FMAs provide the method by which the got groups can represent their views to the government and lobby for support. Such government support is present with the field extension staff for the most part, although they are being moved every year at present which requires their retraining in PFM by project staff. District experts tend to have little time to engage with the project due to other commitments. However, strong support for the project exists in the regional government at the highest level – cabinet members, and to a lesser degree at the zonal and woreda levels.

Project Close: Major efforts are being made to bring the strong and high level supporters of the project from the regional capital to the project field area to strengthen local level government support for the project. This will help ensure that the capacity of government agencies – already provided through training, has the political motivation to act on using PFM for biodiversity conservation. At the community level capacity and support for PFM are strong with the exception of a very small minority who seek to infringe the PFM rules.

4. Community based PFM institutions for biodiversity conservation, sustainable forest management, and marketing of forest products and services established and operating sustainably.

[Indicators: Twelve community institutions (PLCs and Cooperatives) have legal establishment documents signed by government officials. Community institutions are operating and effective in terms of forest management, biodiversity conservation and marketing of forest products and carbon.]

Progress towards outputs for the PFM institutions is covered in point 3 above. (This covers 4 woreda FMAs and 59 gots groups - which are FMA branches.) One aspect of the operation of these groups not mentioned above is the practice of silviculture by the PFM groups in the 20 gots in Sheko who signed their PFM agreements in the previous reporting year. Along with their regular monitoring, these 20 groups have in total planted or supported natural regeneration of 30,000 indigenous tree seedlings. This is a clear sign of the impact of PFM on their sense of ownership of the natural forest.

With respect to the institutions for the marketing of forest products, the two new community institutions which had project support, have been legalised in this year and so have been able to trade. These are the Forest Coffee Marketing Cooperative based at Shimi, and the Wild Forest Products Marketing Cooperative based at Gizmeret. Both have built offices and store rooms with their own resources and supported by the project. They have also accumulate capital and, with this enhanced by the project, they have been able to engage in the coffee harvest from October to December 2014. International marketing of the coffee was facilitated through a link to DR Wakefield based in London, a specialist coffee trading company. This trade was assisted by the Bench Maji Cooperative Union which is required to guide the coffee through the Ethiopian Commodity Exchange (ECX).

A key focus of the marketing work is the development of products from the natural forest which will enhance the value of that forest within which the wild coffee is located. In support of this specialist coffees are being collected, such as baboon coffee and civet coffee. Very small quantities have been obtained but these are being used to explore market opportunities.

The other key product from the natural forest is honey which is harvested at least twice a year. The Wild Forest Products Cooperative has been engaged in the most recent and on-going honey harvest, along with the Mejengir Honey Marketing Cooperative. (The latter has been rejuvenated by this project after a period of non-operation following a management problem.)

One other product which may contribute to increasing the value of the natural forest and generating new income sources is the oil from the seeds of the Luya tree (*Trichilia dregeana*).

The development of additional income from the forest, in this case the coffee forest, through carbon payments has also progressed with the completion of the PIN. When this process is completed carbon funding would be managed by the woreda FMA. At present this is only envisaged for Sheko woreda.

Project Close: By the end of the project it is expected that the four woreda FMAs will be operating, and that the most important one for wild coffee biodiversity protection (Sheko) will be well established in its routine procedures. The three cooperatives the project works with in Sheko woreda will have been established and operating for around 18 months and will have completed one coffee and one honey harvest and be in their second coffee harvest. Widening the range of forest products to be marketed will not have taken place and the development of forest marketing organisations in the new consolidation woredas will be in the early stages of development.

5. Viable forest product based enterprises operating with improved market linkages and services established and providing livelihood benefits without conflict with conservation goals. Carbon payments generating income for government and communities.

[Indicators: At least two forest product based enterprises operating. Carbon payment agreements made and implemented. No negative impacts on conservation goals for forests and coffee biodiversity.]

Two forest products based enterprises are active in Sheko, coffee and honey. These are supported by the three cooperatives and overseen by the FMA in order to ensure no negative impacts on the forest and the wild coffee stands. In the 2014/15 coffee harvest 20,000 kg of red cherry was harvested. This has made c4,000 kg of green coffee at grade 3, with 45% from the natural forest (wild forest coffee) and 55% from the coffee forest (forest coffee). Due to the direct link with the purchaser, DR Wakefield in London, the prices obtained are an improvement on previous years at just over \$3 per lb for wild forest coffee and just over \$2.60 per lb for the forest coffee.

Progress with carbon payment has been delayed due to ill health of the consultant. However, now the PIN is approved the PDD can be completed so that the FMA in Sheko is in a position to discuss carbon funding with Plan Vivo and the government by the end of the EU project (June 2016).

A key area of debate is the harvesting of wild coffee in the natural forest which is seen by the communities to be a key income source and a key benefit of PFM. Rules to ensure that the coffee bushes and seedlings are not damaged during the collecting are agreed and have been implemented. Their implementation needs to be monitored and their effectiveness assessed. Implication of the annual harvesting for the regeneration of new wild coffee bushes also remains to be assessed. The need to keep gaps in the canopy to facilitate the growth of the wild coffee bushes is also under debate in the annual forest management reviews.

Project close: By the end of the project the cooperatives will be operating independently in the market place with support from their members. They will face challenges from private traders and also need to work with the Bench Maji Coop Union. They will have to maintain quality standards for the international contracting with DR Wakefield on others. These issues will all need facilitating support to the end of the project and will affect whether or not they can remain viable. Carbon funding is unlikely to be in place as this will be subject to major negotiations with the regional government and national REDD+ secretariat, the ground rules for which are not yet agreed.

6. Dissemination to other government and civil society agencies in Ethiopia and elsewhere of fine-tuned PFM methods for development of policy and practice of in situ biodiversity conservation.

[Indicators: Practice and policy development. Dissemination documents prepared and despatched. Conferences and meetings attended to undertake dissemination.]

The project has worked to influence government policy makers and practitioners at four levels, federal Ministry of Environment and Forests, the Regional Bureau of Agriculture and cabinet members, the zonal authorities and the woreda officials. This has been through workshops, round table meetings, discussions and agreements. The focus has been on getting PFM supported and positive responses to this work are seen in the new draft federal forest policy and in the regional and zonal support for the project's approach. Also important is the agreement by the administration at the woreda level in Sheko to allow community control over the natural forest formerly taken by the Sheko Development Association. Once the biodiversity and carbon data are available, and building on analysis of the pros and cons of PFM and Biosphere Reserve approaches to forest biodiversity protection, the value of a PFM approach in this part of Ethiopia for conservation of forest biodiversity will be disseminated.

Two conference presentations have already been made and three more have been accepted for the World Forest Congress in Durban.

An article was contributed to the Darwin Newsletter of November 2014, entitled "Protecting the home of wild coffee whilst improving local livelihoods: Participatory Forest Management for coffee forest conservation in Ethiopia" (Attachment 12)

Project Close: By the end of the project material with specific field data will be disseminated in Ethiopia and more widely to evidence the potential of PFM in biodiversity conservation.

Output Indicators Overall

The indicators are still relevant and usable. Some are easily supported by project monitoring, such as the forest areas under PFM, but others are more difficult to use. For instance recognition of PFM as a method for biodiversity conservation and the viability of the local community institutions require specific additional monitoring. Such additional monitoring will be followed up in the project on a quarterly basis through the last year of the full project.

3.3 Progress towards the project Outcome

Purpose: *Key areas of Amora Gedel and Kontir Berhan 'wild coffee' forests are conserved and providing sustainable livelihood benefits through Participatory Forest Management (PFM) by the local communities with full government support*

Indicators: *Area of forest under PFM management with specific conservation aims / agreements with government. Sustainable livelihood benefits being generated from PFM forests. Number of communities / population engaged in PFM for conservation and benefitting from sustainable forest based livelihood benefits.*

The indicators are adequate for measuring the overall purpose / outcome of the project. Facts such as area of forest and livelihood benefits can be measured, while motivation – PFM for conservation, and sustainability of livelihoods are more difficult to monitor.

Progress towards achieving the Purpose/Outcome is being made with the implementation of PFM by the local communities in the original project area in Sheko woreda where the two named forest areas are located. However, this application of PFM has been extended to adjoining forest areas in three adjoining woredas – Yeki, N. Bench and Gurafarda (through a project amendment to the 6 year EU funded project in response to the Mid Term Review for that donor.) As a result the total number of communities with PFM forest in this area will be 60 by the end of the project, although one is inoperative due to security reasons.

All of the forest in the project's kebeles in Sheko woreda has been mapped with the boundaries demarcated for the natural forest, the coffee forest and the farmland / settlements. PFM is now being implemented in all of this area. (A minor extension of PFM into the less well forested parts of the woreda, where PFM was started by the government two years ago, is now taking place in response to a request of the regional government. This will ensure that all forest in Sheko is under PFM and that all forest-related communities are members of the woreda FMA.

The original PFM plans with general statements about protection of wild coffee stands in the natural forest coffee are being made more specific through the mapping of the stands of wild coffee and the inclusion of these locations with geo-referenced details of these stands in the management plans.

Now PFM arrangements are operating in most of this woreda the "open access" nature of the forest is coming to an end and sustainable use of the forest resources, within the current limits of the legislation (timber use not allowed) can be developed and managed by the woreda FMAs to support livelihood development. This linking of livelihood values in the forest to forest maintenance is central to the PFM approach. At present the key forest based livelihoods are based on forest coffee, wild forest coffee and honey, each with international market linkages and potential for value chain development to increase the benefits for the local communities. These should be diversified in order to develop a stronger base for PFM and forest protection.

Carbon payments are being explored as well to diversify forest-based income. However, there is concern about the long term reliability of these payments as international agreements can change the rules. Making forest maintenance dependent on specific payments of this sort could create a very fragile basis for PFM and forest conservation.

The regional government and its representatives at the zonal and woreda levels – including the three consolidation woredas, are now fully conversant with PFM as a result of project efforts and support its application, this being in line with the new Federal draft forest policy. All the communities with whom the project works have requested PFM and are anxious for it to be applied to secure their forests from investors and from other external threats, and to develop forest based livelihoods which are sustainable and compatible with the conservation of the wild

coffee genetic resources. The only stakeholders who do not support the project are the investors with forest land in Gurafarda and some members of the former Sheko Development Association.

The two new forest enterprise development coops are legalised and trading in honey and coffee. Through these the value of both the intensively managed coffee forests (where an estimated 94% of the genetic resources of the wild coffee in Sheko is found) and the natural forest (with the other 6% but under lightly managed / natural forest conditions is found) will be increased as a key economic motivation to maintaining these forests and their genetic resources, especially wild coffee. Given the specific importance of the natural forest and the wild coffee stands within that, it is very important to add value to the natural forest.

Project Close: The project will achieve its purpose of bringing key forest areas under PFM with agreements which require the wild coffee genetic resources to be conserved. The got and woreda level forest management groups / associations provide the basis for monitoring forest-based livelihood development to ensure that it is sustainable and does not impact on the wild coffee genetic resources. The support of the government exists at present and should continue provide the PFM approach continues to be effective. However, government policies can change for reasons beyond the control of the communities.

3.4 Monitoring and assumptions

Outcome Assumptions: *Government policy remains supportive of PFM, community involvement in biodiversity conservation, and of biodiversity conservation in the south-west.*

Output Assumptions: *Political will continues to involve communities in biodiversity conservation in forest areas./ PFM remains an approved and legally supported method in the region./ Stability of staff in government agencies and stability in leadership and representation in community organisations./ Supportive government and policy environment for community-based institutions./ Favourable market opportunities for coffee, forest products and carbon, & Support from regional and national governments for carbon payment with benefits reaching the communities./ Political will for civil society and community participation in biodiversity conservation and related policy development.*

The outcome assumptions remain true, with clear support for PFM both at the regional government level and also at the Federal level with the recently circulated draft forest policy of the new Ministry of Environment and Forest. Policy with respect to community involvement in biodiversity conservation is not explicit but there is support in the regional government for this project testing PFM as a community based approach to biodiversity conservation and acceptance of this at the woreda level. However, there has also been top down, community-excluding, legal approaches to biodiversity by this regional government in 2010 and 2012 for two biospheres in adjoining zones in Southern Region

With respect to the output level assumptions in the log frame they remain true in most cases, while the comments above also apply re PFM and community involvement in biodiversity conservation. Two areas of concern related to the assumptions are the instability of government staff and the lack of clarity over carbon payments. The former creates a need for regular retraining of staff, but the availability of government staff for trainings and meetings is very limited. This is being addressed by building the capacity of community members and community institutions which will ensure the long term sustainability of the project outputs and outcome. With respect to carbon payments there is a national process of REDD+ preparedness and a regional pilot on-going which will inform this assumption in due course – probably 2 years from now.

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

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.*

The project is contributing to the higher level biodiversity conservation goals through the development of a more sustainable and locally appropriate / effective method for *in situ* conservation of forests and specific bio-diversity therein, specifically *Coffea arabica*. Use of PFM engages communities and provides a more economically viable and hence sustainable approach, with local level monitoring by community and government staff.

The project is implemented in partnership with the Ethiopian Biodiversity Institute (EBI) and through this institute dissemination of this method is envisaged. The project is contributing to the following international conventions through EBI:

Convention on Biological Diversity

Article 8. In-situ Conservation, (d) Promote the protection of ecosystems, natural habitats and the maintenance of viable populations of species in natural surroundings:

Ethiopia is a centre of origin and diversity of *Coffea arabica*. The main objective of WCC project is to maintain a viable wild population of this species which is not found elsewhere in the world.

Article 8. In-situ Conservation, (j) Subject to its national legislation, respect, preserve and maintain knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities embodying traditional lifestyles relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and promote their wider application with the approval and involvement of the holders of such knowledge, innovations and practices and encourage the equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of such knowledge, innovations and practices:

The project is exercising PFM giving full recognition of communities and their involvement.

Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 and the Aichi Targets: “Living in Harmony with Nature”

Among the 20 targets there are two targets related to forestry:

Target 5: *By 2020, the rate of loss of all natural habitats, including forests, is at least halved and where feasible brought close to zero, and degradation and fragmentation is significantly reduced. Natural Forest Conservation by communities:*

The communities through this project have set aside some 28,000 ha of forest for PFM based conservation of the forest. Comparison of field data, current and baseline data at the project launch, indicate that the community manages to maintain a variable population of forest species.

Target 7: *By 2020 areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity*

Natural forest is set aside and was not converted to other land use; and was not even converted to managed coffee forest.

Sustainable management of coffee forest with maintenance of the forest canopy is being sought through the community prepared forest management plans which include enrichment planting to maintain the canopy. Here is an increase in forest cover through the conversion of farmlands to coffee forest.

Reduced deforestation is also sought through sustainable land management in the adjoining farming areas to reduce the pressure on the forest.

Convention on Biological Diversity

Ethiopian Biodiversity Institute (EBI) (formerly IBC) is the national focal Institute. The Director, Dr Gemedo Dalle is the National Focal Person of CBD and has appointed Dr Tesfaye Awas, the National Focal Person of Global Taxonomic Initiative of CBD as counterpart to work on the project. Dr Tesfaye serves local consultant to the project and has helped to tackle taxonomic problems, bio-cultural aspects and in-situ conservation of wild populations of coffee.

Human development and welfare / poverty alleviation. The project is contributing in several ways to development and poverty alleviation goals.

The first, and most widely felt and appreciated, development impact of the project is in empowering the local communities through helping them obtain rights over their forest and the ability to generate economic benefits from the forest, while taking responsibility for the management of these areas. This is supported by their ability to develop their own forest management groups at the got-level and bring these together in a non-political Woreda Forest Management Association. This is life-changing experience for the farmers in this area who despite the benefits from the 1975 revolution and the change of government in 1991 still feel very much subservient to the commands of higher authorities. Empowerment is the most widely felt development benefit from this project.

Specifically in economic terms the project is working with communities to help them develop increased income from the natural forest in order to make that forest more valuable to them and hence attractive for these communities to defend and maintain. This involves a complex process of exploring existing and new forest products, ensuring they can be legally collected, undertaking "Market Analysis & Development", developing value chains and building sustainable marketing organisations in order to increase benefits for the forest fringe communities.

With clear community rights, active silviculture is being practised by the forest management groups and this should make the forest more productive overall, especially through timber and some non-wood products.

As discussed below the project is working with some marginalised communities in this area, and is also focusing on engaging women in the PFM process and the management groups.

The project has completed a baseline socio-economic study and a final impact study will be undertaken in November 2015. This work focuses on the livelihoods of the a stratified sample of the community and the impacts of the project on these. Questions relating to who benefits and in what ways from the project are the main focus.

One other point not covered by the DI funded activities, but included in the EU funded larger project is the inclusion of improved farmland management to cope with the increased demands on arable land as the forest frontier is closed by the PFM work. The project is trying to combine this work with the forest management to create a landscape approach to sustainable land management in this part of Ethiopia.

4. Project support to the Conventions (CBD, CMS and/or CITES)

In addition to the points covered in point 3.5 the project has contributed to the 5th National CBD Report produced by EBI with a box on the success story of WCC project "Application of Participatory Forest Management in Wild Coffee Conservation in Sheko Forest".

5. Project support to poverty alleviation

See the last section / heading in 3.5 for the main response on this topic.

The key feature of PFM is the economic motivation for communities to maintain their forests through the benefits which they can obtain from these areas. These benefits must be obtained in a sustainable way and in line with a management plan agreed with the government. This agreed plan includes the maintenance of the natural biodiversity and specifically in this project the wild coffee in the natural forest. The forest is seen in PFM as a renewable resource which can be harvested in a sustainable manner under PFM agreements while maintaining biodiversity.

The economic value of the forest is being enhanced through a series of activities undertaken by the forest product marketing officer with support from two DI supported consultants with particular expertise in honey, coffee and other forest products. In this way the project is now helping communities to identify forest products with market potential, explore how to develop the value chain for these products, and establish new market linkages, especially through the marketing coops.

6. Project support to Gender equity issues

The project is aware of gender difference and their implications for development. As women rely heavily on the forest for fuelwood and various non-timber forest products for domestic use and local sale, as well as indirectly for their water supply, the project has sought to engage women throughout the PFM process. Women have been in all teams engaged with forest demarcation, forest assessment, bylaw formulation etc. There is a requirement that one or more women should be on the 5 person PFM committee at the got-level. Engaging women in the PFM process has been difficult and the project has sought to facilitate it by having separate meetings for men and women, so that domestic duties, especially child care / home care can be addressed. Despite these efforts only 9% of the total PFM members are women.

Detailed discussions on this issue were held in late 2014 with senior women who have been involved in PFM from the earliest days. They report that with time, as people realise this approach is going to stay, and that it generate benefits, women's engagement increases, with more younger women wanting to be involved and become PFM members. .

In addition, the project engages with minority groups, such as those who live at some social distance from the rest of the communities in the project area. These are people like the Manja and Mejengir who are forest dwellers, rather than forest-fringe communities. The Mejengir now run a honey marketing coop which draws honey from long distances across the forested escarpment in this area. Regrettably at present the minority groups are some of the people most affected by the insecurity.

7. Monitoring and evaluation

The monitoring and evaluation of the project activities was limited as the government prevented the project from filling the M&E post until 2013 – long after the main project started in 2010. The appointment of a Participatory, Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Officer in 2013 has improved detail in monthly reports to the Project Management Committee which review progress against the annual workplan. Quarterly reports are provided to the EU which is the major funder, including progress against OVIs. Throughout the project full details of the PFM activities have been recorded on the got monitoring sheet (Attachment 4), while output monitoring is now in place and reported to the quarterly staff meetings whose minutes go to the Project Management Committee.

Despite the early restrictions, baseline land cover data was collected in 2010 and again in 2013, focusing on forest cover mapping. Land cover change data is now available back to 1973 with data analysed at several different dates. Biomass data was collected in 2010 as required for carbon funding and a biodiversity baseline was prepared after data collection in 2010. These two studies were due to be repeated in November 2014 but had to be delayed for security reasons until February to April 2015. A bio-cultural study to cover the whole of the

extended project area has been started but security conditions have prevented this from being completed.

The community PFM groups and the wereda PFM Association have started to undertake quarterly or half yearly field monitoring of forest state. Government engagement in this is very limited due to other priorities, including security concerns, and this remains the key area for capacity building and practical testing.

A final impact assessment, funded by the EU will be undertaken in November 2014 ready for the EU final evaluation in January 2016.

8. Lessons learnt

Key lessons from this project overall – going back to 2010 when the EU project started, including the following:

- Security of staff is a project priority. Consequently having agreed actions for use in the event of unexpected conflicts is essential.
- Federal government rules about patterns of spending for NGOs – especially the employment of staff, can be very disruptive of project implementation when proposals were developed with local government and communities before such rules existed. This was the case for the first 3.5 years of the full EU project (2010-2013) with the posts for two of the four field officers, the M&E specialist and the marketing specialist frozen because they were seen as part of the overheads of the project. The strict interpretation of the rule was relaxed only after more than a year of negotiation and revision of the project budget to add major construction costs of building for community use.
- Obtaining and retaining quality staff in a remote area can prove difficult and needs specific attention, trialling of staff and extra support once they are in post. The in-country partner is key in this, being the employer.
- Field conditions, notably lack of access tracks and river crossings for motorbikes should have been factored in to the work schedule. This has caused major delays and criticism of slow progress. Plans should be reviewed through more extensive pre-planning field visits to ensure they are realistic.
- An in-country technical adviser is critical for supporting the field project coordinator and field staff – for whom day to day matters can be overwhelming. This post supported by DI has been critical also for liaising with the new Federal Ministry of Environment and Forests and the regional government located in Hawassa over 1000 km from the project area.
- The different levels of government in Ethiopia, federal, region, zone and woreda, and especially the relative independence of the Sheko woreda, with a unique ethnic make-up, has been a major challenge for project liaison and for gaining consistent support at all levels. This has required more resources of time than originally expected and has become a major area of attention.
- Publicity needs more attention from the start. While reports, briefing notes and fliers have been distributed throughout the project, specific efforts to ensure high quality photography and video material are essential. (Use of a gallery in Addis Ababa to exhibit these and other project findings is envisaged for the last part of the project – but it should have started earlier.)
- Biocultural field work requires close engagement with the different ethnic communities in the project area and so can be easily affected by insecurity.
- PFM and Biosphere Reserve approaches to forest conservation have different emphases and can come into conflict. This has been especially the case in SW Ethiopia due to the major funding proposed by one of the EU donor countries and the battle by local and international NGOs to obtain these funds. This has meant that very serious issues (which UNESCO HQ in Paris and the national UNESCO committee did not pick

up), such as planned quadrupling of Core Areas, alienation of local poor communities and very selective consultation, remain unaddressed.

Specific responses to the four questions raised in the guidance are addressing the points raised above. Our approach has proved effective but some areas would be planned with more resources in future projects as specified.

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

A key point has been clarification of where the DI inputs fit into this project. The EU Log Frame which has been revised and approved in late 2013 is provided in Annex 4 with the areas of DI specific spending identified (Attachment 13). This EU log frame is more specific and responds to the advice to make the OVI more time bound and specific.

10. Other comments on progress not covered elsewhere

a) Insecurity in the Project Area

Since June 2014 there have been various security issues in parts of the four woredas where the project is operating. This reached a peak in October 2014 when project staff had to be withdrawn from Gurafarda and other work within the forest areas was halted. This restricted activities and delayed the biodiversity assessment planned for November 2014. While this survey has now been completed in February to April 2015, results are still being processed. Security remains an uncertain issue in the project area and is likely to deteriorate in the period around the election in late May 2015.

b) Project Evolution

The project design originally focused on Sheko woreda where the major concentrations of wild coffee had been identified in two forest areas. After the EU mid-term review the project was revised and from late 2013 has included forested parts of three neighbouring woredas to create a more extensive and coherent area of forest under PFM. This has strengthened the project and improved the chances of success in maintaining the natural forests within which the wild coffee is found.

c) Local Economic and Political Pressures

Coffee, whether wild coffee from the natural forest or that from the coffee forest, is an extremely valuable resource for people living in this area. As such there is much competition to control access to this and gain rights over it. The democratisation of this through this project's PFM approach, which empowers local communities, has obviously upset some people, mostly traders and politicians. The Sheko Development Association (SDA), a grouping of influential individuals was a major problem faced in the Amora Gedel area. This has been successfully challenged twice by the communities in that area. First the kebeles in that area took over the natural forest which was held by the SDA, and secondly the wild forest products cooperative managed to challenge the rights claimed by the SDA that only their members could collect the wild coffee. These are examples of the challenges the new PFM and marketing organisations face.

d) Government Support

While support from the different levels of government has been good in the last year, there can be fluctuations depending on the changing appointments to senior government posts. This is especially common after elections but has occurred at the woreda level more frequently. Each level of government requires specific attention and engagement which affects progress.

11. Sustainability and legacy

Profile - The project is one of a number of PFM focused projects in the country which have had a considerable impact on the federal and regional government. The regional forest policy of 2012 was developed with support from this project as was the 2014 Federal draft forest policy. Both create legal arrangements for PFM and support this approach. Hence the project's profile is clear in terms of its support for PFM and government policy in this area.

The project is unique in terms of the biodiversity community of actors and has been challenged by NGOs working on Biosphere Reserve (BR) approaches during the early part of 2015 when initial dissemination of lessons from the work of this project were presented in one to one meetings.

However, at present the new Ministry of Environment and Forests has confirmed that it sees PFM as the way to maintain forest biodiversity, rather than further BRs which some donors are supporting with major funding commitments.

While there remains more work to do to help raise the profile of this project with respect to PFM being seen as a widely accepted approach to biodiversity conservation, there is clear ministerial support for this. The project will be building on this during the remaining year of operation of the overall project to confirm its profile as testing and showing the value of the PFM approach to biodiversity conservation.

Dissemination and profile raising – This is dependent on lessons being learned which can be based on analysis of biodiversity data and fully documented. At present the data from the 2015 assessment of biodiversity in Sheko is being compiled and it will be used to compare with the 2010 data. Once this data is available it will be disseminated in a series of workshops and publications to show the strengths and weaknesses of the PFM approach to biodiversity conservation.

Exit strategy and sustainability - The whole PFM approach to *in situ* conservation of biodiversity is based on ownership of the PFM process and the forest by the local community and their engagement throughout. It is a grassroots, or bottom-up, process, which is essential for local ownership which in turn leads to responsibility for sustaining actions beyond the period of project support or external funding from project, carbon funds or other sources.

PFM is an economically drive approach which stimulates local interests in the forest, its products and value. The communities in Sheko, where PFM is longest established have really taken ownership over the forest and are actively managing and enhancing it to increase its value for them. These communities are engaged in forest related enterprises and trade – as yet a rather narrow base but this can be widened. They will defend their rights to the forest and the revenue sources from it, as well as their responsibilities towards it and institutions for discharging those which they have built up. This empowering of local people is clearly the most likely way to ensure long-term maintenance of the forests and sustainability of the overall purpose of the project.

Probably the biggest threat to sustainability is the imposition of an externally driven and top-down approach to conservation, such as a biosphere reserve approach. Evidence of forest fires and clear felling in core zones of BRs in the southwest is well known and the most worrying future scenario for those engaged in this project.(Attachment 14)

12. Darwin Identity

The Darwin Initiative logo is used on all project publications, project office signs and on the website. The Darwin Initiative funding is also recognised in project publications and on the project website: <http://wetlandsandforests.hud.ac.uk>

It is one of three streams of support to this project, with the EU being the largest source followed by the Netherlands government - through their support for the Horn of Africa Regional Environment Centre (HOAREC). Hence, the Darwin Initiative is seen as part of the overall project rather than as a separate project.

The project links with the Ethiopian Biodiversity Institute has helped raise awareness of the Darwin Initiative within the institute and key staff from there with whom the project works.

Recognition of the Darwin Initiative will increase through the national level workshop for the project which will be funded primarily by the EU.

13. Project Expenditure

Table 1 project expenditure during the reporting period (1 April 2014 – 31 March 2015)

Project spend since last annual report	2014/15 Grant (£)	2014/15 Total actual Darwin Costs (£)	Variance %	Comments (please explain significant variances)
Staff costs (see below) (Host Country)				Limited time availability of staff member in one month
Consultancy costs (UK Costs)				Following up on coffee harvest market linkage proved much more onerous than expected
Overhead Costs				Reduced as funds transferred to year 2015/16
Travel and subsistence				Increased field travel by Senior PFM adviser
Operating Costs				
Capital items (see below)				
Others (see below)				
TOTAL	£61,632.47	£61,829.33		

Adjustments were discussed in November 2014 in light of insecurity situation when a project extension was granted.

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

An article was contributed to the Darwin Initiative Newsletter in November 2014.

A further article on gender issues is being prepared.

Annex 1: Report of progress and achievements against Logical Framework for Financial Year 2014-2015

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2014 - March 2015	Actions required/planned for next period
<p>Impact</p> <p>Afromontane forests of south-west Ethiopia and associated <i>Coffea arabica</i> biodiversity are effectively conserved and providing ongoing community wellbeing and livelihood benefits</p>		<p>Communities are engaged in maintaining forests and their biodiversity through PFM. They are empowered with respect to rights to the forest and revenues and have accepted the responsibilities for protecting the forest. Specific regulations with respect to coffee biodiversity are included in their PFM agreements. (Impacts are being measured)</p>	
<p>Outcome</p> <p>Key areas of Amora Gedel and Kontir Berhan 'wild coffee' forests are conserved and providing sustainable livelihood benefits through Participatory Forest Management (PFM) by the local communities with full government support</p>	<p>Area of forest under PFM management with specific conservation aims / agreements with government.</p>	<p>10,776 ha of forest in the 15 gots in the six second priority kebeles in Sheko Woreda has been brought under PFM with specific conservation elements in the PFM agreements between communities and government. Additionally c 47,000 ha has been demarcated 21 gots in the 12 kebeles in the four consolidation woredas and is ready for agreement signing with the government for this to become PFM Forest. (No activity is on-going in one got in Yeki wereda due to insecurity.)</p> <p>21 gots in 12 kebeles of the adjoining woredas, have completed PFM steps and are progressing to PFM signing – seven have prepared the necessary</p>	<p>The focus in the 8 month extension period will be on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Completing analysis of the biodiversity and carbon surveys and comparing to the baseline figures to assess the effectiveness of PFM for in situ biodiversity conservation b) Analysing findings and identifying lessons for development of lessons for dissemination, including further revision of the PFM guidelines, and guidance on PFM for biodiversity conservation. c) Strengthening the capacity and skills of the PFM institutions at woreda and got levels to ensure effective implementation of PFM after

	<p>Sustainable livelihood benefits being generated from PFM forests.</p> <p>Number of communities / population engaged in PFM for conservation and benefitting from sustainable forest based livelihood benefits.</p>	<p>documentation. These gots were added to this project in the light of the mid-term EU review to consolidate protection of the forest areas with wild coffee.</p> <p>Woreda level forest management associations have been legalised in two of the consolidation weredas in the reporting period. (one was legalised in 13/14 and the other in 15/16).</p> <p>Two community led coops linked to the PFM process were legally registered on 31st April 2014. They began operations in October 2014 with the collection and sale of forest and wild coffee. One continued to work on the collection and sale of honey in March 2015. A third pre-existing coop with a minority group was rejuvenated and has returned to marketing honey after several years inactivity.</p> <p>The population directly engaged with the PFM process and hence benefitting from sustainable use of the forest in line with the PFM agreements is estimated to be in the order of 6000 households in the gots where the project is active in the four woredas</p>	<p>the end of project facilitation.</p> <p>d) Developing the capacity of the coop members and their institutions for marketing and value chain development to ensure sustainable livelihoods from the forest after the end of project facilitation.</p> <p>e) Building M&E capacity in the government, communities and woredaFMAs to monitor activities, state of forest and biodiversity related to wild coffee.</p> <p>f) Supporting the regional government to development the Guidelines and Regulations needed to ensure implementation of the new forest legislation and dissemination guidance on this for government & communities.</p> <p>g) Developing material for dialogue with the biosphere reserve practitioners in the southwest region.</p>
<p>Output 1. 1. The forest and coffee biodiversity maintained by the application of</p>	<p>Forest and coffee biodiversity maintained in Amora Gedal and</p>	<p>Following up on the biodiversity baseline and woody biomass study in Sheko woreda, both completed in November 2010, preparations for an impact study</p>	

<p>fine-tuned Participatory Forest Management (PFM) approach applied by the local communities and officially recognised by regional and local governments.</p>	<p>Kontir Berhan forests against baseline assessment.</p> <p>Coverage of intervention forests under PFM.</p> <p>Communities applying PFM for forest conservation.</p> <p>Recognition of PFM for biodiversity conservation in legislation /policy and by agreements with local government offices.</p>	<p>repeating the initial baselines was undertake in August 2014. This included discussions with communities to agree a set of indicators of biodiversity changes for community monitoring. The scheduled fieldwork in November 2014 was prevented by insecurity. Delayed fieldwork was started in February / March 2015 and analysis of data is on-going.</p> <p>Specific mapping of the distribution of wild coffee in the PFM gotts in Sheko woreda was begun in February 2015. This will add specific data to the PFM agreements. Progress has been limited in places due to insecurity.</p> <p>In the project's core woreda, Sheko, approximately 15,315 ha of "natural" forest, with varying but small amounts of wild coffee is under PFM along with 13,456ha of intensively planted "coffee" forest and 5,171ha of agricultural and settlement land has been mapped in the PFM process. As a result all forest land in the 13 kebeles of operation and more than 90% of the forest in Sheko wereda has been demarcated and mapped. In the four consolidation woredas 43,356 ha of natural forest and 2,827 ha of coffee forest have been mapped.</p> <p>All communities approached by the project with respect to PFM have applied to the government for support to apply PFM. 100% of the communities with forest have applied for PFM. This process is nearly complete across the whole of Sheko woreda – with project support in three kebeles where government had started the process but halted. PFM is now well-established in those parts of the three consolidation woredas in the areas immediately adjoining Sheko. There is one kebele – Hibret Frei in Yeki wereda, where insecurity prevents field activities.</p> <p>There is an on-going process of reviewing the PFM process to review how effective the simplified process has been and document the specific linkages to biodiversity conservation. Regular communications with government and two workshops have helped raised government recognition of the potential of PFM for biodiversity conservation.</p>
<p>Activity 1.1 PFM training applied</p>		<p>Refresher awareness raising of PFM in communities and with government field staff (Development Agents – DA.s) is undertaken through regular, monthly or bi-monthly visits to all 60 gotts in the project area by the field staff. A workshop was held with government senior officials in October 2014 to ensure understanding of the PFM process and the improve government ownership of the process.</p> <p>In addition a series of meetings have been held with communities and government staff related to the formation of the Wereda level PFM Associations in the new 3 consolidation woredas leading to the establishment and legalisation of thes bodies in Gurafarda and Yeki in February and March 2015 (and in April 2015 for N Bench).</p>

<p>Activity 1.2 Forest demarcation for PFM groups</p>	<p>Forest demarcation has been completed in 21 out of the 22 gots in the new consolidation woredas. Building on the area in Sheko mapped before this year the total area of forest under PFM has increased to a total of 60,242 ha of forest “natural” forest, 16,283 ha of “coffee” forest and 12,857 ha of agricultural and settlement land identified and mapped on the GIS system.</p>
<p>Activity 1.3 PFM Agreements signed</p>	<p>PFM agreements were signed in this project year between the wereda (district) government and 15 second priority got level PFM Groups in Sheko wereda. Agreement documentation for 7 of the remaining 22 gots in the new consolidation woredas has been prepared and is ready for signing. This documentation is being finalised in the other 21 gots where the project is active in these additional woredas. One got remains inactive due to insecurity.</p>
<p>Output 2. Participatory forest management (PFM) methods developed in the region, are adapted, fine-tuned and applied specifically for in situ conservation of forests and coffee biodiversity</p>	<p>PFM Methods fine-tuned and applied for in situ conservation of forest and coffee biodiversity, with feedback from field experience incorporated in revision of methods.</p> <p>This is an on-going process of testing the application of PFM and adjusting to make this method effective for biodiversity conservation. The PFM step with responsibility for forest management now recognises the different forest types and the need for separate management plans as well as the requirement to protect stands of wild coffee in the natural forest. Regular monitoring of the state of the forest and a number of biodiversity indicators has begun and this will confirm the value of PFM for biodiversity conservation.</p>
<p>Activity 2.1. PFM fine-tuned with respect to community-based biodiversity conservation</p>	<p>The process of applying PFM in this project involves continual trial and testing and adjustment. This is now being monitored in the three consolidation woredas. The main area of adjustment of the PFM method is in the management planning which has developed specific plans for different forest areas, coffee forest and natural forest. These two types of forest have different roles in the conservation of the coffee genetic resources, the former providing the larger genetic resource, but with higher risks of loss due to disease and pest, while the latter is much smaller in volume but is in its natural conditions where it evolved.</p>
<p>Activity 2.2. Appropriate extension materials developed, distributed and applied</p>	<p>Extension materials which were developed to help the Got-level PFM groups discuss and to decide about the formation of the wereda PFM Association, as well as the translated PFM Guidelines have been used in the three consolidation woredas.</p>
<p>Activity 2.3 Baseline mapping for the application of PFM</p>	<p>Baseline maps for each PFM got are prepared. These are the basis for the regular field monitoring by the got communities and the annual monitoring which is undertake jointly by the government (Agricultural Office staff), the wereda Forest Management Association (FMA) and the got forest management group.</p>
<p>Output 3. The capacity of community organisations (PFM Associations) and government agencies for the effective</p>	<p>60 communities (gotts) in 14 kebeles (lowest administrative units) implementing PFM for forest and coffee biodiversity conservation</p> <p>35 gots have now signed agreements with the wereda government (15 in this reporting year) and now have the legal basis for undertaking forest management. An additional 3 gots in Shayita Kebele of Sheko wereda became active in this year being transferred from a previous project. 21 gots in the three consolidation</p>

<p>conservation of coffee biodiversity using PFM is significantly strengthened.</p>	<p>through their local PFM Associations over their recognised forest areas and reporting effective support from government extension staff and districts experts.</p>	<p>woredas have become operational in this reporting year, but are not yet legalised. The woreda (district) level Forest Management Association was legalised in Sheko in the previous year and two more were legalised this reporting year (in Gurafarda and Yeki). (The fourth one in N Bench was legalised in April 2015). The FMAs provide the basis for the forest communities to coordinate themselves and to hold discussions with the government at that level to agree on forest management – as detailed in the got level forest management plans. The PFM Associations and the Wereda administrations will undertake joint monitoring of the forest.</p>
<p>Activity 3.1 Training in participatory processes, PFM, CBO management, leadership etc</p>		<p>Training in all PFM steps has been completed, except for PFM documentation and signing in the additional 21 new got in the consolidation woredas. Capacity building for the FMA leaders and the got level PFM committees in on-going both formally and informally.</p>
<p>Activity 3.2 Training in joint planning, monitoring and evaluation</p>		<p>Joint planning and monitoring by the got level PFM groups, the woreda FMAs and the government offices has been planned, but to date only the FMA and got have engaged jointly due to government commitment to campaigns and the elections.</p>
<p>Activity 3.3 Training & development of extension materials</p>		<p>The Amharic PFM Guidelines is now used in trainings provided to government and community groups in PFM, participatory processes, biodiversity issues, PRA tools. In addition guidance in GIS and GPS handling, and CBNRM are provided regularly through the fieldwork for PFM.</p>
<p>Output 4. Community based PFM institutions for biodiversity conservation, sustainable forest management, and marketing of forest products and services established and operating sustainably.</p>	<p>Twelve community institutions (PLCs and Cooperatives) have legal establishment documents signed by government officials.</p> <p>Community institutions are operating and effective in terms of forest management, biodiversity conservation and marketing of forest products and carbon.</p>	<p>Two community-based cooperatives have been legalised in this reporting year – on 31st April 2014. Two FMAs were also legalised this year and one in April 2015. There was already one legalised FMA before this year. There is also one other community based coop with which the project is working and which has been rejuvenated with project support. Hence there are 7 legalised community institutions for marketing and forest management. Through the legalised FMAs all the got level PFM Groups are legalised once they have signed PFM agreements. At present this is a total of 38 got PFM Groups, and will rise to 59 once PFM agreements are signed in the new consolidation woredas.</p> <p>The coops (which are all in Sheko) are trading in forest products (coffee and honey so far) to raise the value of the forest, while the got level PFM groups and the FMA are monitoring the state of the forest and identifying any impacts from this trade. The biodiversity indicators are also used by the FMA in Sheko for monitoring. (The FMAs in the other woredas are yet to start monitoring.)</p>
<p>Activity 4.1. Training & support for PFM CBOs, PLCs and Coops</p>		<p>Training and support for these organisations continues now they have been legalised. Training on leadership and benefit sharing has been facilitated. An MoU between the new Forest Management Association in Sheko and the two</p>

		new forest enterprise coops is agreed but implementation is yet to start. Offices and stores (for coops) have been built for the FMA and two new Coops in Sheko.
Activity 4.2. Development of byelaws and regulations for CBOs		Regulations for the two new woreda FM Association have been approved and are legal. Internal byelaws for got level PFM groups have been endorsed by each of the 15 second priority gots in Sheko now the PFM agreements are signed with the government. The same process will apply with the 21 remaining gots.
Activity 4.3 Legalisation of CBOs		The formal legal signing for the two new coops in Sheko occurred on 31.04.14. For the FMAs in Gurafarda and Yeki the dates of legalisation were 03.02.15 and 31.03.15 respectively. The signing of the PFM agreements on 17.02.15 for the 15 additional got PFM groups in Sheko legalised them.
Activity 4.4 Support for operation of CBOs		Financial and technical support for the operations of the coops and woreda PFM Association is now being provided with training provided in several areas.
Output 5. Viable forest product based enterprises operating with improved market linkages and services established and providing livelihood benefits without conflict with conservation goals. Carbon payments generating income for government and communities.	<p>At least two forest product based enterprises operating.</p> <p>Carbon payment agreements made and implemented.</p> <p>No negative impacts on conservation goals for forests and coffee biodiversity.</p>	<p>Two new coops whose formation was supported by the project were legalised on 31st April 2014. Both engaged in the coffee harvest of 2014 and one also engaged in the honey harvest of early 2015. Additionally the Mejengir Honey Coop was supported in reform, rejuvenation and re-registration in 2014/15 and started trading again in the early 2015 honey harvest.</p> <p>The PIN has been approved by Plan Vivo. The PDD is now to be developed. Negotiations with the national REDD process are now needed to explore how carbon payments may be obtained within the national process once the PDD is approved.</p> <p>Biodiversity indicators have been developed by the biodiversity specialists and are used by the got PFM groups in monitoring their forest areas. Guidelines for the collection of wild coffee from the natural forest have also been developed to ensure there is no damage to the wild coffee stands. Monitoring these stands and the forest status is a critical part of the regular quarterly monitoring by the PFM groups and the annual monitoring by the woreda FMA and the government (when available). The grass roots approach of the project which is the basis of PFM is highly appreciated by the communities and building positive support for forest maintenance. (This contrasts with burning, in 2013/14, of parts of the core zone in two Biosphere Reserves (BR) in other districts of SW Ethiopia by disgruntled local communities. Very active deforestation of another BR core area near to project sites was recorded in 2014 by the project's PFM consultant and project staff). The boundary between the coffee forest and the natural forest is being maintained apart from minor incursions which are now being brought to court by the got level PFM groups – although the court process is not speedy nor is it very supportive.</p>

Activity 5.1 Support production of NTFPs, focusing on quality & supply		High quality coffee from the natural forest and the coffee forest has been the focus of the coops with training on picking and drying. Honey is the other major forest product with training provided by the buying organisations and with project support to improve the quality. Following the initial assessment of the range of other potential NTFPs which could be marketed from these forests, the potential for developing market links for luya oil is being explored.
Activity 5.2 Assess market opportunities & develop strategies and links for CBOs		A contract for coffee export to DR Wakefield, a London-based coffee trading company has been signed by the two project supported coops. Agreements for honey purchasing have also been made with Bezamar and Apinec honey trading companies based in Addis Ababa, who are also exporters.
Activity 5.3 Explore incentive payments for environmental services, e.g. carbon		The PIN has been approved for carbon payments in support of forest canopy recovery in the coffee forest in Sheko woreda. A PDD is now to be developed. Carbon payments are not applicable to the natural forest as there has been no trend in forest loss in this forest.
Activity 5.4 Facilitate links with funding mechanisms for PES & implement pilot		To be applied after 5.3 completed
Output 6. Dissemination to other government and civil society agencies in Ethiopia and elsewhere of fine-tuned PFM methods for development of policy and practice of in situ biodiversity conservation.	Practice and policy development. Dissemination documents prepared and despatched. Conferences and meetings attended to undertake dissemination.	While there has been progress with the new regional forest policy approved, work on new guidelines and regulations has been halted due to a new federal forest policy. However, that new federal policy has had input from the project and this is seen in the way some items in that draft proclamation directly reflect the regional policy supported by this project. Two briefing notes for this project were produced focusing on biodiversity maintenance and PFM. A DVD of the project was produced and proceedings of two workshops with federal and local level government officials. Additional filming and photography is on-going to facilitate publicity for the project. Dissemination of lessons from work exploring the value of PFM and Biosphere approaches to forest conservation has been undertaken in UK (Cambridge University) and in Ethiopia (with Norwegian and German embassies). There is a strong negative reaction by those engaged in BR approaches in Ethiopia, but a willingness to discuss with UNESCO in Ethiopia.
Activity 6.1. Dissemination of project findings		Presentations for local stakeholders and regular reporting takes place. Two specific workshops were held this year, at zonal and national levels, for government staff to explain PFM in general as practices by our grouping in SW Ethiopia and to disseminate project lessons. Several visits have also been made

	to the SNNPRS government in Hawassa to develop and maintain positive links. Booklets summarising the two workshops have been produced and shared with participants and key stakeholders. Papers relating to project work have been presented at two conferences at Cambridge University.
Activity 6.2. Contribution to policy debates	The project held a round table workshop with senior staff and advisers in the new Ministry of Environment and Forestry on the lessons from PFM work in SW Ethiopia implemented by the SWFLG consortium. This contributed to the new draft forest policy which strongly supports PFM.
Activity 6.3 Advocacy on specific issues, especially forest policy, PFM for biodiversity conservation and PES	Two Briefing notes relating to the project's work have been produced and circulated. Further materials are under development.
Activity 6.4 Liaison with biosphere projects	A major international consultancy was undertaken involving the former Director of the UNESCO HQ unit responsible for Biosphere Reserves. This built on work undertaken in 2013 and 2014 by DI funded staff / consultants. This has been used to discuss pro and cons of BR and PFM as ways to support biodiversity conservation in SW Ethiopia. Regrettably there has been a very defensive response from some participants in this discussion and the planned round table meeting has been deferred until a better atmosphere can be created. German planned funding of E20m into green sector activities, including BRs, make this a particularly sensitive matter.

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>Afromontane forests of south-west Ethiopia and associated <i>Coffea arabica</i> biodiversity are effectively conserved and providing ongoing community wellbeing and livelihood benefits</p>	<p>Decrease in forest degradation.</p> <p>Maintenance of <i>Coffea arabica</i> biodiversity.</p> <p>Forest based livelihood benefits generated sustainably.</p>	<p>Time series remote sensing.</p> <p>Biodiversity assessment in project areas.</p> <p>Livelihood surveys.</p>	
<p>Purpose</p> <p>Key areas of Amora Gedel and Kontir Berhan 'wild coffee' forests are conserved and providing sustainable livelihood benefits through Participatory Forest Management (PFM) by the local communities with full government support</p>	<p>Area of forest under PFM management with specific conservation aims / agreements with government.</p> <p>Sustainable livelihood benefits being generated from PFM forests.</p> <p>Number of communities / population engaged in PFM for conservation and benefitting from sustainable forest based livelihood benefits.</p>	<p>Mapping of project PFM areas and communities with PFM agreements. Listing of agreements registered.</p> <p>Survey of livelihoods in communities in project area.</p>	<p>Government policy remains supportive of PFM, community involvement in biodiversity conservation and of biodiversity conservation in south-west Ethiopia.</p>

<p>Outputs</p> <p>1. The forest and coffee biodiversity maintained by the application of fine-tuned Participatory Forest Management (PFM) approach applied by the local communities and officially recognised by regional and local governments.</p>	<p>Forest and coffee biodiversity maintained in Amora Gedal and Kontir Berhan forests against baseline assessment.</p> <p>Coverage of intervention forests under PFM.</p> <p>Communities applying PFM for forest conservation.</p> <p>Recognition of PFM for biodiversity conservation in legislation /policy and by agreements with local government offices.</p>	<p>Biodiversity assessments.</p> <p>PFM agreements and records of their operations for biodiversity conservation and areas of forest covered.</p> <p>Government legislation, policies and policy practice, including PFM agreements signed with local government offices.</p>	<p>Political will continues to involve communities in biodiversity conservation in forest areas.</p>
<p>2. Participatory forest management (PFM) methods developed in the region, are adapted, fine-tuned and applied specifically for in situ conservation of forests and coffee biodiversity</p>	<p>PFM Methods fine-tuned and applied for in situ conservation of forest and coffee biodiversity, with feedback from field experience incorporated in revision of methods.</p>	<p>PFM for Biodiversity Manual and revisions.</p> <p>Reports of application of PFM for biodiversity conservation from community institutions (PFM Associations) and government.</p>	<p>PFM remains an approved and legally supported method in the region.</p>
<p>3. The capacity of community organisations (PFM Associations) and government agencies for the effective conservation of coffee biodiversity using PFM is significantly strengthened.</p>	<p>60 communities (gots) in 14 kebeles (lowest administrative units) implementing PFM for forest and coffee biodiversity conservation through their local PFM Associations over their recognised forest areas and reporting effective support from government extension staff and districts experts.</p>	<p>Training of communities, PFM Associations and government staff.</p> <p>Reports of the activities of PFM Associations.</p> <p>Survey of performance and capacity of PFM Associations.</p> <p>Record of government support to PFM Associations and assessment of performance.</p>	<p>Stability of staff in government agencies and stability in leadership and representation in community organisations.</p>

<p>4. Community based PFM institutions for biodiversity conservation, sustainable forest management, and marketing of forest products and services established and operating sustainably.</p>	<p>Twelve community institutions (PLCs and Cooperatives) have legal establishment documents signed by government officials.</p> <p>Community institutions are operating and effective in terms of forest management, biodiversity conservation and marketing of forest products and carbon.</p>	<p>Legal documents of PFMA's</p> <p>Record of PFMA's operations from their meeting minutes.</p> <p>Records of marketing of forest products.</p>	<p>Supportive government and policy environment for community-based institutions.</p>
<p>5. Viable forest product based enterprises operating with improved market linkages and services established and providing livelihood benefits without conflict with conservation goals. Carbon payments generating income for government and communities.</p>	<p>At least two forest product based enterprises operating.</p> <p>Carbon payment agreements made and implemented.</p> <p>No negative impacts on conservation goals for forests and coffee biodiversity.</p>	<p>Survey of forest product based enterprises.</p> <p>Assessment of their sustainability and impacts, both socio-economically and environmentally.</p> <p>Carbon payment agreements in place and assessed.</p>	<p>Favourable market opportunities for coffee, forest products and carbon.</p> <p>Support from regional and national governments for carbon payment with benefits reaching the communities.</p>
<p>6. Dissemination to other government and civil society agencies in Ethiopia and elsewhere of fine-tuned PFM methods for development of policy and practice of in situ biodiversity conservation.</p>	<p>Practice and policy development.</p> <p>Dissemination documents prepared and despatched.</p> <p>Conferences and meetings attended to undertake dissemination.</p>	<p>Records of developments in policy and practice of in situ conservation practice, dissemination meetings and communication process.</p>	<p>Political will for civil society and community participation in biodiversity conservation and related policy development.</p>

Activities (details in workplan)

1. Forest & Biodiversity Maintained as PFM Applied

PFM training applied

Forest demarcation for PFM groups

PFM Agreements signed

2. PFM Fine Tuned for *in situ* conservation

PFM fine tuned with respect to community-based biodiversity conservation

Appropriate extension materials developed, distributed and applied

Baseline mapping for the application of PFM

3. Capacity of Govt Staff & Communities strengthened, etc.

Training in participatory processes, PFM, CBO management, leadership etc

Training in joint planning, monitoring and evaluation

Training & development of extension materials

4. Community-based PFM institutions, etc

Training & support for PFM CBOs, PLCs and Coops

Development of byelaws and regulations for CBOs

Legalisation of CBOs

Support for operation of CBOs

5. Viable forest product based enterprises operating etc

Support production of NTFPs, focusing on quality & supply

Assess market opportunities & develop strategies and links for CBOs

Explore incentive payments for environmental services, e.g. carbon

Facilitate links with funding mechanisms for PES & implement pilot

6. Dissemination to other government etc

Dissemination of project findings

Contribution to policy debates

Advocacy on specific issues, especially forest policy, PFM for biodiversity conservation and PES

Liaison with biosphere projects

Annex 3 Standard Measures

Table 1 Project Standard Output Measures

Code No.	Description	Year 1 Total	Year 2 Total	Year 3 Total	Year 4 Total	Total to date	Number planned for reporting period	Total planned during the project
Established codes								
7	Number of (ie. different types - not volume - of material produced) training materials to be produced for use by host country	0	0	1		1	1	1
8	Number of weeks to be spent by UK project staff on project work in the host country	7	12	3		22	7	21
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	0		0	0	1
11B	Number of papers to be submitted to peer reviewed journals	0	0	2		0	2	2
12A	Number of computer based databases to be established and handed over to the host country	1	0	0			0	1
13A	Number of species reference collections to be established and handed over to the host country(ies)	0	0	1			1	1
14A	Number of conferences/seminars/workshops to be organised to present/disseminate findings	0	0	1		1	1	2
14B	Number of conferences/seminars/workshops attended at which findings from Darwin project work will be presented/disseminated.	1	1	2		4	1	3
15A	Number of national press releases in host country(ies)	0	0	0			0	2

17B	Number of dissemination networks to be enhanced/extended	0	0	1			0	1
19A	Number of national radio interviews/features in host county(ies)	0	0	0			0	2
23	Value of resources raised from other sources (ie. in addition to Darwin funding) for project work							

Table 2 Publications

Type (eg journals, manual, CDs)	Detail (title, author, year)	Publishers (name, city)	Available from (eg contact address, website)	Cost £
Journal				

Annex 4 Onwards – supplementary material (optional but encouraged as evidence of project achievement)

To be submitted separately – see covering email.

Attachments, Topic, Page of Reference

1. SWFLG Brochure – page 3
2. Mission Report of Thomas Schaaf on Biosphere Reserves and PFM – page 3
3. Mizan Government Awareness Raising Workshop on PFM and WCC-PFM – page 5
4. Got PFM Monitoring Sheet – page 5
5. Biodiversity Indicators – page 5
6. Ministry of Environment & Forests PFM Lessons Round Table – page 7
7. Conference paper on Forest Beekeeping – page 7
8. Conference powerpoint on PFM and Biodiversity conservation – page 7
9. Briefing Note 8 on Wild Coffee Conservation by PFM in SW Ethiopia – page 7
10. Briefing Note 9 on PFM Methods for the Conservation of Wild Coffee in Sheko – page 7
11. Report of Consultancy by Dr Motuma Tolera on Biosphere Reserves and PFM – page 7
12. Article published in Darwin Newsletter November 2014 “Protecting the home of wild coffee whilst improving local livelihoods: Participatory Forest Management for coffee forest conservation in Ethiopia” – page 10
13. Project Log Frame with DI areas of support indicated – page 16
14. Extract from Consultant’s Report on Core Zone deforestation – page 18

Checklist for submission

	Check
Is the report less than 10MB? If so, please email to Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.uk putting the project number in the Subject line.	yes
Is your report more than 10MB? 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.	no
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.	To follow by separate email
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.	no
Have you involved your partners in preparation of the report and named the main contributors	yes
Have you completed the Project Expenditure table fully?	yes
Do not include claim forms or other communications with this report.	