



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 no more than 10 pages in length, excluding annexes

Submission Deadline: 30th April 2017

Darwin Project Information

Project reference	20-022
Project title	Enhancing habitat connectivity through sustainable development around the Gola Rainforest
Territory(ies)	Sierra Leone
Contract holder institution	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB)
Partner institutions	Gola Rainforest National Park (GRNP), Welt Hunger Hilfe (WHH), Conservation Society of Sierra Leone (CSSL), Forestry Division, Cambridge University Department of Land Economy and Rainforest Alliance (RA).
Grant value	£271,075
Start/end date of project	Start 1 st July 2013/End 30 th June 2017
Reporting period (e.g., Apr 2016-Mar 2017) and number (e.g., AR 1,2)	1 st May 2016-30 th April 2017. Annual Report 4
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Project website/blog/Twitter	http://www.rspb.org.uk/ourwork/projects/details.aspx?id=234389 http://www.golarainforest.org/ @golarainforest
Report author(s) and date	Nicolas Tubbs, Mark Hulme and Fiona Sanderson. 30 th April 2017

1. Project rationale

The Gola Rainforest National Park (GRNP) is the largest remnant of Upper Guinea Forest in Sierra Leone, an internationally recognised biodiversity hotspot. The park is in three distinct blocks which are separated by a mosaic of villages, agricultural land and forests. As resource demands and population growth both increase, forest isolation worsens, threatening forest integrity and resulting in human-wildlife conflicts increasing.

Efforts to revive the cocoa sector in post-conflict Sierra Leone have not fully succeeded due to the prevalence of unproductive varieties, aging plantations and the preoccupation of communities with subsistence agriculture. Efforts are underway to address this so that shade-grown cocoa restoration can be a key part of a carbon financing project being developed to secure sustained income for the GRNP. However, it is unclear whether rehabilitated cocoa is best used to promote forest connectivity for wildlife.

Shade-grown cocoa restoration on a large scale is underway, aiming to secure sustained income for GRNP communities. The partners to this project aim at determining the multi-benefits for cocoa rehabilitation, promoting improved livelihoods in conjunction with the

promotion of forest connectivity for wildlife. Directing cocoa restoration to increase yields while benefitting wildlife and minimising human– wildlife conflicts is therefore crucial for the success of the GRNP, for habitat connectivity and for sustainable livelihood improvement.

All problems were identified based on our 25 year experience in country and after extensive consultation with stakeholders.

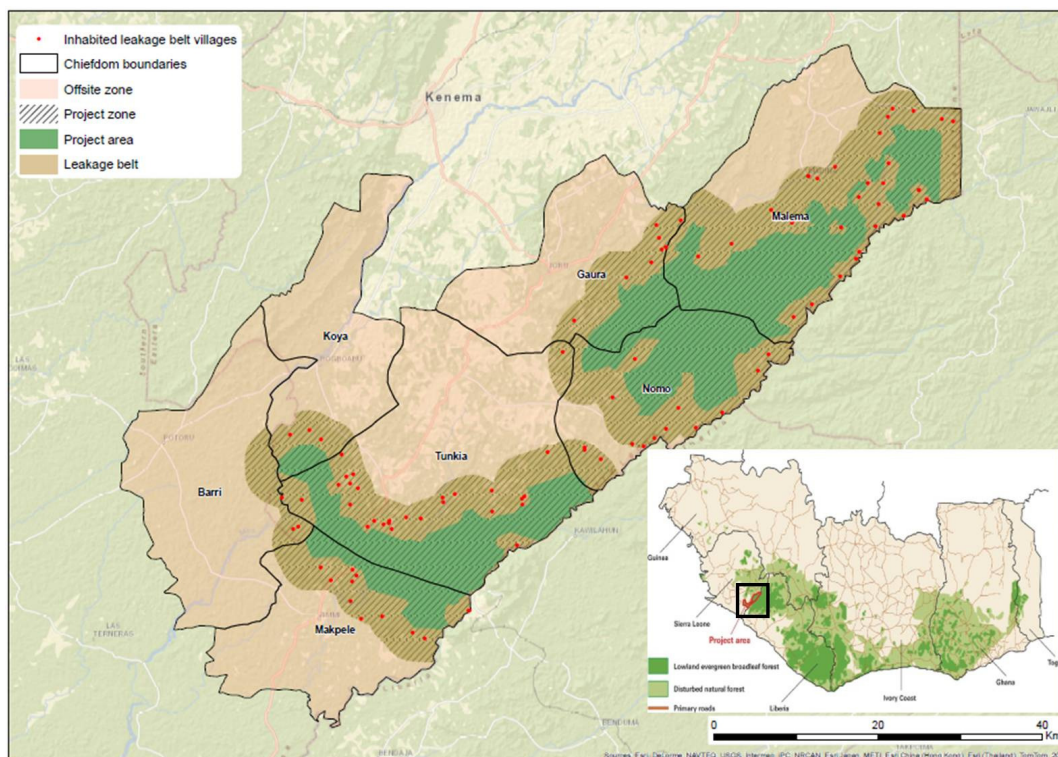


Fig1. Map of the Project Zone of this project (respecting REDD Terminology, the project area is the National Park).

2. Project partnerships

- The RSPB, CSSL and FD jointly manage the GRNP. All three have been partnering to conserve GRNP and its landscape for over 25 years.
- WHH has been delivering agricultural improvement projects in Sierra Leone for over 7 years and is considered the lead international development agency in the agricultural (rice, cocoa, coffee) sector there.
- Cambridge University is working with Wageningen University as part of the Cambridge Conservation Initiative, conducting socioeconomic surveys around GRNP since 2009, building understanding of community development needs and measuring the success of the GRNP.
- RA is an internationally recognised certification body which provides technical advice to ensure communities are aware of certification processes and requirements, build capacity on sustainable landscape practice and ensure this project meets certification processes and requirements. There is an increasing interest in certification in country as well as from international buyers.
- In terms of decision making, RSPB, CSSL, FD, GRNP and WHH all sit on this project's Steering Committee. Day to day decisions are made jointly by the RSPB and the GRNP. In terms of achievements of this project's partnership, a true achievement has been to maintain strong ties amongst the partners throughout the Ebola epidemic which tailed off in September/October 2015 after it ravaged West Africa with over 4000 deaths in Sierra Leone alone. This partnership has managed to be highly adaptive and proactive

considering the unique and extraordinary context. This can be evidenced by how swiftly the project's field activities resumed in what is today a post-Ebola recovery setting.

- The partners forming the GRNP have finalised the registration of a non-profit company limited by guarantee, the Gola Rainforest Conservation LG. It is the first of its kind in Sierra Leone, consisting of an international organisation (RSPB), a local civil society organisation (CSSL) and government. All the legal documentation has been approved and finalised. The first Assembly General Meeting was held as well as the first meeting of the Directors.
- The RSPB, in partnership with TWIN, the Gola Rainforest Conservation LG and the Rainforest Alliance have been awarded a grant from Comic Relief to develop the value chain for a Gola Cocoa brand, from the farm gates to export, hence further building a rainforest-friendly cocoa value chain with forest edge communities. This project was launched in December 2015 and would not have been awarded had it not been for the outputs delivered by this specific project. This project truly served as a spring board, providing its scientific backbone.
- Likewise, this project's approach, thinking and results have been instrumental for our work in Liberia's share of the Gola rainforest through the ongoing EC-funded GolaMA project.
- Finally, this project has allowed us to be awarded a small grant from Conservation International (January-June 2017) to strengthen and in-bed a gender-sensitive/gender-inclusive approach with cocoa farmers and within the producer organisation(s).

3. Project progress

3.1 Progress in carrying out project Activities

Output 1: Assessing impacts on wildlife of restoring agro forestry (cocoa) systems

Activity 1.1: Mapping exercise to assess the extent of abandoned cocoa plantations

Completed. See AR2.

In addition, new mapping was carried out at 10 patches of cocoa and 67 new community bird points completed in 2017 in active cocoa in four communities in Gaura chiefdom – Njala, Jabwema, Gombu and Nyawama (see Figures). As a whole, 122 farms were mapped of which 17 were found abandoned and 105 active. Cocoa development work has been very active in these communities recently so it was decided to add these points as data from likely higher-yielding cocoa compared to Nomo and Malema chiefdoms.

Activity 1.2: Camera trapping/point counts of wildlife (mammals/birds) to survey resident and transient wildlife in habitats surrounding GRNP, including restored and abandoned plantations, and within GRNP to compare wildlife populations to the NP forest baseline. This would include measuring changes in wildlife following cocoa restoration.

50 additional GRNP bird points completed in Gola South and 39 GRNP points repeated in Gola Central during this reporting period (late 2016). 57 active cocoa bird points and 40 abandoned cocoa bird points were repeated in 9 communities in Malema and Nomo chiefdoms with around 15 points repeated in other habitats. Four camera traps deployed in Gaura active cocoa, one each in the new communities. One camera malfunctioned. 12 camera trap repeats deployed at previously surveyed locations in Malema and Nomo, 6 in active cocoa and 6 in what was abandoned cocoa for comparison with 2014-early 2016 deployments. The data collected is to be processed in May 2017. Two cameras (in Mogboima, Malema) were damaged and the data was unfortunately lost.

Activity 1.3: Analysing the camera trapping/point counts of wildlife in order to compare wildlife populations between different habitats (spatial comparison), in particular to the NP forest baseline but also between the farmed habitats studied, and before and after cocoa restoration (temporal comparison).

All point count and habitat data are entered and ready for final analysis and reporting. This will be done throughout May 2017.

Output 2: Understanding of the costs of human–wildlife conflicts relating to cocoa farming is enhanced, together with knowledge of methods to mitigate these conflicts.

Activity 2.1 Monitor crop raiding throughout the project in restored and non restored sites

All cocoa crop raiding data was analysed during this reporting period. Results were written up in a draft paper which will be submitted to a scientific journal shortly. Results show a greater proportion of the crop being raided in plantations closer to communities and lower proportionate losses due to crop raiding where more pods were present on cocoa trees. A key result here is the indication that increasing yield may offset losses to wildlife. Furthermore, the evidence so far suggests that non-forest monkeys are causing the majority of the damage.

Activity 2.2 Review existing practices of HWC prevention and mitigation.

See Activity 2.1. The crop raiding review is in final draft format, with an expected submission for publication in May 2017.

Activity 2.3 Develop a list/framework of mitigation strategies/recommendations for dealing with HWC which may be applied in the immediate surroundings of the National Park.

Despite an extensive review of existing practices of HWC prevention and mitigation, disappointingly few mitigation strategies/recommendations for dealing with HWC were found in the literature. This was very surprising, yet we piloted the brushing of chilli paste on the cocoa pods. This revealed to have very minor positive impact on preventing HWC. The limited benefits from this were largely outweighed by how labour intensive this mitigation strategy is. Hence, based on results from Activity 2.1, it seems the best possible mitigation strategy is to be increasing yields.

Activity 2.4 Analyse existing socioeconomic data and monitor selected communities throughout the project to understand attitudes.

Completed. See AR2.

Activity 2.5 Human Wildlife Conflict mitigation tools are demonstrated in selected GRNP forest edge communities (FECs) and surrounding land owners.

Completed. See Activity 2.3.

Activity 2.6 Dissemination through awareness building workshops FFS

Completed. See AR3. A series of workshops through Farmer Field schools were also given focusing on the harvesting, fermentation and drying processes. In addition to the 57 already established Farmer groups 3 more farmer groups were established in 2016 (150 participant) bringing total number of participants to 492 and total of number of FFSs to 60. Never the less many more activities were done to support the already established farmer groups. I.e. more

sensitization on benefit of group formation, leadership skills training, good agronomic practices training, business skills, selection of buying officers and training on buying documents for master farmers and youth. A total of 110 master farmers (10 females 100 male) were selected and trained from the 60 cocoa farmer groups in 2016. By virtue of women underrepresentation in the programme activities, an extensive gender inclusion training and sensitization exercise was undertaken to help increase the involvement of both youth and women in cocoa activities and for them also to have more control, benefit and decision making possibilities, both at household (family cocoa business) level as well as at the level of the Cocoa Farmers Association.

We have monitored the impact this has on the good quality cocoa being produced by forest edge communities during the 2016 cocoa harvest season. This has gone hand in hand with the Comic-Relief funded project which we previously mentioned (because this project leveraged the Comic Relief one). As a result, we now hold 13MT of rainforest-friendly and high quality cocoa in a warehouse which we anticipate to export within the next month. We are currently in advanced discussions with several potential buyers. Hence 2017 will see the very first container of Gola Cocoa beans exported. Furthermore, results from the crop raiding data will be communicated to forest edge communities before the end of the project.

Output 3 Selected communities surrounding GRNP have improved capacity, access to advice and support to improve cocoa yields and enhance livelihoods

Activity 3.1: Support thirty FECs to link with farmer field schools which support farmers with tools, advice and support to improve yields.

25,000 seedlings were transplanted during this reporting season and additional nurseries have been established within forest edge communities. Out-planting will be done mid-2017 to support rehabilitation efforts in particular. 96 fermentation boxes were supplied during this reporting period and 40 drying facilities in communities were established. 2 refresher trainings were delivered in each of the training centres. Cut test was done by SLP MC-Sierra Leone Produce Marketing Company to know the quality of cocoa. The cocoa beans produced during 2016 harvest cycle was placed at grade 1.

Activity 3.2: Analyses existing socioeconomic data and monitor selected communities throughout the project to understand value of cocoa as source of income.

A significant number of farmers did express that they received better price for their cocoa as a result of better quality as compared to a better price because of general better prices being paid. Before, farmers were selling 1kg of cocoa beans at Le. 7,000 at farm gate but now farmers received a minimum of Le.12, 000 per 1kg. This was due to good quality beans produced and also farmers were taught how to sort, use scales (before they were using eye measurement), and better storage to maintain the beans quality. Final sets of survey data are currently being processed and will be collated and analysed for the final project report.

Activity 3.3 Advice to promote a win-win solution to livelihoods and wildlife is given to ongoing initiatives on cocoa rehabilitation and new plantations

See Activity 2.6. Further effort will be invested here once the results of the crop raiding are finalised. This will ensure that communities reap the results of their involvement in the project.

Activity 3.4 Multi-stakeholder workshops to enhance local capacity around cocoa cultivation and human wildlife conflict issues so best sustainable landscape practices can be created and evaluated.

See Activity 2.3. Completed

Output 4 A livelihood development and habitat connectivity strategy that integrates cocoa rehabilitation is developed and adopted by the GRNP and disseminated for selected Protected areas in Sierra Leone

Activity 4.1 Criteria and principles for selecting priority cocoa development areas to enhance connectivity are produced

This is being drafted at present on the back of the results from the crop raiding work and will be finalised well ahead of the project end.

Activity 4.2 Develop a map to demonstrate where cocoa can be used in the possible mosaic linking Gola South, with Gola Centre, and Gola centre with the Transboundary corridor to enhance habitat connectivity in the agricultural landscape

Not applicable for this reporting period. See above.

Activity 4.3 Exercise to review and update GRNP management plan to include habitat connectivity

Not applicable for this reporting period. We will complete this activity within the remaining months of the project, building upon the crop raiding results and before the end of the project.

Activity 4.4 National conference (end of Project) targeting selected Protected Areas focusing on replication potential focusing on habitat connectivity and human wildlife mitigation issues

Not applicable for this reporting period.

Output 5 Project managed efficiently and effectively and local staff trained so that they can continue to contribute to ensuring the project legacy.

Activity 5.1: Establish project steering committee from RSPB, GRNP, CSSL and FD and WHH to meet every 6 months

The project manager visited the team in country three times since the last Annual Report was submitted, which makes a total of 12 times since the project's start to ensure efficiency and robust monitoring. Considering time and financial constraints, the Steering Committee meeting was adjoined to other meetings gathering RSPB, GRNP, CSSL, the government of Sierra Leone and the Paramount Chief Representative. However WHH was unable to join. All recognised the progress made and see great value in the crop raiding analysis which will help answer long-pending community grievances relying on science.

Activity 5.2: Hold project level workshop to develop monitoring and evaluation plan to establish, roles and responsibilities of partners and associated methods, tools and timetable.

Not applicable for this reporting period. See AR1 and AR2.

Activity 5.3: Conduct training programme for National Staff from GFP, CSSL, FD and other partners where appropriate

Not applicable for this reporting period. See AR1 and AR2.

3.2 Progress towards project Outputs

Output 1: The impacts on wildlife of restoring agro forestry systems, in particular abandoned cocoa plantations, to different levels of production is assessed

This output is anticipated to be completed and achieved, data is currently being processed.

Indicator 1: Target research sites identified by EOY1

Completed (AR1).

Indicator 2: Fieldwork completed by EOY3

Field work was completed in full during this reporting period.

Indicator 3: Data Analysis done by EOY3

There has been significant progress during this reporting period. Early results are now coming from the data analysis with clear conservation message. For example, the analysis shows a greater proportion of the crop being raided in plantations closer to communities. Also, lower proportionate losses are recorded due to crop raiding where more pods were present on cocoa trees, indicating that increasing yield may offset losses to wildlife. Finally, the evidence so far suggests that non-forest monkeys are causing the majority of the damage. All the data is currently being compiled and will be ready for submission for publication by May 2017.

Indicator 4: Mapping exercise of cocoa plantations completed year 1

Already completed (See AR2), however field results add to and refine the existing maps of the cocoa plantations. Hence, new mapping was carried out at 10 patches of cocoa and 67 new community bird points completed in 2017 in active cocoa in four communities in Gaura chiefdom – Njala, Jabwema, Gombu and Nyawama (see Figures in Annex1).

Indicator 5: Similarity index for wildlife in rehabilitated plantations verses pristine habitats is measured by end of project

In progress and will be completed by EOP.

Indicator 6: Peer reviewed paper submitted by EOP

See Indicator3.

Output 2 Understanding of the costs of human–wildlife conflicts relating to cocoa farming is enhanced, together with knowledge of methods to mitigate these conflicts.

Thanks to the one year no-cost extension, this output is completed. Last field work was completed (September-March) as the cocoa was blooming. This output is achieved despite the delays resulting from the epidemic outbreak.

Indicator 1: HWC attitude survey completed by EOY1

See AR1 and AR2. Initiated in January 2016, to be completed in the next months before the rainy season begins. The report will be ready before June 2017.

Indicator 2: Review of existing best practice done by EOY2

See AR3.

Indicator 3: Fieldwork and analysis on impact of crop raiding on cocoa completed by EOY2

This was completed this year to match with the cocoa's agricultural calendar.

Indicator 4: HWC mitigation strategy demonstrated in at least 1 community by EOP

Despite an extensive review of existing practices of HWC prevention and mitigation, disappointingly few mitigation strategies/recommendations for dealing with HWC were found in the literature. This was very surprising, yet we piloted the brushing of chilli paste on the cocoa pods. This revealed to have very minor positive impact on preventing HWC. The limited benefits from this were largely outweighed by how labour intensive this mitigation strategy is. Hence, based on results from Activity 2.1, it seems the best possible mitigation strategy is to be increasing yields.

Indicator 5: 40% of the 30 focal communities have evidence based, agreed understanding of cause and impact of HWC by EOP as compared with baseline.

This is expected to be completed by the new EOP.

Indicator 6: 10 dissemination workshops held in FECs by EOP.

See AR3. During 2016 all 60 established farmer groups participated in the farmer field schools, with a total of 492 farmers participating in the training sessions we provided.

Output 3: Selected communities surrounding GRNP have improved capacity, access to advice and support to improve cocoa yields and enhance livelihoods

This output is well close to completion, please see *Output 2* above concerning dedicated capacity building for cocoa plantation benefited 492 participants for the establishment of new cocoa plantations and cocoa quality respectively.

Indicator 1 140 community members enrol with Farmer field schools by earlyY2

Completed. See AR1.

Indicator 2 140 community members trained in improved techniques by EOY2

See Output 2 Indicator 6.

Indicator 3 Meetings held with 3 new plantations during project

No exchange visits were held this year.

Output 4: A livelihood development and habitat connectivity strategy that integrates cocoa rehabilitation is developed and adopted by the GRNP and disseminated for selected Protected areas in Sierra Leone.

Not applicable for this reporting period, this will be produced by EOP.

Indicator 1: Zoning map developed by year 2

The rehabilitation and connectivity zoning map will obviously not be produced until the end of the project as it relies on the full results of the cocoa biodiversity work which are currently being analysed; however the cocoa plantation distribution map is produced and being refined, which is a cornerstone to the zoning map to be developed here. The production of this zoning map is therefore not possible until EOP.

Indicator 2: Plans for cocoa rehabilitation incorporated into a revised GRNP management plan by the EOP

The format of the management plan to be used by GRNP has been updated and a draft management plan produced. We will complete this activity within the remaining months of the project, building upon the crop raiding results and before the end of the project.

Indicator 3: National Workshop held and key community, government, private sector and NGO stakeholders attend year 3

Completed. See AR3.

Output 5: Project managed efficiently and effectively and local staff trained so that they can continue to contribute to ensuring the project legacy.

Thanks to the one year no-cost extension for this project, this output is completed and achieved despite the delays resulting from the epidemic outbreak.

The Gola Rainforest National Park is now operating as a department of the non-profit company limited by guarantee, the Gola Rainforest Conservation LG. This entity is therefore fully operational now and is the one responsible for the ownership, marketing and sale of carbon credits for the Gola REDD Project, which is so intrinsically linked to this project.

Indicator 1: M&E plan in place by mid yr1

Completed, see AR2.

Indicator 2: Staff training plan in place by EOY1 and carried out where appropriate throughout project

Completed, see AR2.

Indicator 3 Steering committee established by mid yr 1 and meets regularly

The project manager visited the team in country three times since the last Annual Report was submitted, which makes a total of 12 times since the project's start to ensure efficiency and robust monitoring. Considering time and financial constraints, the Steering Committee meeting was adjoined to other meetings gathering RSPB, GRNP, CSSL, the government of Sierra Leone and the Paramount Chief Representative. However WHH was unable to join. All recognised the progress made and see great value in the crop raiding analysis which will help answer long-pending community grievances relying on science.

Indicator 4 Financial reporting system in place by end of first month and financial expenditure remains within contractual limits

Completed (AR1). Please see the financial report for this last year of the project.

3.3 Progress towards the project Outcome

The Project's outcome statement is:

“Gola Rainforest National Park (GRNP) stakeholders are enabled to restore local cocoa plantations for the benefits of livelihoods, carbon, biodiversity and habitat connectivity.

The project will contribute to reducing poverty through supporting the re-emerging cocoa sector cocoa in 30 forest edge communities. 70 households will increase incomes by 10% as a result of improved cocoa farming.

Human wildlife conflict research will inform a land management strategy to direct cocoa restoration to areas that minimises loss of wildlife and loss of cocoa due to conflicts.

The National Cocoa Working Group will recognise the strategy and interest shown by other protected areas in country.”

Though this report is the Annual Report for 2016-2017, the project has been operating for 39 months since the start date was the 1st of July 2013 and in 2014 at least 6 months worth of field activities had to be almost fully suspended due to the Ebola crisis. However, considering (i) the very high success in the enrolment of farmers into farmer field schools, (ii) the completion of all bird counts, (iii) the biodiversity and plantation monitoring now completed and (iv) the field work focusing on assessing crop raiding being now completed, we are confident to meet our objectives and targets by the end of the project; the project is therefore expected to achieve the purpose/outcome by the (revised) end date of the project. We are confident that the purpose level assumptions still hold true and that the indicators are adequate for measuring outcomes.

3.4 Monitoring of assumptions

There have been no changes in outcome and output level assumptions. However, the risk of an epidemiological outbreak such as Ebola had not been considered as a critical condition and risk to the project. The 2014-2015 Ebola outbreak was the first in West Africa and took the entire international and regional community by surprise. Hence the risk of such an epidemic repeating itself and/or scaling up again is now being considered by the management team as part of its risk assessments. However, we are so close to the end of the project that it is very unlikely another epidemic would further impact the project at this stage.

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

The Impact in the project's original application form was:

“The habitat connectivity across the Upper Guinea Forest is improved in a way that is favourable to livelihoods and forest dependent wildlife.

The project will contribute to poverty alleviation efforts by improving the livelihoods of cocoa growing communities in key forest habitat connectivity areas and showing how improved cocoa farming can work alongside wildlife conservation. This will be rolled out across the landscape so that mosaic of habitats favourable to livelihoods and wildlife link all GRNP forest blocks together and to the proposed Gola National Park in Liberia.”

This project is providing an important contribution to this higher goal as it provides critical information on the biodiversity that exists outside the Gola Rainforest National Park, all within one of the largest remnants of the Upper Guinea Forest biodiversity hotspot and in areas that are important for habitat connectivity (*Outcome Indicator 3 and 4*). Attention has for long been on the biodiversity within the National Park's boundaries whilst not considering the immediate surroundings whether it be in community forests or plantations. This project is also of high importance to poverty alleviation as it targets the poorest of the poor in one of the nations at the bottom of the human development index and aims to sustainably improve their livelihoods (see *Outcome Indicator 1 and 2*). Also, it addresses a long standing grievance from local communities; that forest related wildlife reduces crop production. This project is a robust illustration of conservation and development being complementary and jointly addressed.

4. Contribution to the Global Goals for Sustainable Development (SDGs)

SDG	Target (add target number)	Contribution of the project
1. Poverty - End poverty in all its forms everywhere	1.1, 1.2, 1.4, 1.5, 1a,	The project contributes to poverty alleviation efforts by improving the livelihoods of cocoa growing communities in key forest habitat connectivity areas and showing how improved cocoa farming can work alongside wildlife conservation. This is rolled out across the landscape so that mosaic of habitats favourable to livelihoods and wildlife link all GRNP forest blocks together and to the newly gazetted Gola National Park in Liberia. At least 40% of the 180 households (450 people) from the 30 project communities that enrolled with farmer field schools and farmer field schools are still actively engaged in them by the EOP. 10% increase in incomes from rehabilitated cocoa for 70 households by EOP. The GRNP's approach to restore local cocoa plantations for the dual benefit of livelihoods and biodiversity is recognised by the National Cocoa working group
2. Food - End hunger , achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture	2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 2a, 2b, 2c	Gola Rainforest National Park (GRNP) stakeholders are enabled to restore local cocoa plantations for the benefits of livelihoods, carbon, biodiversity and habitat connectivity. The project contributes to reducing poverty through supporting the re-emerging cocoa sector cocoa in 30 forest edge communities. 70 households will increase incomes by 10% as a result of improved cocoa farming. Human wildlife conflict research informs a land management strategy to direct cocoa restoration to areas that minimises loss of wildlife and loss of cocoa due to conflicts. The National Cocoa Working Group will recognise the strategy and interest shown by other protected areas in country by EOP.
3. Health - Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages	3d	The habitat connectivity across the Upper Guinea Forest is improved in a way that is favourable to livelihoods and forest dependent wildlife, hence contributing to resilient livelihoods in post-conflict and post-Ebola contexts.
4. Education - Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all	4.3, 4.4, 4.7	Through the Farmer Field School Model, selected communities surrounding GRNP have improved capacity, access to advice and support to improve cocoa yields and enhance livelihoods
5. Women - Achieve		

gender equality and empower all women and girls		
6. Water - Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all		
7. Energy - Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all		
8. Economy - Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all	8.2, 8.4, 8a	Project analyses existing socioeconomic data and monitor selected communities throughout the project to understand value of cocoa as source of income. Project promotes win-win solutions to livelihoods and wildlife to ongoing initiatives on cocoa rehabilitation and new plantations. Project develops a framework of mitigation strategies/recommendations for dealing with Human Wildlife Conflict which may be applied in the immediate surroundings of the National Park.
9. Infrastructure - Build resilient infrastructure , promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation		
10. Inequality - Reduce inequality within and among countries	10.1, 10.2,	The project targets forest edge communities which are part of the poorest and most isolated in the country.
11. Habitation - Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable		
12. Consumption - Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns		
13. Climate - Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts	13.1, 13.2, 13.3, 13b	Project promotes win-win solutions to livelihoods and tropical rainforest conservation to ongoing initiatives on cocoa rehabilitation and new plantations, hence supporting climate change adaptation and mitigation efforts.
14. Marine-ecosystems - Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development		
15. Ecosystems - Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems , sustainably manage forests, combat desertification , and halt	15.1, 15.2, 15.3, 15.5, 15.9, 15a, 15b,	The habitat connectivity across the Upper Guinea Forest is improved in a way that is favourable to livelihoods and forest dependent wildlife. The project contributes to poverty alleviation efforts by improving the livelihoods of cocoa growing communities in key forest habitat connectivity areas

and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss		and showing how improved cocoa farming can work alongside wildlife conservation. This is rolled out across the landscape so that mosaic of habitats favourable to livelihoods and wildlife link all GRNP forest blocks together and to the newly gazetted Gola Forest National Park in Liberia.
16. Institutions - Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development , provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels		
17. Sustainability - Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development		

5. Project support to the Conventions, Treaties or Agreements

The project is supporting Conventions by contributing to the following objectives and targets:

Convention on Biological Diversity

Article 5. Cooperation between Sierra Leone and UK for the benefit of an internationally recognised biodiversity hotspot and to improve local livelihoods.

Articles 7c/7d. Identifying and Monitoring HWC and bushmeat hunting dynamics in the project area.

Articles 8e/8j. In-situ Conservation by promoting environmentally sound and sustainable development in communities around GRNP and ensuring their traditional knowledge and lifestyles are a core part of development.

Article 10c. Sustainable Use of Components of Biological Diversity, in particular customary uses will be incorporated into the plans for enhancing habitat connectivity developed by the project.

Article 12 b/c. Research and Training in field work and analytical approaches for assessing ways of integrating agricultural productivity with conservation at local/landscape scales and quantifying real/perceived extents of HWC as part of balancing wildlife conservation and sustainable use.

Article 13a. Public Education and Awareness through education programmes in the 30 target communities to raise awareness of the importance of the conservation of biological diversity.

Article 18. Technical and Scientific Cooperation between the UK (through RSPB) and Sierra Leone results in the development of policy briefings and improved capacities to implement.

Aichi Biodiversity Targets 1, 7 and 14

When travelling to Sierra Leone, the project manager regularly meets Mrs Kate Garnett (Acting Director to the National Protected Areas Authority, and the CBD Focal point). Likewise, the project manager meets the Minister for Agriculture, Forestry and Food Security (MAFFS). This project is therefore well understood and recognised in Sierra Leone and directly contributes to Sierra Leone's commitments to the Paris Agreement, which it became a signatory to in April 2016.

6. Project support to poverty alleviation

There is evidence that the project is working to alleviate poverty alleviation as we are specifically targeting local communities' livelihoods and income at household level. The project contributes to reducing poverty by catalysing and supporting the re-emergence of cocoa as an effective way of reducing poverty in forest-edge communities. 70 households from project communities were targeted to enrol with farmer field schools in year 1 though this was surpassed by over seven folds. These farmers are being actively engaged in modern cocoa-farming that we anticipate to increase household incomes by 10% by the end of the project.

Please see the project's outcome and the indicators to *Outcome 2,3 and 4*, but specifically 3, for more detail.

7. Project support to gender equality issues

This project is not directly working to address gender equality, nor are there any direct gender equality impacts here. However, this project tackles areas of development which indirectly impact gender equality. We work directly with cocoa producers with who we integrate a gender-sensitive approach, to simultaneously be working directly with producers to increase sustainable productivity and improve quality to raise incomes through higher yields and a higher sale price. This has recently been further supported by a grant awarded by Conservation International (January-June 2017) specifically focusing on gender issues. This will impact household incomes and could indirectly benefit gender equality by allowing women to access and make use of cash owned from cocoa farming. Also, supporting the development of democratic, gender-just governance systems will provide a strong foundation for inclusive business. The evidence which can be used here is the employment policy of the GRNP which favours members of forest edge communities and women (see GRNP Staff Handbook, available upon request). Also, within the Conservation International grant mentioned above, a series of trainings following the internationally recognised GALS (Gender Action Learning System) methodology were delivered to staff and to cocoa farmers.

8. Monitoring and evaluation

At this advanced stage in the project and specifically over this past year, there is no addition to what has been already mentioned in other sections.

9. Lessons learnt

A key lesson learnt for us this year has been the high variability in the cocoa harvest season. Within the lifespan of this project, we have recorded harvesting peaks varying from September to January. Hence, the project team has had to make sure we maintain a highly resilient approach which closely tallies the agricultural calendar.

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

Not applicable.

11. Other comments on progress not covered elsewhere

As previously mentioned, this project is closely linked to the Gola REDD and the Comic Relief projects, neither of these would have been possible without this specific project. Gola REDD project remains the only project of its kind in West Africa, having successfully passed its independent audit against the two leading standards on the voluntary carbon market; demonstrating that we avoided the emissions of 1.19 million tonnes of CO₂ over the period

between August 2012 and December 2014. We are still actively marketing and selling these verified carbon units. Furthermore, we hold 13MT of climate smart rainforest friendly cocoa in a warehouse produced by forest edge communities which we will be exporting in the next weeks.

12. Sustainability and legacy

The project aims to reach a sustainable end point. The project builds upon, and links closely to, components of the GRNP/Gola Rainforest Conservation LG, an ongoing programme that is close to securing its future sustainability (through an established trust fund and upcoming carbon revenues, see www.golarainforest.org). The project targets issues that are important to the success of the wider GRNP. Project actions are in the interest of GRNP, specifically the improvement of the delivery of its commitments to support livelihoods and the reduction of tension and hostility towards the aims of GRNP resulting from human wildlife conflict.

The sustainability of project actions is being ensured by engaging communities with established agricultural support structures, building their capacity and linking them with reputable traders.

The RSPB, in partnership with TWIN, the Gola Rainforest Conservation LG and the Rainforest Alliance have been awarded a grant from Comic Relief to develop the value chain for a Gola Cocoa brand, from the farm gates to export, hence further building a rainforest-friendly cocoa value chain with forest edge communities. This project was launched in December 2015 and would not have been awarded had it not been for the outputs delivered by this specific project. This project truly served as a spring board, providing its scientific backbone.

13. Darwin identity

-The Darwin Initiative logo was used on the Gola Rainforest National Park website (www.golarainforest.org). The Darwin Initiative's support was repeatedly communicated by the Project Manager at all stakeholder Meetings.

-A series of tweets (from @golarainforest) were issued as well as a blog on the RSPB website.

14. Project expenditure

Table 1: Project expenditure during the reporting period (1 April 2016 – 31 March 2017)

Project spend (indicative) in this financial year	2016/17 D+ Grant (£)	2016/17 Total actual D+ Costs (£)	Variance %	Comments (please explain significant variances)
Staff costs	0			n/a*
Consultancy costs				n/a*
Overhead Costs	£ -	£ -		n/a*
Travel and subsistence				n/a*
Operating Costs				n/a*
Capital items	£ -	£ -		n/a*
Others (Please specify)				n/a*
TOTAL	0			

***All the figures above exclude the last quarter. All financial figures are currently being compiled as part of the financial report.**

Annex 1: Report of progress and achievements against Logical Framework for Financial Year 2016-2017

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2016 - March 2017	Actions required/planned for next period
<p>Impact</p> <p>The habitat connectivity across the Upper Guinea Forest is improved in a way that is favourable to livelihoods and forest dependent wildlife.</p>		n/a	
<p>Outcome</p> <p>Gola Rainforest National Park (GRNP) stakeholders are enabled to restore local cocoa plantations for the benefits of livelihoods, carbon, biodiversity and habitat connectivity.</p> <p>The project will contribute to reducing poverty through supporting the re-emerging cocoa sector cocoa in 30 forest edge communities. 70 households will increase incomes by 10% as a result of improved cocoa farming.</p> <p>Human wildlife conflict research will inform a land management strategy to direct cocoa restoration to areas that minimises loss of wildlife and loss of cocoa due to conflicts.</p> <p>The National Cocoa Working Group will recognised the strategy and interest shown by other protected areas in country.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. At least 40% of the 180 households (450 people) from the 30 project communities that enrolled with farmer field schools and farmer field schools are still actively engaged in them by the EOP 2. 10% increase in incomes from rehabilitated cocoa for 70 households by EOP. 3. The strategy to secure GRNP's habitat connectivity is implemented as part of the GRNP's Annual Operations Plan by EOP. 4. The GRNP's approach to restore local cocoa plantations for the dual benefit of 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 60 established and operational farmer groups, reaching out to an estimated 2000 households. 2. Cut test was done by SLPMC-Sierra Leone Produce Marketing Company to know the quality of cocoa. The cocoa beans produced during 2016 harvest cycle was placed at grade 1 (higher quality → higher price) 3. Integral part to the Gola REDD Project's AOP, integrity will be evaluated by external auditors at the next verification event 4. n/a 	

	livelihoods and biodiversity is recognised by the National Cocoa working group		
<p>Output 1.</p> <p>Output 1. (insert original outputs with activities relevant to that outputs in lines below. Activities relevant to more than one output should be cross-referenced rather than repeated)</p> <p>The impacts on wildlife of restoring agro forestry systems, in particular abandoned cocoa plantations, to different levels of production is assessed</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Target research sites identified by EOY1 2. Fieldwork completed by EOY3 3. Data Analysis done by EOY3 4. Mapping exercise of cocoa plantations completed year 1 5. Similarity index for wildlife in rehabilitated plantations verses pristine habitats is measured by end of project 6. Peer reviewed paper submitted by EOP 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Completed (AR2). 2. Crop raiding fieldwork completed 3. Data analysis close to completion 4. Mapping of cocoa for point counts in study sites completed 5. Initial data analysis completed re species densities and bird community composition 6. Planned for EOP 	
Activity 1.1 Mapping exercise to assess the extent of abandoned cocoa plantations		Completed. Additional mapping carried out to refine as habitat management changes	
Activity 1.2 Camera trapping/point counts of wildlife (mammals/birds) to survey resident and transient wildlife in habitats surrounding GRNP, including restored and abandoned plantations, and within GRNP to compare wildlife populations to the NP forest baseline. This would include measuring changes in wildlife following cocoa restoration.		50 additional GRNP bird points completed in Gola South and 39 GRNP points repeated in Gola Central during this reporting period (late 2016). 57 active cocoa bird points and 40 abandoned cocoa bird points were repeated in 9 communities in Malema and Nomo chiefdoms with around 15 points repeated in other habitats. Four camera traps deployed in Gaura active cocoa, one each in the new communities. One camera malfunctioned. 12 camera trap repeats deployed at previously surveyed locations in Malema and Nomo, 6 in active cocoa and 6 in what was abandoned cocoa for comparison with 2014-early 2016 deployments. The data collected is to be processed in May 2017. Two cameras (in Mogboima, Malema) were damaged and the data was unfortunately lost.	
Activity 1.3 Analysing the camera trapping/point counts of wildlife in order to compare wildlife populations between different habitats (spatial comparison), in particular to the NP forest baseline but also between the farmed habitats studied, and before and after cocoa restoration (temporal comparison).		All point count and habitat data are entered and ready for final analysis and reporting. This will be done throughout May 2017.	
<p>Output 2.</p> <p>Understanding of the costs of</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. HWC attitude survey completed 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Survey underway (since January 2016), data being processed and to 	

<p>human–wildlife conflicts relating to cocoa farming is enhanced, together with knowledge of methods to mitigate these conflicts.</p>	<p>by EOY1</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Review of existing best practice done by EOY2 3. Fieldwork and analysis on impact of crop raiding on cocoa completed by EOY2 4. HWC mitigation strategy demonstrated in at least 1 community by EOP 5. 40% of the 30 focal communities have evidence based, agreed understanding of cause and impact of HWC by EOP as compared with baseline. 6. 10 dissemination workshops held in FECs by EOP. 	<p>be completed before the rainy season begins, full report finalised before June 2017.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Literature review of crop raiding activities combined with expert advice is completed 3. Crop raiding monitoring completed 4. Pilot with brushing chilli paste completed in 2016 in Njala, Gaura Chiefdom. Chimps did not touch the treated pods but the paste did not withstand the rain and had to be applied multiple times resulting in a very labour-intensive process. 5. To be completed upon final results from the crop raiding work. 6. Completed. 2015 alone, 10 dissemination workshops were held, 19 this year, focused on two topics with Farmer Field Schools (i) establishment of new cocoa plantation and including out-planting and (ii) cocoa processing and quality.
<p>Activity 2.1. Monitor crop raiding throughout the project in restored and non restored sites</p>	<p>All cocoa crop raiding data was analysed during this reporting period. Results were written up in a draft paper which will be submitted to a scientific journal shortly. Results show a greater proportion of the crop being raided in plantations closer to communities and lower proportionate losses due to crop raiding where more pods were present on cocoa trees. A key result here is the indication that increasing yield may offset losses to wildlife. Furthermore, the evidence so far suggests that non-forest monkeys are causing the majority of the damage.</p>	
<p>Activity 2.2. Review existing practices of HWC prevention and mitigation.</p>	<p>Literature review of crop raiding activities combined with expert advice completed. The crop raiding review is in final draft format, with an expected submission for publication in May 2017.</p>	

<p>Activity 2.3. Develop a list/framework of mitigation strategies/recommendations for dealing with HWC which may be applied in the immediate surroundings of the National Park.</p>	<p>Despite an extensive review of existing practices of HWC prevention and mitigation, disappointingly few mitigation strategies/recommendations for dealing with HWC were found in the literature. This was very surprising, yet we piloted the brushing of chilli paste on the cocoa pods. This revealed to have very minor positive impact on preventing HWC. The limited benefits from this were largely outweighed by how labour intensive this mitigation strategy is. Hence, based on results from Activity 2.1, it seems the best possible mitigation strategy is to be increasing yields.</p>		
<p>Activity 2.4. Analyse existing socioeconomic data and monitor selected communities throughout the project to understand attitudes</p>	<p>Completed</p>		
<p>Activity 2.5. Human Wildlife Conflict mitigation tools are demonstrated in selected GRNP forest edge communities (FECs) and surrounding land owners</p>	<p>Completed. See Activity 2.3</p>		
<p>Activity 2.6. Dissemination through awareness building workshops FFS</p>	<p>Completed. See AR3. A series of workshops through Farmer Field schools were also given focusing on the harvesting, fermentation and drying processes. We are have monitored the impact this has on the good quality cocoa being produced by forest edge communities during the 2016 cocoa harvest season. This has gone hand in hand with the Comic-Relief funded project which we previously mentioned (because this project leveraged the Comic Relief one). As a result, we now hold 13MT of rainforest-friendly and high quality cocoa in a warehouse which we anticipate to export within the next month. We are currently in advanced discussions with several potential buyers. Hence 2017 will see the very first container of Gola Cocoa beans exported.</p> <p>Furthermore, results from the crop raiding data will be communicated to forest edge communities before the end of the project.</p>		
<p>Output 3. Selected communities surrounding GRNP have improved capacity, access to advice and support to improve cocoa yields and enhance livelihoods</p>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="556 1101 1018 1360"> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 140 community members enrol with Farmer field schools by early Y2 2. 140 community members trained in improved techniques by EOY2 3. Meetings held with 3 new plantations during project </td> <td data-bbox="1018 1101 1950 1360"> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Completed & surpassed 2. Completed & surpassed 3. No exchange visits took place </td> </tr> </table>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 140 community members enrol with Farmer field schools by early Y2 2. 140 community members trained in improved techniques by EOY2 3. Meetings held with 3 new plantations during project 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Completed & surpassed 2. Completed & surpassed 3. No exchange visits took place
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 140 community members enrol with Farmer field schools by early Y2 2. 140 community members trained in improved techniques by EOY2 3. Meetings held with 3 new plantations during project 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Completed & surpassed 2. Completed & surpassed 3. No exchange visits took place 		
<p>Activity 3.1. Support thirty FECs to link with farmer field schools which</p>	<p>Completed. 25,000 seedlings were transplanted during this reporting season and additional nurseries have been established within forest edge</p>		

<p>support farmers with tools, advice and support to improve yields.</p>	<p>communities. Out-planting will be done mid-2017 to support rehabilitation efforts in particular. 96 fermentation boxes were supplied during this reporting period and 40 drying facilities in communities were established. 2 refresher trainings were delivered in each of the training centres. Cut test was done by SLPMP-Sierra Leone Produce Marketing Company to know the quality of cocoa. The cocoa beans produced during 2016 harvest cycle was placed at grade 1.</p>		
<p>Activity 3.2. Analyse existing socioeconomic data and monitor selected communities throughout the project to understand value of cocoa as source of income</p>	<p>A significant number of farmers reported receiving better price for the cocoa they have grown. Considering the cocoa market and specifically the Sierra Leonean cocoa market, we can assert this results from better quality (and not from higher market prices). Final sets of survey data are currently being processed and will be collated and analysed for the final project report.</p>		
<p>Activity 3.3. Advice to promote a win-win solutions to livelihoods and wildlife is given to ongoing initiatives on cocoa rehabilitation and new plantations</p>	<p>See Activity 2.6. Further effort will be invested here once the results of the crop raiding are finalised. This will ensure that communities reap the results of their involvement in the project.</p>		
<p>Activity 3.4. Multi-stakeholder workshops to enhance local capacity around cocoa cultivation and human wildlife conflict issues so best sustainable landscape practices can be created and evaluated</p>	<p>See Activity 2.3. Completed</p>		
<p>Output 4 A livelihood development and habitat connectivity strategy that integrates cocoa rehabilitation is developed and adopted by the GRNP and disseminated for selected Protected areas in Sierra Leone.</p>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="556 883 1018 1182"> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Zoning map developed by year 2 2. Plans for cocoa rehabilitation incorporated into a revised GRNP management plan by the EOP 3. National Workshop held and key community, government, private sector and NGO stakeholders attend year 3 </td> <td data-bbox="1018 883 1950 1182"> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The zoning map will be finalised by EOP 2. Close to completion, finalised by EOP 3. Completed by EOP </td> </tr> </table>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Zoning map developed by year 2 2. Plans for cocoa rehabilitation incorporated into a revised GRNP management plan by the EOP 3. National Workshop held and key community, government, private sector and NGO stakeholders attend year 3 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The zoning map will be finalised by EOP 2. Close to completion, finalised by EOP 3. Completed by EOP
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Zoning map developed by year 2 2. Plans for cocoa rehabilitation incorporated into a revised GRNP management plan by the EOP 3. National Workshop held and key community, government, private sector and NGO stakeholders attend year 3 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The zoning map will be finalised by EOP 2. Close to completion, finalised by EOP 3. Completed by EOP 		
<p>Activity 4.1. Criteria and principles for selecting priority cocoa development areas to enhance connectivity are produced</p>	<p>This is being drafted at present on the back of the results from the crop raiding work and will be finalised well ahead of the project end.</p>		
<p>Activity 4.2. Develop a map to demonstrate where cocoa can be used in the possible mosaic linking Gola South, with Gola Centre, and Gola centre with the Transboundary corridor to enhance habitat connectivity in the agricultural landscape</p>	<p>Not applicable for this reporting period. See above.</p>		

Activity 4.3. Exercise to review and update GRNP management plan to include habitat connectivity	Not applicable for this reporting period. We will complete this activity within the remaining months of the project, building upon the crop raiding results and before the end of the project.
Activity 4.4. National conference (end of Project) targeting selected Protected Areas focusing on replication potential focusing on habitat connectivity and human wildlife mitigation issues	Not applicable for this reporting period.
Output 5. Project managed efficiently and effectively and local staff trained so that they can continue to contribute to ensuring the project legacy.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. M&E plan in place by mid yr1 2. Staff training plan in place by EOY1 and carried out where appropriate throughout project 3. Steering committee established by mid yr 1 and meets regularly 4. Financial reporting system in place by end of first month and financial expenditure remains with contractual limits <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Not applicable this reporting period 2. Not applicable this reporting period 3. Not applicable this reporting period 4. Not applicable this reporting period
Activity 5.1. Establish project steering committee from RSPB, GRNP, CSSL and FD and WHH to meet every 6 months.	The project manager visited the team in country three times since the last Annual Report was submitted, which makes a total of 12 times since the project's start to ensure efficiency and robust monitoring. Considering time and financial constraints, the Steering Committee meeting was adjoined to other meetings gathering RSPB, GRNP, CSSL, the government of Sierra Leone and the Paramount Chief Representative. However WHH was unable to join. All recognised the progress made and see great value in the crop raiding analysis which will help answer long-pending community grievances relying on science.
Activity 5.2. Hold project level workshop to develop monitoring and evaluation plan to establish, roles and responsibilities of partners and associated methods, tools and timetable.	Not applicable for this reporting period. See AR1 and AR2.
Activity 5.3. Conduct training programme for National Staff from GRNP, CSSL, FD and other partners where appropriate	Not applicable for this reporting period. See AR1 and AR2.

Annex 2: Project's full current logframe as presented in the application form (unless changes have been agreed)

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
Impact:			
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			
Outcome:			
Gola Rainforest National Park (GRNP) stakeholders are enabled to restore local cocoa plantations for the benefits of livelihoods, carbon, biodiversity and habitat connectivity.			
Output 1 1. The impacts on wildlife of restoring agro forestry systems, in particular abandoned cocoa plantations, to different levels of production is assessed	1a. Target research sites identified by EOY1 1b. Fieldwork completed by EOY3 1c. Data Analysis done by EOY3 1d. Mapping exercise of cocoa plantations completed year 1 1e. Similarity index for wildlife in rehabilitated plantations verses pristine habitats is measured by end of project 1f. Peer reviewed paper submitted by EOP	Indicator 1. Research site selection report. Indicator2. Field work summary reports Indicator3. Peer reviewed articles submitted. Indicator4. Presentations & Posters at international arena (e.g. World Parks Congress 2014) Indicator5. HWC mitigation best practice review report Indicator6. Community attitude survey baseline, monitoring and end line reports Indicator7. 10 forest edge community road shows including HWC awareness Indicator8. 20 radio talk shows including HWC awareness Indicator9. Forest edge community Workshop reports and feedback. Indicator10. Cocoa plantation	1. Local communities and staff are receptive to the training and capacity-building we offer. 2. The global market for cocoa does not collapse unexpectedly. 3. WHH are successful in their A4D funding bid
Output 2	2a. HWC attitude survey completed by	2.1	

<p>Understanding of the costs of human–wildlife conflicts relating to cocoa farming is enhanced, together with knowledge of methods to mitigate these conflicts.</p>	<p>EOY1</p> <p>2b. Review of existing best practice done by EOY2</p> <p>2c. Fieldwork and analysis on impact of crop raiding on cocoa completed by EOY2</p> <p>2d. HWC mitigation strategy demonstrated in at least 1 community by EOP</p> <p>2e. 40% of the 30 focal communities have evidence based, agreed understanding of cause and impact of HWC by EOP as compared with baseline.</p> <p>2f. 10 dissemination workshops held in FECs by EOP.</p>	<p>2.2</p>	
<p>Output 3</p> <p>Selected communities surrounding GRNP have improved capacity, access to advice and support to improve cocoa yields and enhance livelihoods</p>	<p>3.a 140 community members enrol with Farmer field schools by early Y2</p> <p>3b. 140 community members trained in improved techniques by EOY2</p> <p>3c. Meetings held with 3 new plantations during project</p>	<p>3.1</p>	
<p>Output 4</p> <p>A livelihood development and habitat connectivity strategy that integrates cocoa rehabilitation is developed and adopted by the GRNP and disseminated for selected Protected areas in Sierra Leone</p>	<p>4a. Zoning map developed by year 2</p> <p>4b. Plans for cocoa rehabilitation incorporated into a revised GRNP management plan by the EOP</p> <p>4c. National Workshop held and key community, government, private sector and NGO stakeholders attend year 3</p>		
<p>Output 5</p> <p>Project managed efficiently and effectively and local staff trained so that they can continue to contribute to ensuring the project legacy.</p>	<p>5a. M&E plan in place by mid yr1</p> <p>5b. Staff training plan in place by EOY1 and carried out where appropriate throughout project</p> <p>5c. Steering committee established by mid yr 1 and meets regularly</p>		

	5d. Financial reporting system in place by end of first month and financial expenditure remains with contractual limits		
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<p>Activities (each activity is numbered according to the output that it will contribute towards, for example 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 are contributing to Output 1)</p> <p>1.1. Mapping exercise to assess the extent of abandoned cocoa plantations.</p> <p>1.2. Camera trapping/point counts of wildlife (mammals/birds) to survey resident and transient wildlife in habitats surrounding GRNP, including restored and abandoned plantations, and within GRNP to compare wildlife populations to the NP forest baseline. This would include measuring changes in wildlife following cocoa restoration.</p> <p>1.3. Analysing the camera trapping/point counts of wildlife in order to compare wildlife populations between different habitats (spatial comparison), in particular to the NP forest baseline but also between the farmed habitats studied, and before and after cocoa restoration (temporal comparison).</p> <p>2.1 Monitor crop raiding throughout the project in restored and non restored sites</p> <p>2.2 Review existing practices of HWC prevention and mitigation</p> <p>2.3 Develop a list/framework of mitigation strategies/recommendations for dealing with HWC which may be applied in the immediate surroundings of the National Park.</p> <p>2.4 Analyse existing socioeconomic data and monitor selected communities throughout the project to understand attitudes.</p> <p>2.5 Human Wildlife Conflict mitigation tools are demonstrated in selected GRNP forest edge communities (FECs) and surrounding land owners.</p> <p>2.6 Dissemination through awareness building workshops FFS</p> <p>3.1 Support thirty FECs to link with farmer field schools which support farmers with tools, advice and support to improve yields.</p> <p>3.2 Analyse existing socioeconomic data and monitor selected communities throughout the project to understand value of cocoa as source of income.</p> <p>3.3 Advice to promote a win-win solutions to livelihoods and wildlife is given to ongoing initiatives on cocoa rehabilitation and new plantations</p> <p>3.4 Multi-stakeholder workshops to enhance local capacity around cocoa cultivation and human wildlife conflict issues so best sustainable landscape practices can be created and evaluated.</p> <p>4.1 Criteria and principles for selecting priority cocoa development areas to enhance connectivity are produced</p> <p>4.2 Develop a map to demonstrate where cocoa can be used in the possible mosaic linking Gola South, with Gola Centre, and Gola centre with the Transboundary corridor to enhance habitat connectivity in the agricultural landscape</p> <p>4.3 Exercise to review and update GRNP management plan to include habitat connectivity</p> <p>4.4 National conference (end of Project) targeting selected Protected Areas focusing on replication potential focusing on habitat connectivity and human wildlife mitigation issues</p> <p>5.1 Establish project steering committee from RSPB, GRNP, CSSL and FD and WHH to meet every 6 months.</p> <p>5.2 Hold project level workshop to develop monitoring and evaluation plan to establish, roles and responsibilities of partners and associated methods, tools and timetable.</p> <p>5.3 Conduct training programme for National Staff from GFP, CSSL, FD and other partners where appropriate.</p>
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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								
5	Farmer Field Schools	45	45	45	60		30	30
5	Community members enrolled to Farmer Field Schools	1075	1075	1182	1332		140	140
5	Cocoa Extension Officers (Sierra Leoneans)	4	4	4	4		4	4
5	Research Technicians monitoring cocoa plantations and crop raiding (Sierra Leoneans)	1-2	1-2	1-2	1-2		1-2	1-2
8	Mark Hulme spends half his time in Sierra Leone and half in the UK (#weeks)	19	0	28	28		24	84
	Steering Committee TOR and minutes	1	0	1	n/a		1	5
	Community attitude survey baseline, monitoring and end line reports	1	0	1	0		1	1
	Financial guidance document and quarterly financial reports	3	4	4	4		4	12
23	Co-funding from the A4D project							

Table 2 Publications

Title	Type (e.g. journals, manual, CDs)	Detail (author s, year)	Gender of Lead Author	Nationality of Lead Author	Publishers (name, city)	Available from (e.g. weblink or publisher if not available online)
Sierra Leone's Gola Rainforest National Park REDD project	Technical Paper, Congress Proceedings	Nicolas Tubbs, Jonathan Barnard, Sheku Kamar	Male	French	XIV WORLD FORESTRY CONGRESS, Durban, South	http://www.fao.org/about/meetings/world-forestry-congress/programme/technical-papers-and-posters/en/

improving livelihoods of 122 Forest Edge Communities		a, William Bangura, Michael Garbo. 2015			Africa, 7-11 September 2015	

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

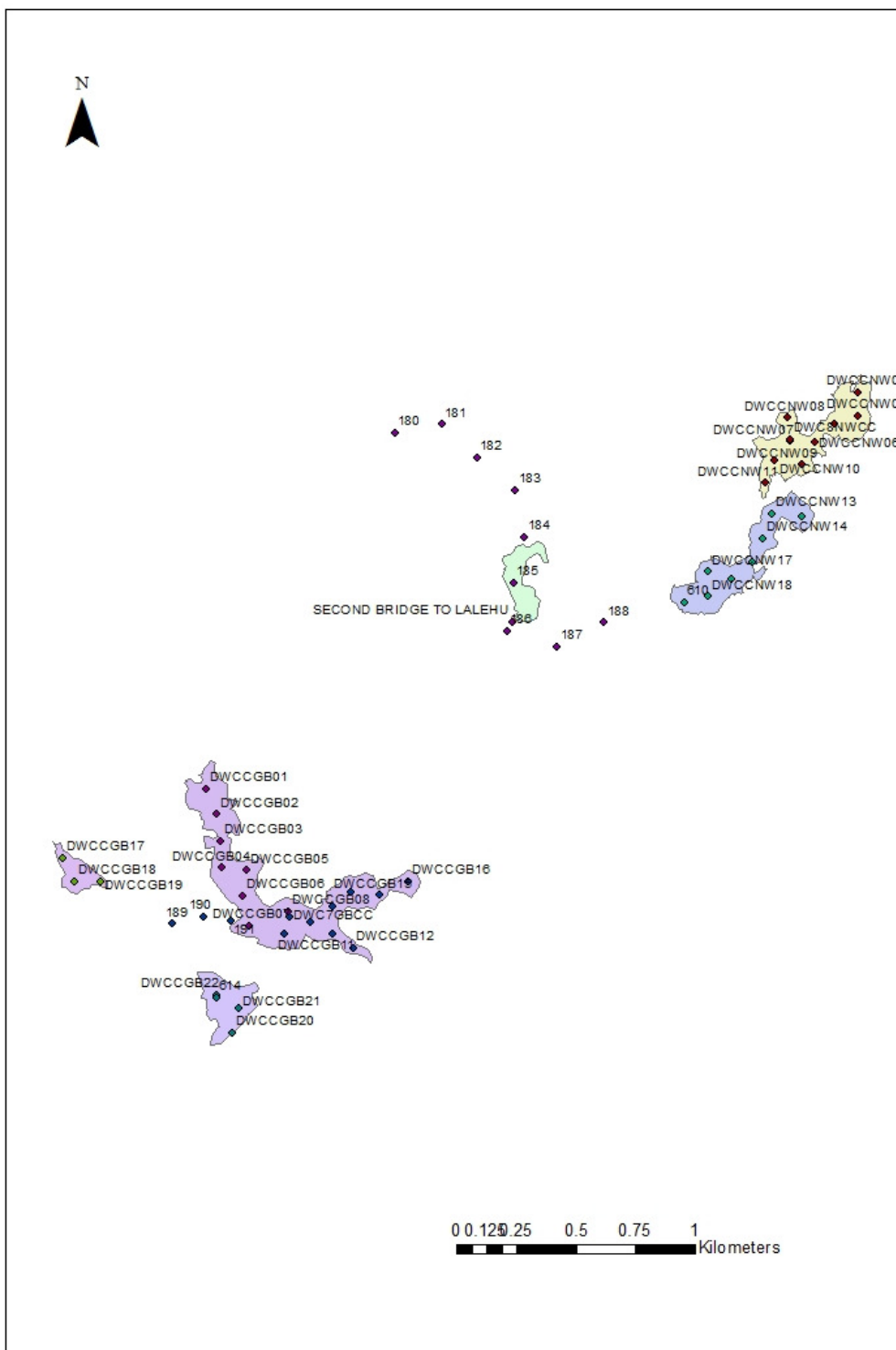


Figure 1 Newly mapped cocoa and newly-completed bird points, Gombu and Nyawama, Gaura chiefdom

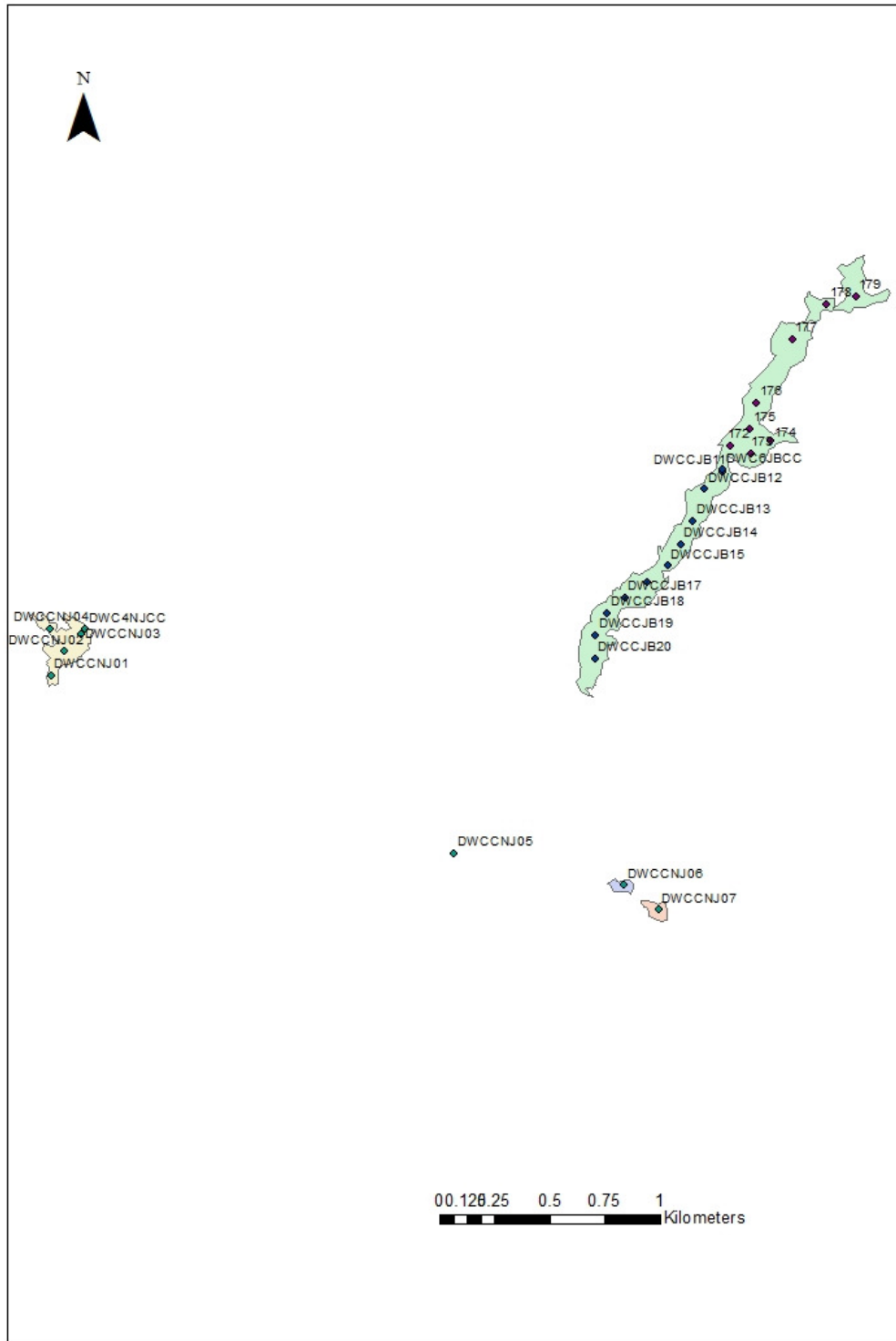
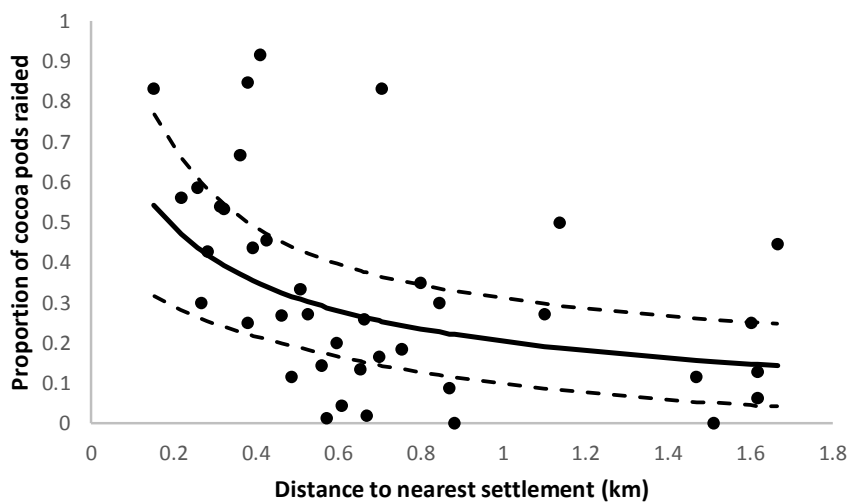
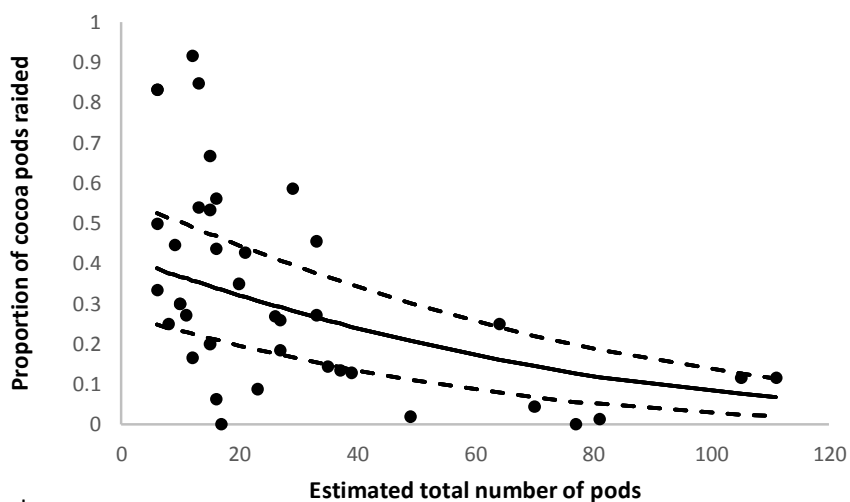


Figure 2 Newly mapped cocoa and newly-completed bird points, Njala and Jabwema, Gaura chiefdom



a.



b.

Figure 3. The relationship between distance to nearest settlement (a) or estimated total number of pods (b) and proportion of cocoa pods raided, derived from a binomial GLMM in, with 95% confidence limits. Circles represent the actual values for each quadrat ($n=39$). Other explanatory variables fitted in the model were held to their mean value.

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.	X
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.	x
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	x

report.	
Do you have hard copies of material you want to submit with the report? If so, please make this clear in the covering email and ensure all material is marked with the project number.	x
Have you involved your partners in preparation of the report and named the main contributors	x
Have you completed the Project Expenditure table fully?	x
Do not include claim forms or other communications with this report.	