

Darwin Initiative Main Project Annual Report

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Darwin Project Information

Project Reference	22-015
Project Title	Sustainable management of an Ethiopian rangeland for biodiversity and pastoralists
Host Country/ies	Ethiopia
Contract Holder Institution	The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB)
Partner institutions	Ethiopian Wildlife Natural History Society; SOS Sahel; BirdLife International; Coventry University; Manchester Metropolitan University
Darwin Grant Value	£285,490
Funder	DFID
Start/end dates of project	01 April 2015/31 March 2018
Reporting period	01 April 2015 - 31 March 2016: Annual report number 1
Project Leader	Paul Donald
Project website/blog	http://www.rspb.org.uk/community/ourwork/b/biodiversity/archive/2015/06/15/closing-the-hunger-gap-establishing-grassland-reserves-in-ethiopia.aspx http://www.cebmmu.co.uk/research/darwin-initiative-sustaining-pastoralist-livelihoods-in-ethiopia-and-saving-the-liben-lark-from-extinction http://www.birdlife.org/datazone/speciesfactsheet.php?id=1017228
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1. Project Rationale

Pastoralism is potentially the most effective system for managing dry grasslands, delivering sustainable resource management with poverty alleviation. The Liben Plain supports c.10,000 pastoralists with usufruct property rights. Designated an Important Bird Area and part of the South Ethiopian Highlands Endemic Bird Area, the Plain holds one of only two populations of Liben Lark *Heteromirafra archeri*, and important agro-biodiversity (a strategic priority in Ethiopia's NBSAP), including c.50 grass species and the unique Boran cattle. Poverty and drought have led to overgrazing, soil erosion, scrub encroachment, conversion of grassland to crops and severe degradation, with just 7,500 ha of degraded grassland remaining (30% of its extent 20 years ago).

Consequently, the Liben Lark is listed as Critically Endangered and is likely to become mainland Africa's first bird extinction. Our research suggests that habitat degradation is the biggest threat. Degradation is also causing pastoralists to suffer from declining livestock productivity, reduced income and increasing food insecurity (particularly during a three-month dry season hunger gap). This results in poor child nutrition and increased drought vulnerability. Driven by the declining fortunes of pastoralism, some pastoralists are turning to cultivation, which, due to unpredictable rainfall and poor soils, is unsustainable and accelerates grassland and biodiversity loss.

2. Project Partnerships

BirdLife International is a global Partnership of autonomous NGOs who share a mission to conserve birds, their habitats and biodiversity, working with people towards the sustainable use of natural resources. The BirdLife African Partnership Secretariat (BLAPS), based in Kenya, supports and coordinates partners' work in Africa. EWNHS is the BirdLife International Partner in Ethiopia and has long experience of conservation work in the country, being established in 1966. RSPB and EWNHS have worked closely together since 2007, researching the Critically Endangered Liben Lark and other threatened species in southern Ethiopia. RSPB are recognised as a 'Supporting Partner', within the BirdLife Partnership, which means they provide targeted support to other BirdLife Partners, who request support. This project is the first large-scale partnership project between EWNHS and RSPB and the partnership has worked very well during year 1.

SOS Sahel had been leading several successful development focussed livelihood projects in the region and were invited to join the project partnership in 2014, to meet the need for development expertise in implementing this project. Their expertise has been extremely valuable and their involvement in the partnership has been welcomed, they have been able to share their skills and knowledge with project partners, and knowledge and skills sharing plan will be implemented in year 2/3 of the project.

CU became involved in the EWNHS-RSPB research project in 2010, and provide crucial technical advice on collective rangeland management and grassland assessments. MMU has been working on the EWNHS-RSPB project since 2012, through supporting a PhD student to research the status of the Liben Lark and degradation of the plain. MMU provide technical advice on species research and monitoring.

All partners have been involved in project planning, monitoring and evaluation and decision-making, this has occurred formally through the Project Steering Committee meetings, as evidenced in the meeting notes. All partners bring specialist technical skills and experience, in a variety of different disciplines, that complement each other and together provide a strong partnership for project delivery.

A concerted effort has been made to use videoconferencing to enable site-based project staff to participate in the steering committee meetings, which was challenging due to remote location and limited internet access, but very effective in building the strong relationships within the project team and between partners based in different countries.

3. Project Progress

3.1 Progress in carrying out project activities

Using Participatory Rangeland Management this project will work to build capacity of local people to create communally managed grassland reserves ('kallos') across c. 1000 ha of the Plain, and support them to develop more sustainable livelihoods.

Project activities under **Output 1** (*Participatory Rangeland Management process facilitates development of an institutional framework for managing kallos*) have been delivered on time through stakeholder workshops and targeted meetings. A key piece of evidence for this is the finalised kallo management by-law signed by the Kallo Management Committee, along with photographs of some of the meetings, and of kallos being harvested. Three major stakeholder meetings and 7 targeted meetings were held, along with additional impromptu discussions, to raise awareness and build support across all areas of the community for rangeland conservation and sustainable management approaches.

The main reason for the need for additional awareness raising effort was that the Zonal Government were discussing plans for resettlement of the pastoralists on the Plain in order to designate the site as a grassland reserve. This was of serious concern, clearly from a humanitarian perspective, but also due to the impact this would have on the rangeland, which is dependent on pastoralist management (Outcome assumption 1). In addition, there was increasing pressure and interest from wealthy individuals to invest in cultivation on the plains, which has driven some grassland conversion, reducing the area of the plains (Output assumption 3). Both factors are causing significant concern and local people are understandably cautious and sensitive about adapting rangeland management approaches towards kallos and away from open grazing due to fears over land grabs. The project team have had to work very hard to ensure that the rationale and basis for the Darwin project is understood. This has had the knock-on effect of delaying delivery of output 2 (Grassland restoration increases dry season food security for pastoralists equitably and restores grassland quality and Liben Lark habitat).

Furthermore, because drought levels were high in 2015, The Kallo Management Committee, with the support of the project, decided to cut the grass in the established kallos to provide emergency fodder. The disadvantage of this is that vegetation regeneration may have been delayed; however this was the first established kallo, which had the benefit of two wet seasons in year 1 compared to the other kallos, which were developed later and only benefited from 1 wet season, so it is unlikely to affect the overall result. Cutting the kallo has had positive consequences - the communities have seen the value of establishing the kallos, which has built support for further kallo development.

Progress of activities under **Output 2** has been delayed due the reasons outlined here and a change request was agreed that extended the timeframe for delivering 1,000 ha of kallos to the end of year 2. At the end of year 1, 690 ha of scrub had been cleared, thereby extending the area of the rangeland and potential Liben lark habitat. This is 38% more than the original 500 ha target. As of April 2016, 276 ha of kallos have been created with a further 150 ha kallo in negotiation, totalling 426 ha.

Activities under **Output 3** (Pastoralist communities have the capacity to develop livelihoods without reducing grassland area) have progressed ahead of schedule. They were deliberately started earlier than planned to increase community support for, and engagement in, sustainable rangeland management. So far, three Community-Based Organisations (CBOs) have been established, together they now have 100 members, comprising 66 men and 34 women. The CBOs are part of a legally recognised umbrella group, with a Savings and Credit Cooperative registration. Market assessments have been undertaken and a viable business plan developed for implementation in years 2 and 3. Basic literacy and numeracy training has been provided, alongside business and entrepreneurship training. Evidence for this (the Business Plan, and training report) is included in Annex 6.

Delivery of **Output 4**, which relates to project sustainability and building on the project legacy, is due for implementation in year 2 and 3 of the project. One activity was scheduled for year 1 (identifying priority areas for biodiversity in Ethiopian Borana rangelands). Partners agreed that it would be more sensible to deliver this activity in Year 2 alongside other activities under output 4, to form a continuum with the other activities and maintain stakeholder involvement and momentum. This change does not impact on delivery of outcomes or other indicators. *Propose changing the delivery of this indicator to Year 2.*

Activities included under **Output 5**, relating to project management, monitoring and evaluation have been delivered on time. Project partners decided to amalgamate the Steering and Implementation Committees due to the overlap in membership and restrict the meetings to project partners only. Key evidence for this is the Partnership Management Agreement, and the Project Steering Committee meeting notes, alongside the timely submission of project paperwork to Darwin. Baseline reports have been completed as planned, except for kallo vegetation height and diversity surveys, which will be surveyed in November 2016 and March 2018. Partners decided to delay these surveys due to the delay in establishing kallos in Year 1. *Propose changing delivery of baseline survey 3 from end Yr 1 to end Yr2.* Liben Lark distribution and productivity surveys were completed on schedule through co-funding from an Ethiopian PhD student, who analysed data, and is due to submit her thesis in May 2016.

3.2 Progress towards project outputs

Output 1: Participatory Rangeland Management process facilitates development of an institutional framework for managing community grassland reserves ('kallos')			
	Baseline -2015	Change recorded by 2016	Evidence Source
Indicator 1a: By end of Month 4, Kallo Management Committees are established with equitable representation from all stakeholder groups (including women)	No Management Committees established	A Kallo Management Committee (17 people) and a Kallo Management Steering Committee (7 people) have been established. Members include Government staff, village elders, village leaders, pasture elders and 3 women.	Annex 4: Copy of kallo management by-law signatories
Indicator 1b: By end of Month 4, stakeholders, including	No kallo locations or	Stakeholders decided on locations, benefit-sharing	Annex 4: Copy of Kallo

communities, Government and civil society have agreed locations for kallos, and developed management, and equitable benefit-sharing agreements for them, upheld through by-laws	by-law agreed	approach and management of kallos by July 2015. Kallo management by-law finalised and signed by September 2015	management by-law
Indicator 1c: By end of project, Kallo Management Committees are distributing dry season forage under agreed management and equitable benefit sharing approaches	No dry season forage available	Due to drought in year 1, 90 ha of Kallos were harvested to provide emergency dry season forage under the management agreement by-law (Output Assumption 2). (see sections 3.1 & 3.4 for potential consequences)	Annex 4: Project photographs
Output 2: Grassland restoration increases dry season food security for pastoralists equitably and restores grassland quality and Liben Lark habitat			
	Baseline	Change recorded by 2016	Evidence source
Indicator 2a: By end of Yr1, scrub cleared from 500 ha adjacent to areas occupied by Liben Larks.	0 ha of scrub cleared	690 ha of scrub has been cleared.	Annex 5: Satellite maps/ photographs
Indicator 2b: By end of Yr2, community kallos cover around 1000 ha, located to capture >50% of the core area occupied by Liben Larks	0 ha of kallos exist	276 ha of kallo created. 150 ha of kallo currently in negotiation. Change request agreed, to extend kallo delivery into end of year 2.	See section 3.1 Annex 5: Satellite image maps and photographs
<i>Indicator 2c: By end of project, grass species richness and diversity, and proportion of high fodder value species, are 50% higher and forage biomass is 1000% higher within kallos than outside</i>		<i>No progress to report. Scheduled to be measured in November 2016 and March 2018.</i>	
<i>Indicator 2d: By end of Yr3, 50% of the population of Liben Larks have responded to improved grassland quality by breeding in kallos and areas cleared of scrub, and having nest survival rates >30%</i>		<i>Not yet measured, using pre-project baseline. Will be measured in November 2016 and March 2018.</i>	
Indicator 2e: By end of project, all 2,000 pastoralist households have cows that produce milk for calf rearing and human consumption during the dry season	0-5% based on stakeholder discussions in Nov 2014	Yr 1 baseline collected in July-August 2015. 0% of pastoralist households have milk for human consumption during the dry season. Scheduled to be measured again in January 2018.	Annex 7: Socio-economic baseline report.
Output 3: Pastoralist communities have capacity to develop livelihoods without reducing grassland			
	Baseline 2015	Change recorded by 2016	Evidence Source
Indicator 3a: By end Month 6, 3 CBO's baseline capacity needs self-assessments complete and opportunities for equitable livelihood development identified and prioritised by communities.	No assessment of capacity undertaken or livelihoods prioritisation	3 CBO baseline capacity self-assessments complete and opportunities for livelihood development identified and prioritised by Sept 2015.	Annex 6: Capacity self-assessment baseline data.
Indicator 3b: By end of Yr1, three community based organisations (CBOs) are established	No CBOs established	3 CBOs formally established under single umbrella group, with legal status and accepted as cooperative.	Annex 6: CBO membership
Indicator 3c: By end of Month18, three CBOs have developed business	CBOs do not have business	Business planning complete 6 months ahead of schedule	Annex 6: Business plan

plans for sustainable development initiatives	plans.	in March 2016. (section 3.1 for explanation)	
Indicator 3d: By end of Yr 2, 70 pastoralist household heads are receiving training	CBO members untrained.	Initial training initiatives run with CBO members.	Annex 6: CBO training report
<i>Indicator 3e</i>		<i>Activities not scheduled to begin until Year 2.</i>	
Output 4: Project partners maintain and build on the outcome of the project and promote Participatory Rangeland Management to conserve biodiversity across Ethiopia's rangelands in the long-term			
	Baseline 2015	Change recorded by 2016	Evidence source
Indicator 4a: By end of Yr 1, priority areas for biodiversity in Ethiopian Borana rangelands are identified for establishing Participatory Rangeland Management, linked to the Oromia Regional Pastoralist Development Strategy (ORPDS)	ORPDS does not consider delivering biodiversity benefits	Initial discussions led to development of a project plan but identification delayed until Year 2. (section 3.1 and 12 for explanation)	(section 3.1) Project plan available on request.
<i>Indicators 4b-4e</i>		<i>Not scheduled to begin until Year 2.</i>	
Output 5: Project management, monitoring and evaluation structures and processes ensure that the project objectives are achieved on schedule and within budget			
	Baseline 2015	Change recorded by 2016	Evidence source
Indicator 5a: By end of month 2 project partners have signed partnership agreements and confirm their respective roles and responsibilities	No partnership agreements exist	Project partnership agreement signed.	See section 2. Partnership agreement available on request.
Indicator 5b: By end Yr 1, Baseline surveys complete: 1. milk production/ hunger gap assessment; 2. Three CBO capacity needs self assessments; 3. Height and diversity of vegetation in kallos; 4. Liben Lark distribution and productivity surveys	No recent Baseline data available	Baseline surveys 1 and 2 completed in year 1. Baseline survey 3 - kallo vegetation will be surveyed in November 2016 and March 2018 (see section 3.1) Baseline survey 4, completed	See Annexes 4,5,6 & 7 covering baselines for the different outputs
Indicator 5c: Project partner Steering Committee meets biannually; Project Implementation Committee (local stakeholders) meets quarterly	Project partnership newly established.	Four Steering Committee meetings were held in Year 1, each of which brought together all UK and Ethiopian partners.	See Section 3.1. Meeting notes available on request.
<i>Indicator 5d-5e:</i>		<i>Not scheduled to begin until Year 2.</i>	
Indicator 5f: All financial & progress reports submitted to the project manager and project donor on time	Reporting schedule agreed	All reports submitted on time.	6-monthly report, Darwin Annual report

3.3 Progress towards the project Outcome

Outcome: Sustainable management of the Liben Plain enhances livelihoods and food security for 10,000 pastoralists, prevents mainland Africa's first bird extinction and integrates biodiversity conservation into Ethiopian rangeland recovery			
EOP= end of project	Baseline 2015	Change by 2016	Evidence source
Indicator 1: By EOP, around 2,000 pastoralist households (10,000 people, including c.2,000 women & 7,000 children) on and around the	Nov 2014 Baseline: 2,000 pastoralist households	Baseline socio-economic surveys have been	Annexes: 4,5,6 & 7 covering

<p>Liben Plain have access to milk during the dry season, reporting a closure of the current hunger gap</p> <p>By end Yr 1, socioeconomic surveys quantify dry season milk production and food shortage</p> <p>By end Yr 1, communities have agreed locations of 10km² of kallos, have developed by-laws and benefit sharing agreements to govern their use and at least 5km² of kallos have been created.</p>	<p>experience a three-month hunger gap in the dry season</p>	<p>completed, and data analysis has provided baseline statistics.</p> <p>Kallo management by-laws agreed and signed. 276 ha of kallos delivered. 150 ha in development.</p>	<p>baselines for the different outputs</p>
<p>Indicator 2: By EOP, 3 CBOs (70 people, >35 women) have the capacity to support communities to implement livelihood development/ diversification initiatives.</p> <p>By end Yr 1: three CBOs established and are developing business plans.</p> <p>By end Yr 2: Business plans developed; training of CBO committees in progress.</p>	<p>Nov 2014 baseline: Local communities wish to be proactive in developing livelihood opportunities but lack the resources and experience</p>	<p>3 CBOs formally established with membership of 100 (66 men,34 women)</p> <p>Business planning complete 6 months ahead of schedule in March 2016.</p>	<p>Annex 6: Business planning and CBO training report</p>
<p>Indicator 3: By EOP, precipitous population decline of the Critically Endangered Liben Lark has been halted or reversed</p> <p>By end Yr 2, surveys undertaken after kallo creation indicate strong selection of kallo grassland by birds and nesting density is higher inside kallos than outside.</p>	<p>Nov 2014 baseline: The number of Liben Larks on the Liben Plain is less than 150 individuals.</p>	<p>Surveys planned for year 2 (to measure the impact of kallo creation on status of Liben Lark.</p>	<p>Annex 5: Liben lark status report</p>
<p>Indicator 4: By end of project, the potential for integrating biodiversity conservation with pastoralist development is understood by at least 10 key government and civil society stakeholders.</p> <p>By end Yr 1, kallos established on the Liben Plain provide a demonstration of how biodiversity and development can be delivered through Participatory Rangeland Management</p> <p>By end Yr 2, other priority areas for using PRM to deliver biodiversity conservation in Ethiopia's rangelands are being identified.</p>	<p>Nov 2014 baseline: The potential benefits that Participatory Rangeland Management can provide to Ethiopian rangeland biodiversity are not appreciated by national or local stakeholders</p>	<p>Kallos already established on the plains are acting as demonstration, with a visit made by regional Government staff in January 2016.</p>	

3.4 Monitoring of assumptions

Outcome Assumptions

Assumption 1	Ethiopian Government continues its current drive to restoring sustainable pastoralism
Assumption 2	Political stability in the project area does not decline
Assumption 3	Drought levels do not greatly increase above expectation

Assumption 1 has been challenged but mitigation is in progress (section 3.1, report on output 1). The Government have entered into discussion related to conserving the grassland in isolation of pastoralist management. This situation is being monitored and projects partners have taken every opportunity to

discuss this with Government staff to promote the importance of pastoralist management as critical to the viability of the rangeland and biodiversity.

Output Assumptions

Assumption 1	Existing Borana mechanisms for enforcing by-laws and distributing fodder to the most needy members of society are applied to new kallos
Assumption 2	Drought does not disrupt normal grassland management processes
Assumption 3	Illegal conversion of grassland to crops by external investors does not increase
Assumption 4	Local CBOs remain viable and engaged
Assumption 5	Other grassland stakeholders external to the Liben Plain are interested in learning from the project

In relation to Assumption 2, drought levels were high in 2015, so the Kallo Management Committee cut the grass in the established kallos to provide emergency resources in the dry season. The disadvantage of this is that vegetation regeneration may have been delayed, however this was the first established kallo, which had the benefit of 2 wet seasons in year 1 compared to the other kallos that were developed later and only benefited from 1 wet season, so it is unlikely to affect the overall result. Furthermore, this has built support for further kallo development.

The situation behind Assumption 3 has been complicated. Whilst there has been increasing pressure from external investors, no new conversion has occurred over the last year. This perceived pressure has made local pastoralists more uncertain about establishing kallos – if conversion is reducing the area available for open grazing, then pastoralists are understandably worried about enclosing more of the diminishing grazing area in kallos. Partners have been monitoring this situation very carefully, and have increased the number of meetings under outcome 1 (see Section 3.1).

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

This project delivers one set of actions (establishment of grazing reserves) which impact positively on both poverty alleviation and biodiversity conservation, an excellent example of a win-win approach. We expect the project to contribute to the sustainable management of rangelands throughout Ethiopia, increasing the resilience of 12 million pastoralists and conserving grassland biodiversity. By the end of the project, around 2,000 pastoralist households (10,000 people, including c.2,000 women and 7,000 children) on and around the Liben Plain have access to milk during the dry season, reporting a closure of the current hunger gap. Also by the end of the project we expect that the precipitous population decline of the Critically Endangered Liben Lark has been halted or reversed.

4. Contribution to SDGs

This project is contributing to several of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). Grazing reserves are contributing to SDG 2 i.e. ending hunger, achieving food security and improved nutrition and promotion of the sustainable agriculture. Specifically SDG 2.1 (ensure access, by the poor and vulnerable, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round). Initial analysis of socio-economic data from the project area shows that nearly 100% of randomly sampled heads of households currently do not have access to sufficient food for their families during the 3 month hunger gap. The grazing reserves are also promoting sustainable use of the grassland ecosystem and halting biodiversity loss (SDG 15).

The project is also building the capacity of 3 CBOs, which mostly include unemployed youth and female headed households. This component contributes to SDG 5 and 8 regarding reducing youth unemployment and ensuring gender equality and women’s empowerment, both critical issues for Ethiopia’s pastoralist communities on the Liben Plain.

5. Project support to the Conventions, Treaties or Agreements)

This project will integrate poverty alleviation on the Liben Plain with actions to prevent the global extinction of the critically endangered Liben Lark. It therefore supports Ethiopia’s NBSAP, which aims to address ‘interlinked issues comprising biodiversity protection and management for food security (poverty reduction), health and livelihood improvement of the Ethiopian population especially farmers

and pastoralists whose survival depends on the use of natural resources'. The project will contribute to all strategic objectives of the NBSAP, particularly:

- Objective 2. By 2020, all remaining natural ecosystems outside protected areas are under sustainable management
- Objective 3. The costs and benefits of biodiversity conservation are equitably shared through a range of public, private, community/CBO and NGO partnerships
- Objective 4. The rich agro-biodiversity of Ethiopia is effectively conserved

This project will develop sustainable management systems for a degraded rangeland, building upon indigenous knowledge and traditional systems. It will provide a model for the sustainable management of rangelands elsewhere in Ethiopia. Consequently this project will contribute to CBD articles 8, 10 and 11 and the programme of work on agricultural biodiversity. It will inform the UNESCO-SCBD programme on linking biological and cultural diversity, and Aichi Targets 1, 7, 12-14 and 18.

6. Project support to poverty alleviation

This project will improve the quality and extent of grasslands through creation of communal kallos, providing the population of the Liben Plain (c.10,000 people) with access to fodder in the long dry season, so that cows produce milk for human consumption as well as for calves. This will increase food security and close the current dry season hunger gap by project end. This in turn will lead to improvements in health and nutrition, security of assets (i.e. through the increased survival, health and productivity, and therefore sale value, of cattle), cultural enhancement (preservation of the pastoralist lifestyle) and increased resilience to climate change, although these will not all be measurable within the lifetime of the project. The considerable labour and transport costs of creating kallos will be paid directly to local pastoralists of the Liben Plain providing a source of income and engendering ownership.

Communities are also keen to develop and diversify livelihoods to reduce poverty, which is a major driver of grassland conversion to unsustainable cropping. The project will assist people to meet these aspirations by helping CBOs to identify the most profitable and sustainable initiatives through feasibility studies and business plans; identify donors to finance initiatives; provide basic literacy/numeracy and financial/business training to households so that they are in a position to engage in these initiatives when they begin, and monitor the impact of their work and initiatives through participatory community wellbeing assessments.

Impacts of kallo construction and management by end of project

Each 100 ha (1 km²) of kallo grassland supports 900 milking cows through the dry season. An average household (5-8 persons) currently has three milking cows. Thus 1 km² of kallo will benefit approximately 300 households x 7 = 2,100 people. Around 1000 ha (10 km²) of kallos will be created and by the end of the project will provide, under normal wet season rainfall scenarios, enough fodder to support 3 milking cows for each of the c. 2,000 households on the Plain during the challenging dry season, when food insecurity levels are at their peak. As 1km² of kallo produces hay to the local value of around £25,000 (depending on rainfall), and as the project aims to create up to 10 km² of kallo, local pastoralists will benefit from hay to the local value of £250,000 in each year after the first cut. This value will be passed on directly in the form of milk production and the improved health and weight, and hence monetary value, of their cattle. The 2,167 households on and immediately around the Liben Plain include 1,664 male-headed households and 303 female-headed households (c. 7,000 children and c. 2,000 women). Kallos are communally managed under customary pastoralist by-laws (geda) and are self-regulated by the community, with formalised documented agreements. Infractions of community benefits are self-policed and punishable by fines, and so are very rare. A customary benefit-sharing mechanism recognises that female-headed households and the poorest households are the most vulnerable and are therefore given priority in benefit sharing. This ensures that the most vulnerable and poorest households will have milk throughout the dry season. The creation of the kallos from cleared scrub will have the added benefit of increasing the area of open grassland on the Plain, although the positive effects of scrub clearance on rangeland production are difficult to predict. We will measure the direct impact of the kallos on c. 2,000 pastoralist households by comparing the results of a baseline and end-of-project stratified sample surveys of milk production and food security as part of the PRM process.

Impacts of support to CBOs to facilitate livelihood development/diversification by end of project

Enhancing the governance and business skills of c. 70 CBO members (35 women) will directly benefit their households through increased ability to engage with livelihood initiatives. We will make particular efforts to include the small number of poorer households who are converting grassland to cropland.

The work to support 3 CBOs to help vulnerable households who are being driven to abandon pastoralism to develop/diversify their livelihoods and reduce their need to plough grassland for crops, will, post-project, lead to poverty benefits such as: increased household ownership of key assets, improved quality of housing, increased resilience to drought, increased levels of food security, improved wellbeing and reduced need for further grassland conversion.

We will measure the increase in CBO capacity by comparing end of project and baseline CBO capacity needs self-assessments, and the production of governance documents, business plans and approaches to donors. We will train CBOs to monitor the impact of their work on the communities.

7. Project support to Gender equity issues

Until recently, women in the Liben area did not attend school. Whilst this is changing within the current generation of children, many women over 20 did not complete school, and there are high rates of illiteracy and innumeracy in women over 30. In Borana culture, women's roles are focused on domestic duties, raising children, collecting water, firewood and cooking. With water availability low and few collection points, collecting water can involve travelling a long distance and take up a large part of the day. Young girls often assist with these activities to support their mothers and prepare them for adulthood. Consequently women do not engage in livelihood or decision-making processes.

Female heads of households must have a livelihood as well as fulfilling their other duties. Consequently these households are among the most vulnerable. Women's participation in traditional decision-making structures is low. This makes it challenging to ensure that the most vulnerable women are represented in project decision making and activities.

The situation is slowly changing on the Liben Plains. Women are beginning to take up positions in local Government. For example, a woman has recently been appointed to fill the new position of Gender Equality Officer. This officer (Agudo) has advised on project development, particularly around training needs and livelihood development for women. Agudo is also a member of the general Kallo Management Committee and is in the leadership team of the 3 CBOs, along with 3 other women, compared to 24 men (Annex 4). Although this is a low number, it is a significant achievement in this community. These groups were identified by the communities and self-elected, which is essential for ensuring local ownership of the project and sustainability of activities.

8. Monitoring and evaluation

An M and E plan has been developed and adopted, based on project Outputs, Outcome and indicators. Monitoring top level project progress is focussed on 3 key project measures:

1. The proportion of pastoralist households that experience a dry season hunger gap at the start compared to the end of the project.

Baseline socio-economic data has been collected and a report produced outlining that 100% of households currently experience the dry season hunger gap. We will repeat the survey at the end of the project to measure the impact of kallos and CBO initiatives on reducing the dry season hunger gap.

2. The capacity of 3CBOs to develop and diversify sustainable livelihoods.

Baseline data on CBO capacity has been recorded using self-assessments. This exercise will be repeated at project end to measure the impact of training/livelihood initiatives on CBO capacity.

3. The change in the conservation status of the Liben Lark population on the Liben Plain.

Baseline data on the distribution, population and productivity of the Liben Lark has been collected. A mid-project and end of project survey will allow us to assess the impact of kallos and more sustainable livelihoods on the Liben Lark, as an indicator of grassland biodiversity.

Progress against activities and indicators has been tracked and measured through 6 monthly technical written reports, quarterly Steering Committee meetings and frequent email communications.

9. Lessons learnt

The participatory approach of the project has been critical to its success so far. A flexible approach to community engagement to allow as many community members to participate has also been important.

A key lesson would be to build in a contingency to allow communication events to be increased in response to unexpected events (e.g. the Government's plan to relocate pastoralist families).

High levels of illiteracy and innumeracy of CBO groups, as well as very variable levels of capacity within groups has made it difficult to develop approaches that enable everyone to learn at their level. In future groups will be grouped according to their capacity and training targeted to their level of skills.

10. Actions taken in response to previous reviews (not applicable)

11. Other comments on progress not covered elsewhere (not relevant)

12. Sustainability and legacy

Kallos have a high commercial value and low management costs. The Borana communities have a strong culture of sustainable community grassland management. For these reasons, kallos are likely to be retained and deliver sustainable benefits to local people long after project ends. SOS Sahel report 100% retention rates on kallos elsewhere after seven years.

The project will also support establishment of three CBOs and provide them with training to implement business plans. This will help vulnerable households who are being driven to abandon pastoralism to develop/diversify their livelihoods and reduce their need to plough grassland for crops. In-country partners plan to support CBOs to access CBO grant opportunities post project. This has the potential to improve the wellbeing of the most vulnerable households on the Plain post-project.

As the needs of the local people and Liben's grassland biodiversity are aligned, it is likely that once kallos are established and people are provided with long-term support for livelihood development, no further external support will be needed to maintain the kallos or secure this population of the Liben Lark from extinction. The project is therefore a rare example of a sustainable 'win-win' situation for livelihood development and biodiversity conservation. The post-project plan to create further kallos on and around the Liben Plain should lead, in the longer-term, to an increased population of Liben Lark so that it could be considered for down-listing from Critically Endangered.

Output 4 includes activities (scheduled for years 2 and 3) to promote project outcomes with key stakeholders in the pastoralist sector. The project will identify priority areas for rangeland biodiversity and provide guidance to rangeland management stakeholders on integrating biodiversity conservation into grassland development, including through the Oromia Pastoralist Development Strategy.

13. Darwin Identity

The project has a high profile within the local communities and the local Government administration. Sign boards with partner and Darwin Initiative logos demarcate kallos and explain their purpose (see Annex 4 for photographs). The regional Government has a good understanding of the project and staff have copies of the annual work plan and updates and are familiar with the Darwin identity. As outlined in section 12, project promotion will be increased with national actors during the next phase. All online communications showcase the project as a Darwin Initiative project.

14. Project Expenditure

Table 1 Project expenditure during the reporting period (1 April 2015 – 31 March 2016)

Project spend (indicative) since last annual report	2015/16 Grant (£)	2015/16 Total Darwin Costs (£)	Variance %	Comments (please explain significant variances)
Staff costs (see below)			5.3%	Change agreed
Consultancy costs			-24%	Change agreed (delivered by project staff)
Overhead Costs			13%	Change agreed (underbudgeted)
Travel and subsistence			-0.1%	Change agreed
Operating Costs			5%	Change agreed

Capital items (see below)			-69.3%	Change agreed (motorbike donated
Others (see below)			157.5%	Change agreed (increased advocacy/awareness – outcome 1)
TOTAL				

Annex 1: Report of progress and achievements against Logical Framework for Financial Year 2015-2016

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2015 - March 2016	Actions required/planned for next period
<p>Impact</p> <p>The sustainable management of rangelands throughout Ethiopia increases the resilience of 12 million pastoralists and conserves grassland biodiversity</p>		<p>This project delivers positive impact on both poverty alleviation and biodiversity conservation. By project end, 2000 pastoralist households (10,000 people, including c.2,000 women and 7,000 children) around the Liben Plain have access to milk during the dry season, reporting a closure of the current hunger gap. In tandem, the precipitous population decline of the Critically Endangered Liben Lark has been halted or reversed.</p>	
<p>Outcome</p> <p>Sustainable management of the Liben Plain enhances livelihoods and food security for 10,000 pastoralists, prevents mainland Africa's first bird extinction and integrates biodiversity conservation into Ethiopian rangeland recovery</p>	<p>Indicator 1: By end of project, around 2,000 pastoralist households (10,000 people, including c.2,000 women and 7,000 children) on and around the Liben Plain have access to milk during the dry season, reporting a closure of the current hunger gap</p> <p>By end Yr 1, socioeconomic surveys quantify dry season milk production and food shortage</p> <p>By end Yr 1, communities have agreed locations of 10km² of kallos, have developed by-laws and benefit sharing agreements to govern their use and at least 5km² of kallos have been created</p> <p>By end Yr 2, kallos completed, grass species richness and diversity, and proportion of high fodder value species within kallos are increasing in line with the harvest target of a 50% increase, and fodder biomass within kallos is increasing in line with a harvest target of 1000% increase over surrounding grassland.(</p> <p>Indicator 2: By end of project, three CBOs (70 people, >35 women) have the capacity to support communities to implement livelihood development/diversification initiatives.</p> <p>By end Yr 1: three CBOs established and are developing business plans for most feasible livelihood development and diversification schemes.</p> <p>By end Yr 2: Business plans developed; training of CBO</p>	<p>Baseline socio-economic surveys and baseline statistics completed.</p> <p>Kallos management by-laws agreed and signed. 276 ha of kallos delivered. 150 ha in development.</p> <p>3 CBOs established with membership of 100 people (66 men, 34 women)</p> <p>Business planning complete 6 months ahead of schedule in March 2016.</p> <p>Surveys planned for year 2 (to measure the impact of kallos creation on status of Liben Lark)</p> <p>Established kallos acting as demonstration, with Government visit in January 2016.</p>	<p>Increasing area of kallos is top priority activity.</p> <p>Maintaining training programme for CBOs.</p> <p>Business plan implementation.</p> <p>Mid-project biodiversity surveys</p> <p>Site and stakeholder identification for promotion of Participatory rangeland management approaches and integration with biodiversity conservation</p>

	<p>committees in progress.</p> <p>Indicator 3: By end of project, the precipitous population decline of the Critically Endangered Liben Lark has been halted or reversed</p> <p>Indicator 4: By end of project, the potential for integrating biodiversity conservation with pastoralist development is understood by at least 10 key government and civil society stakeholders.</p> <p>By end Yr 1, kallos established on the Liben Plain provide a demonstration of how biodiversity and development can be delivered through Participatory Rangeland Management</p>		
<p>Output 1. Participatory Rangeland Management process facilitates development of an institutional framework for managing community grassland reserves ('kallos')</p>	<p>1a. By end of Month 4, Kallo Management Committees are established with equitable representation from all stakeholder groups (including women)</p> <p>1b. By end of Month 4, stakeholders, including communities, Government and civil society have agreed locations for kallos, and developed management, and equitable benefit-sharing agreements for them, upheld through by-laws</p> <p>1c. By end of project, Kallo Management Committees are distributing dry season forage under agreed management and equitable benefit sharing approaches</p>	<p>General Kallo Management Committee comprising 17 people, alongside a Kallo Management Steering Committee, comprising 7 representatives have been established. This includes, Government staff, village elders, village leasers, pasture elders and 3 women.</p> <p>Stakeholders decided on locations, benefit-sharing approach and management of kallos by July 2015. Kallo management by-law finalised and signed by September 2015</p> <p>Due to drought in year 1, 90 ha of kallos were harvested to provide emergency dry season forage under the management agreement by-law (Output Assumption 2). (see section 3.1 for potential consequences of this activity)</p>	
Activity 1.1 Undertake a Participatory Rangeland Resource Assessment		Completed	
Activity 1.2 Support customary institutions and Government bodies to establish joint Kallo Management Committees to oversee community kallos through the Participatory Rangeland Management process		Completed	
Activity 1.3 Facilitate a series of stakeholder-led workshops, engaging communities, Government and civil society to identify locations for kallos and develop management, by-laws and benefit-sharing agreements for them through the Participatory Rangeland Management process		Completed. Awareness raising activities and stakeholder engagement will continue to be an essential piece of work in year 2 and 3.	
<p>Output 2. Grassland restoration increases dry season food security for pastoralists equitably and restores grassland quality and Liben Lark habitat</p>	<p>2a. By end of Yr1, scrub cleared from 500 ha adjacent to areas occupied by Liben Larks, increasing the size of the open Liben Plain by 7%</p> <p>2b. By end of Yr2, fences made using cut scrub (underplanted with non-invasive euphorbia to create permanent living fences) demarcate community kallos covering around 1000 ha, located to capture >50% of the core area occupied by Liben Larks</p> <p>2c. By end of project, grass species richness and diversity, and</p>	<p>690 ha of scrub has been cleared.</p> <p>276 ha of kallo created. 150 ha of kallo now in negotiation. Change request agreed, to extend kallo delivery into end of year 2.</p> <p>Yr 1 baseline collected in July-August 2015. 0% of pastoralist households have milk for human consumption during the dry season. Scheduled to be measured again in January 2018.</p>	

	<p>proportion of high fodder value species, are 50% higher and forage biomass is 1000% higher within kallos than outside</p> <p>2d. By end of Yr3, 50% of the population of Liben Larks have responded to improved grassland quality by breeding in kallos and areas cleared of scrub, and having nest survival rates greater than 30%</p> <p>2e. By end of project, all 2,000 pastoralist households (including at least 5,000 women and girls and over 300 households headed by women) have cows that produce milk for calf rearing and human consumption during the dry season (Yr1 baseline likely to be 0-5% based on stakeholder discussions in Nov 2014)</p>	
Activity 2.1. Committees identify and establish local teams to build the kallos		Completed
Activity 2.2. Remove acacia scrub from 500 ha of grassland, outside kallos, adjacent to existing Liben Lark populations, to encourage range expansion and grassland restoration (increasing the size of the open plain by 7%)		Completed
Activity 2.3. Use cut acacia scrub, underplanted with euphorbia, to create at least four kallos of around 250 ha each (total 13% of remaining Plain) in key sites for Liben Larks		276 ha of kallo created. 150 ha of kallo now in negotiation. Change request agreed, to extend kallo delivery into end of year 2. Priority for implementation in 2016/17.
<p>Output 3. Pastoralist communities have the capacity to develop livelihoods without reducing grassland area</p>	<p>3a. By end Month 6, three CBO's baseline capacity needs self-assessments complete and opportunities for equitable livelihood development are identified and prioritised by communities</p> <p>3b. By end of Yr1, three community based organisations (CBOs) are established to manage livelihood development and diversification initiatives</p> <p>3c. By end of Month18, three CBOs have developed business plans for sustainable development initiatives, potentially including resource centre for visitors and local people, communal vehicles, milk collection and storage point (all are ideas suggested by local people during visit in November 2014)</p> <p>3d. By end of Yr 2, 70 pastoralist (35 male heads of household and 35 female heads of household) household heads are receiving training in basic numeracy and literacy skills and business and financial management to facilitate community engagement in livelihood initiatives</p> <p>3e. By end of project, at least two of the three CBOs are in</p>	<p>3 CBO baseline capacity self-assessments complete and opportunities for livelihood development identified and prioritised by September 2015</p> <p>3 CBOs formally established under single umbrella group, with legal status and cooperative accreditation.</p> <p>Business planning complete 6 months ahead of schedule in March 2016. (section 3.1 for explanation)</p> <p>Initial training initiatives run with CBO members.</p>

	discussions with donors or applying to microfinance schemes to secure funding for livelihood initiatives	
Activity 3.1. Support CBOs to undertake a self assessment of their capacity needs and prioritise needs for enabling equitable livelihood development and diversification		Completed
Activity 3.2. Support local communities to develop/establish three Community-Based Organisations (CBOs) to manage and oversee livelihood and infrastructure development initiatives		Completed
Activity 3.3. Support CBOs to develop business plans that potentially could include: a resource centre for visitors and local people, communal vehicles, milk collection/storage point and local commodities shop (ideas suggested by local people during visit in November 2014)		Completed
Activity 3.4. Provide training in numeracy and literacy skills and business and financial management to CBO committees (70 people, 35 women) to enable them to facilitate community engagement in livelihood development and diversification initiatives		Initiated. Priority for continuation in 2016/17.
Output 4. Project partners maintain and build on the outcome of the project and promote Participatory Rangeland Management to conserve biodiversity across Ethiopia's rangelands in the long-term	<p>4a. By end of Yr 1, priority areas for biodiversity in Ethiopian Borana rangelands are identified for establishing Participatory Rangeland Management, linked to the Oromia Regional Pastoralist Development Strategy4b.</p> <p>By end of Yr 2, regional stakeholders managing priority biodiversity areas (Indicator 1) that could benefit from Participatory Rangeland Management processes and from integration of biodiversity conservation into management practices are identified</p> <p>4c. By end of project, partners and stakeholders agree a business plan for expanding the area of community kallos on the Liben Plain</p> <p>4d. By end of project, SOS Sahel and EWNHS staff submit two proposals for funding to donors and supporting CBOs in implementing business plans and monitoring project interventions</p> <p>4e. By end of project, partners have promoted Participatory Rangeland Management and biodiversity mainstreaming to 50 stakeholders managing other grassland sites of high biodiversity importance in Ethiopia, through a workshop in Yr3</p>	Initial discussions led to development of a project plan but identification delayed until Year 2. No impact on project outcome, or outputs, only this indicator, which is suggested to be changed for delivery by end of Year 2, as designed in the project schedule (see explanation in 3.1).

Activity 4.1. Identify priority areas for rangeland biodiversity and regional stakeholders that could benefit from Participatory Rangeland Management in Ethiopian Borana Rangelands, to direct implementation of Oromia regional Pastoralist Develop Strategy to inform Activity 4.5	Not initiated. Suggested delay of indicator to year 2. Project schedule included in project proposal and project planning documents, was for year 2 already.
Activity 4.2. Assess current use of the kallos on the historic (240km ²) extent of the Liben Plain and develop strategy to support the expansion of kallos across the Liben Plain	Not initiated as per project schedule.
Activity 4.3. Provide training in fundraising, communications and monitoring impacts of interventions to in-country partners and CBOs to enable them to build on project outcome in the long-term	Not initiated as per project schedule.
Activity 4.4. Facilitate transfer of skills and expertise between EWNHS and SOS Sahel project staff eg the value of biodiversity conservation in development and participatory processes for rangeland management	Initiated. Project staff worked jointly on activities, bringing participatory rangeland management and biodiversity knowledge and skills together, to enable knowledge sharing. In 2016/17 a training plan for knowledge transfer and skill sharing amongst the partnership has been drafted and will be implemented.
Activity 4.5. In Yr3, hold stakeholder visits to demonstration kallos and national level multi-stakeholder workshop at Liben Plain, including to raise awareness and promote integration of biodiversity conservation into sustainable grassland management systems for application at other priority grassland sites in Ethiopia	Not initiated as per project schedule. However, Government staff have made a site visit to the kallos.
Output 5. Project management, monitoring and evaluation structures and processes ensure that the project objectives are achieved on schedule and within budget	<p>5a. By end of month 2 project partners have signed partnership agreements and confirm their respective roles and responsibilities</p> <p>5b. By end Yr 1, Baseline surveys complete: 1. milk production level/ hunger gap assessment survey (stratified sample of the 10,000 households – part of PRRA); 2. Three CBO capacity needs self assessments; 3. Height and diversity of vegetation in kallos, from freely available aerial photographs and field visits; 4. Liben Lark distribution and productivity surveys</p> <p>5c. Project partner Steering Committee meets twice annually; Project Implementation Committee (local stakeholders) meets quarterly to project progress (enables local stakeholder involvement in M+E)</p> <p>5d. By end of Yr 2, mid-term review of vegetation recovery and Liben Lark responses to management</p> <p>5e. By end of project, repetition of all baseline surveys complete</p> <p>5f. All financial and progress reports submitted to the project manager and project donor on time</p> <p>Project partnership agreement signed.</p> <p>Baseline surveys 1 and 2 completed in year 1. Baseline survey 3 - kallo vegetation will be surveyed in November 2016 and March 2018 (see section 3.1). Baseline survey 4, completed.</p> <p>4 Steering Committee meetings held in Year 1.</p> <p>6-monthly reporting submitted on time.</p>

Activity 5.1. Formalise roles and responsibilities, including project management and implementation structure in project partnership agreements	Completed
Activity 5.2. Collect baseline data on current milk production levels and hunger gap assessment (stratified sample of the 10,000 households)	Completed
Activity 5.3. Analyse CBOs capacity needs self assessments (done under activity 3.1)	Completed
Activity 5.4. Collect baseline survey of vegetation height and diversity of vegetation and Liben Lark distribution and productivity inside and outside kallos	Not completed. Suggested change to year 2 (see section 3.1). No impact on outcome or outputs as measurement comparison is between inside and outside kallos.
Activity 5.5. Facilitate 6-monthly Steering Committee (SC) and quarterly Project Implementation Committee (PIC - including local stakeholders) meetings to evaluate project process towards impact	Completed. Although suggested change to amalgamate the 2 committees into one on a quarterly basis.
Activity 5.6. Monitor project progress on a monthly basis through liaison with all partner staff	Completed
Activity 5.7 Undertake a mid-term vegetation recovery and Liben Lark survey	Not yet initiated as per project schedule.
Activity 5.8 Undertake repeats of baseline surveys and produce comparative analysis reports on: 1. Milk production level/ hunger gap assessment survey (stratified sample of the 10,000 households); 2. CBOs capacity needs self assessments 3. Changes to height and diversity of vegetation in kallos, including freely available satellite photographs; 4. Liben Lark distribution and productivity	Not yet initiated as per project schedule.

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
<p>Impact:</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>Outcome:</p> <p>Sustainable management of the Liben Plain enhances livelihoods and food security for 10,000 pastoralists, prevents mainland Africa's first bird extinction and integrates biodiversity conservation into Ethiopian rangeland recovery</p>	<p>Indicator 1: By end of project, around 2,000 pastoralist households (10,000 people, including c.2,000 women and 7,000 children) on and around the Liben Plain have access to milk during the dry season, reporting a closure of the current hunger gap</p> <p>By end Yr 1, socioeconomic surveys quantify dry season milk production and food shortage</p> <p>By end Yr 1, communities have agreed locations of 10km² of kallos, have developed by-laws and benefit sharing agreements to govern their use and at least 5km² of kallos have been created</p> <p>By end Yr 2, kallos completed, grass species richness and diversity, and proportion of high fodder value species within kallos are increasing in line with the harvest target of a 50% increase, and fodder biomass within kallos is increasing in line with a harvest target of 1000% increase over surrounding grassland.</p> <p>Indicator 2: By end of project, three CBOs (70 people, >35 women) have the capacity to support communities to implement livelihood development/diversification initiatives.</p> <p>By end Yr 1: three CBOs established and are developing business plans for most feasible livelihood development and diversification schemes.</p> <p>By end Yr 2: Business plans developed; training of CBO committees in progress.</p> <p>Indicator 3: By end of project, the precipitous population decline of the Critically Endangered Liben Lark has been halted or reversed</p> <p>By end Yr 2, surveys undertaken after kallo creation indicate strong selection of kallo grassland by birds and nesting density is higher inside kallos than outside</p> <p>Indicator 4: By end of project, the potential for integrating biodiversity conservation with pastoralist development is</p>	<p>Indicator 1: Reports of baseline and end-of-project participatory community milk production/hunger gap assessment surveys</p> <p>Indicator 2: We will monitor CBO capacity through comparative analysis of baseline and end of project self-assessment reports of capacity needs and by the generation and quality of business plans for livelihood initiatives and approaches made to donors.</p> <p>We will also monitor how CBOS are using their training to set up an ongoing M&E process to measure the impact of their activities on the wellbeing of the communities in the long term. This will be done through verbal reports of discussions the CBO committees, and the sharing of source materials such as data sheets and monitoring plans.</p> <p>Indicator 3: Biological transect surveys will quantify the use made by kallos by Liben Larks, and their distribution and population will be compared with baseline transect data going back to 2005. Population size will be estimated using distance sampling. Results will be published in the peer-reviewed literature.</p> <p>Indicator 4: The aim of the stakeholder visits and multi-stakeholder workshop held in year 3 will be to encourage stakeholders from other priority sites for rangeland biodiversity in Ethiopia to adopt the PRM approach at their sites. At the end of the workshop/stakeholder visits we will ask participants to provide feedback of the event, which will include indicating whether they intent to promote PRM at their priority site. We will</p>	<p>Ethiopian Government continues its current drive to restoring sustainable pastoralism</p> <p>Political stability in the project area does not decline</p> <p>Drought levels do not greatly increase above expectation</p>

	<p>understood by at least 10 key government and civil society stakeholders.</p> <p>By end Yr 1, kallos established on the Liben Plain provide a demonstration of how biodiversity and development can be delivered through Participatory Rangeland Management</p> <p>By end Yr 2 other priority areas for using PRM to deliver biodiversity conservation in Ethiopia's rangelands are being identified.</p>	<p>provide a summary report of these statements as part of the final project progress report.</p>	
<p>Outputs:</p> <p>1. Participatory Rangeland Management process facilitates development of an institutional framework for managing community grassland reserves ('kallos')</p>	<p>1a. Project management, monitoring and evaluation structures and processes ensure that the project objectives are achieved on schedule and within budget</p> <p>1b. By end of Month 4, stakeholders, including communities, Government and civil society have agreed locations for kallos, and developed management, and equitable benefit-sharing agreements for them, upheld through by-laws</p> <p>1c. By end of project, Kallo Management Committees are distributing dry season forage under agreed management and equitable benefit sharing approaches</p>	<p>1a. Records of stakeholder meetings and Kallo Management Committees meetings, ToR for Committees and lists of representatives</p> <p>1b. Kallo management and equitable benefit-sharing agreements and by-laws</p> <p>1c. Kallo Management Committees forage distribution records</p>	<p>Existing Borana mechanisms for enforcing by-laws and distributing fodder to the most needy members of society are applied to new kallos</p> <p>Drought does not disrupt normal grassland management processes</p> <p>Illegal conversion of grassland to crops by external investors does not increase</p>
<p>2. Grassland restoration increases dry season food security for pastoralists equitably and restores grassland quality and Liben Lark habitat</p>	<p>2a. By end of Yr1, scrub cleared from 500 ha adjacent to areas occupied by Liben Larks, increasing the size of the open Liben Plain by 7%</p> <p>2b. By end of Yr2, fences made using cut scrub (underplanted with non-invasive euphorbia to create permanent living fences) demarcate community kallos covering around 1000 ha, located to capture >50% of the core area occupied by Liben Larks</p> <p>2c. By end of project, grass species richness and diversity, and proportion of high fodder value species, are 50% higher and forage biomass is 1000% higher within kallos than outside</p> <p>2d. By end of Yr3, 50% of the population of Liben Larks have responded to improved grassland quality by breeding in kallos and areas cleared of scrub, and having nest survival rates greater than 30% (the average for larks in degraded habitats)</p> <p>2e. By end of project, all 2,000 pastoralist households (including at least 5,000 women and girls and over 300 households headed by women) have cows that produce milk for calf rearing and human consumption during the dry season (Yr1 baseline likely to be 0-5%</p>	<p>2a. Before-and-after geo-referenced photographs showing extent of scrub clearance</p> <p>2b. Satellite images showing extent and quality (based on NDVI – see section 27) of new community kallos</p> <p>2c. Published analysis of the vegetation survey reports</p> <p>2d. Published analysis of surveys of Liben Larks comparing densities and breeding behaviour inside and outside kallos</p> <p>2e. Comparative analysis report of the baseline/end of project milk production level/hunger gap assessment surveys</p>	<p>Local CBOs remain viable and engaged</p> <p>Other grassland stakeholders external to the Liben Plain are interested in learning from the project</p>

	based on stakeholder discussions in Nov 2014)		
3. Pastoralist communities have the capacity to develop livelihoods without reducing grassland area	<p>3a. By end Month 6, three CBO's baseline capacity needs self-assessments complete and opportunities for equitable livelihood development are identified and prioritised by communities</p> <p>3b. By end of Yr1, three community based organisations (CBOs) are established to manage livelihood development and diversification initiatives</p> <p>3c. By end of Month18, three CBOs have developed business plans for sustainable development initiatives, potentially including resource centre for visitors and local people, communal vehicles, milk collection and storage point (all are ideas suggested by local people during visit in November 2014)</p> <p>3d. By end of Yr 2, 70 pastoralist (35 male heads of household and 35 female heads of household) household heads are receiving training in basic numeracy and literacy skills and business and financial management to facilitate community engagement in livelihood initiatives</p> <p>3e. By end of project, at least two of the three CBOs are in discussions with donors or applying to microfinance schemes to secure funding for livelihood initiatives</p>	<p>3a. Baseline capacity needs self-assessments /livelihood prioritisation report</p> <p>3b. Community-Based Organisation (CBO) constitution documents and records of CBO meetings</p> <p>3c. Business plans</p> <p>3d. Training materials, training workshop list of attendees, training workshop photographs</p> <p>3e. Funding proposals, records of meetings</p>	
4. Project partners maintain and build on the outcome of the project and promote Participatory Rangeland Management to conserve biodiversity across Ethiopia's rangelands in the long-term	<p>4a. By end of Yr 1, priority areas for biodiversity in Ethiopian Borana rangelands are identified for establishing Participatory Rangeland Management, linked to the Oromia Regional Pastoralist Development Strategy</p> <p>4b. By end of Yr 2, regional stakeholders managing priority biodiversity areas (Indicator 1) that could benefit from Participatory Rangeland Management processes and from integration of biodiversity conservation into management practices are identified</p> <p>4c. By end of project, partners and stakeholders agree a business plan for expanding the area of community kallos on the Liben Plain</p> <p>4d. By end of project, SOS Sahel and EWNHS staff submit two proposals for funding to donors and supporting CBOs in implementing business plans and monitoring project interventions</p> <p>4e. By end of project, partners have promoted Participatory Rangeland Management and biodiversity mainstreaming to 50</p>	<p>4a. Map of identified sites for inclusion within Oromia Regional Pastoralist Development Strategy</p> <p>4b. List of land management stakeholders in Ethiopian Borana rangelands to be invited to workshop (activity 4.5)</p> <p>4c. Business plan for kallo sustainability assessment report</p> <p>4d. Project proposals and CBO records</p> <p>4e. Workshop presentations, attendance lists and minutes, scientific papers and technical guidance publications</p>	

	stakeholders managing other grassland sites of high biodiversity importance in Ethiopia, through a workshop in Yr3		
5. Project management, monitoring and evaluation structures and processes ensure that the project objectives are achieved on schedule and within budget	<p>5a. By end of month 2 project partners have signed partnership agreements and confirm their respective roles and responsibilities</p> <p>5b. By end Yr 1, Baseline surveys complete: 1. milk production level/ hunger gap assessment survey (stratified sample of the 10,000 households – part of PRRA); 2. Three CBO capacity needs self-assessments; 3. Height and diversity of vegetation in kallos, from freely available aerial photographs and field visits; 4. Liben Lark distribution and productivity surveys</p> <p>5c. Project partner Steering Committee meets twice annually; Project Implementation Committee (local stakeholders) meets quarterly to project progress (enables local stakeholder involvement in M+E)</p> <p>5d. By end of Yr 2, mid-term review of vegetation recovery and Liben Lark responses to management</p> <p>5e. By end of project, repetition of all baseline surveys complete</p> <p>5f. All financial and progress reports submitted to the project manager and project donor on time</p>	<p>5a. Copies of signed partnership agreements</p> <p>5b. Baseline survey reports of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Milk production level/ hunger gap assessment survey (stratified sample of the 10,000 households); 2. CBO capacity needs self-assessments 3. Published analyses of changes in height and diversity of vegetation in kallos, including analysis of freely available satellite photographs; 4. Published analyses of Liben Lark distribution and productivity <p>5c. Records of Steering Group and Project Implementation Committee meetings</p> <p>5d. Report of mid-term review</p> <p>5e. Comparative analysis report of baseline and end of project surveys; scientific papers</p> <p>5f. Report submission records; Darwin feedback on annual and 6-month reports</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)			
Activity 1.1	Undertake a Participatory Rangeland Resource Assessment		
Activity 1.2	Support customary institutions and Government bodies to establish joint Kallo Management Committees to oversee community kallos through the Participatory Rangeland Management process		
Activity 1.3	Facilitate a series of stakeholder-led workshops, engaging communities, Government and civil society to identify locations for kallos and develop management, by-laws and benefit-sharing agreements for them through the Participatory Rangeland Management process		
Activity 2.1	Committees identify and establish local teams to build the kallos		
Activity 2.2	Remove acacia scrub from 500 ha of grassland, outside kallos, adjacent to existing Liben Lark populations, to encourage range expansion and grassland restoration (increasing the size of the open plain by 7%)		
Activity 2.3	Use cut acacia scrub, underplanted with euphorbia, to create at least four kallos of around 250 ha each (total 13% of remaining Plain) in key sites for Liben Larks		
Activity 3.1	Support CBOs to undertake a self-assessment of their capacity needs and prioritise needs for enabling equitable livelihood development and diversification		
Activity 3.2	Support local communities to develop/establish three Community-Based Organisations (CBOs) to manage and oversee livelihood and infrastructure development initiatives		
Activity 3.3	Support CBOs to develop business plans that potentially could include: a resource centre for visitors and local people, communal vehicles, milk collection/storage		

	point and local commodities shop (ideas suggested by local people during visit in November 2014)
Activity 3.4	Provide training in numeracy and literacy skills and business and financial management to CBO committees (70 people, 35 women) to enable them to facilitate community engagement in livelihood development and diversification initiatives
Activity 4.1	Identify priority areas for rangeland biodiversity and regional stakeholders that could benefit from Participatory Rangeland Management in Ethiopian Borana Rangelands, to direct implementation of Oromia regional Pastoralist Develop Strategy to inform Activity 4.5
Activity 4.2	Assess current use of the kallos on the historic (240km ²) extent of the Liben Plain and develop strategy to support the expansion of kallos across the Liben Plain
Activity 4.3	Provide training in fundraising, communications and monitoring impacts of interventions to in-country partners and CBOs to enable them to build on project outcome in the long-term
Activity 4.4	Facilitate transfer of skills and expertise between EWNHS and SOS Sahel project staff eg the value of biodiversity conservation in development and participatory processes for rangeland management
Activity 4.5	In Yr3, hold stakeholder visits to demonstration kallos and national level multi-stakeholder workshop at Liben Plain, including to raise awareness and promote integration of biodiversity conservation into sustainable grassland management systems for application at other priority grassland sites in Ethiopia
Activity 5.1	Formalise roles and responsibilities, including project management and implementation structure in project partnership agreements
Activity 5.2	Collect baseline data on current milk production levels and hunger gap assessment (stratified sample of the 10,000 households);
Activity 5.3	Analyse CBOs capacity needs self-assessments (done under activity 3.1)
Activity 5.4	Collect baseline survey of vegetation height and diversity of vegetation and Liben Lark distribution and productivity inside and outside kallos
Activity 5.5	Facilitate 6-monthly Steering Committee (SC) and quarterly Project Implementation Committee (PIC - including local stakeholders) meetings to evaluate project process towards impact
Activity 5.6	Monitor project progress on a monthly basis through liaison with all partner staff
Activity 5.7	Undertake a mid-term vegetation recovery and Liben Lark survey
Activity 5.8	Undertake repeats of baseline surveys and produce comparative analysis reports on: 1. Milk production level/ hunger gap assessment survey (stratified sample of the 10,000 households); 2. CBOs capacity needs self-assessments 3. Changes to height and diversity of vegetation in kallos, including freely available satellite photographs; 4. Liben Lark distribution and productivity

Annex 3 Standard Measures

Table 1 Project Standard Output Measures

Code No.	Description	Gender of people (if relevant)	Nationality of people (if relevant)	Year 1 Total	Year 2 Total	Year 3 Total	Total to date	Total planned during the project
6a	Number of people to receive other forms of education/training (which does not fall into categories 1-5 above) *	33 women and 68 men	Ethiopia n	101			101	100
6b	Number of training weeks to be provided			2			2	10
7	Number of (e.g., different types - not volume - of material produced) training materials to be produced for use by host country			1			1	3
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			1			1	2
11A	Number of papers to be published in peer reviewed journals			0			0	0
11B	Number of papers to be submitted to peer reviewed journals			0			0	2
12B	Number of computer based databases to be enhanced and handed over to the host country			0			0	1
14A	Number of conferences/seminars/workshops to be organised to present/disseminate findings			3			3	8
21	Number of permanent educational/training/research facilities, structures, or organisations to be established and then continued after Darwin funding has ceased			0			0	2
22	Number of permanent field plots and sites to be established during the project and continued after Darwin funding has ceased			4			4	As many as possible
23	Value of resources raised from other sources (e.g., in addition to Darwin funding) for project work			0			0	£60,000