

Darwin Initiative Main Project Annual Report

To be completed with reference to the "Writing a Darwin Report" guidance: (<http://www.darwininitiative.org.uk/resources-for-projects/reporting-forms>). It is expected that this report will be a **maximum** of 20 pages in length, excluding annexes)

Submission Deadline: 30th April 2018

Darwin Project Information

Project reference	23-006
Project title	<i>Translocating conservation success and skills-exchange across four Indian Ocean countries</i>
Host country/ies	Seychelles, Mauritius, Madagascar, Comoros
Contract holder institution	University of Kent.
Partner institution(s)	Seychelles National Parks Authority, Dahari, Mauritian Wildlife Foundation, Durrell Conservation Training Ltd
Darwin grant value	£306,364
Start/end dates of project	April 2016 / March 2019
Reporting period (e.g., Apr 2017 – Mar 2018) and number (e.g., Annual Report 1, 2, 3)	April 2017-March 2018. Annual Report 2
Project Leader name	Professor Jim Groombridge
Project website/blog/Twitter	https://www.kent.ac.uk/sac/research/projects/jg_darwin_initiative.html Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/Translocating-conservation-success-and-skills-exchange-across-the-WIO-318569868505836/
Report author(s) and date	Compiled by the Project Officer Rachel Bristol with contributions from Jim Groombridge, Indira Gamatis, Christelle Ferriere, Elysia Davies, Anselm Barra, Paul Uzice, Emma Randrianasolo, Lynda Andrianarimalala, Siti Mohamed, Sion Henshaw, James Mougall and Allen Cedras April 2018

1. Project rationale

BUILDING ON SUCCESS: A previous Darwin-funded project on **Seychelles** (Project 15-009) reintroduced 23 critically-endangered Seychelles Paradise-Flycatchers from La Digue Island to Denis Island, successfully establishing a 2nd population alongside intensive habitat restoration.

That reintroduced population has grown to 70+ birds (Fig. 1) and is now breeding in 100% replanted habitat. Seychelles' Government wishes to replicate this success to additional islands to galvanise whole-island ecosystem restoration elsewhere and to secure the species' down-listing. Elsewhere in the Indian Ocean, the Mascarene Paradise-Flycatcher on **Mauritius** is prioritised by MWF for habitat restoration and reintroduction. Combining these parallel intentions provides a novel, highly effective, collaborative opportunity for **galvanising conservation success elsewhere** and fostering much-needed skills-exchange across international boundaries.

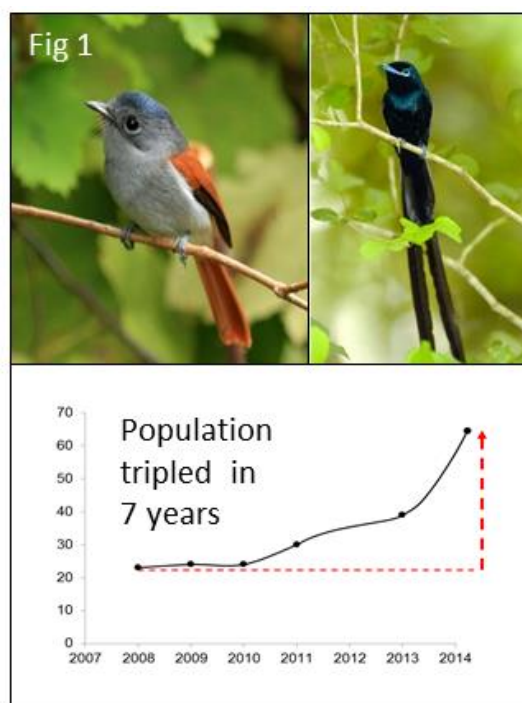
GALVANISING REGIONAL IMPACT ACROSS INDIAN OCEAN:

Low-income and island nations, such as Madagascar and Comoros, are less able to benefit from neighbourhood success, as a consequence of their poverty and isolation which, together with language barriers can profoundly limit skills-exchange opportunities. Fortunately, an international conservation academy has recently been set up on Mauritius as a world-class 'training hub', providing a timely mechanism for facilitating regional/international impact.

PROPOSED PROJECT: Embracing both these opportunities this project will;

- (i) **Implement three flycatcher reintroductions** on Seychelles and Mauritius, and facilitate **network-building exchange-visits** between Comoros/Madagascar/Mauritius/Seychelles (Fig. 2) linked to associated habitat/ecosystem restoration aspects of these and other 'live' field projects (all four countries host highly evolutionarily distinct endemic flycatchers and also have active recovery-programmes for several other threatened endemic species).
- (ii) Compliment this *in-situ* skill-sharing (Fig. 2) with **regional capacity-building** by funding citizens from Comoros/Madagascar/Mauritius/Seychelles on DCTs *Postgraduate Diploma in Endangered Species Recovery* (at newly-established conservation 'training hub' on Mauritius) and DICEs UK-based *MSc in Conservation Science and Management*.

Our **dual approach**, combining exchange of **key conservation skill-sets** and **formal training**, will build lasting capacity and crucial employment opportunities for LDC citizens.

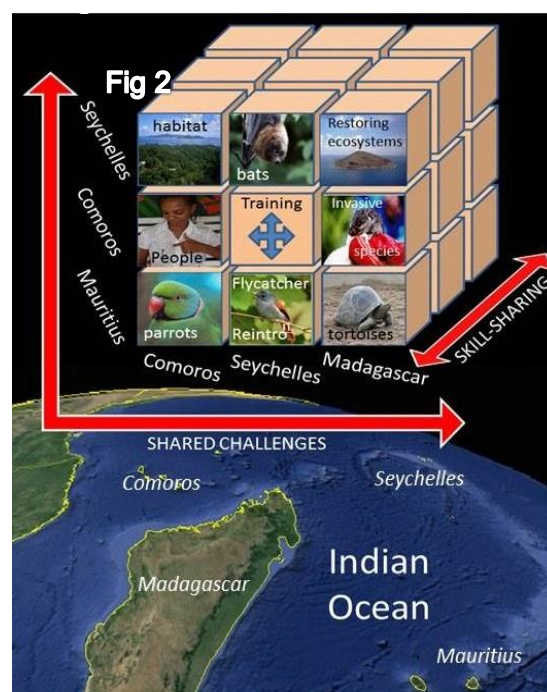


Fortunately, an international conservation academy has recently been set up on Mauritius as a world-class 'training hub', providing a timely mechanism for facilitating regional/international impact.

PROPOSED PROJECT: Embracing both these opportunities this project will;

- (i) **Implement three flycatcher reintroductions** on Seychelles and Mauritius, and facilitate **network-building exchange-visits** between Comoros/Madagascar/Mauritius/Seychelles (Fig. 2) linked to associated habitat/ecosystem restoration aspects of these and other 'live' field projects (all four countries host highly evolutionarily distinct endemic flycatchers and also have active recovery-programmes for several other threatened endemic species).
- (ii) Compliment this *in-situ* skill-sharing (Fig. 2) with **regional capacity-building** by funding citizens from Comoros/Madagascar/Mauritius/Seychelles on DCTs *Postgraduate Diploma in Endangered Species Recovery* (at newly-established conservation 'training hub' on Mauritius) and DICEs UK-based *MSc in Conservation Science and Management*.

Our **dual approach**, combining exchange of **key conservation skill-sets** and **formal training**, will build lasting capacity and crucial employment opportunities for LDC citizens.



2. Project partnerships

This project is very regional with host country partners in four Indian Ocean island nations. Project activities were developed in close collaboration with host country partners to ensure the project included their priorities and to ensure maximum benefit for host country partners. Partners were also selected strategically based on ability to both benefit from and to implement activities and achieve project outcome.

The relationship between the PO and Dahari Comoros has developed well this year with the PO visiting the Dahari Team in Comoros specifically to develop/progress our relationship for both the rest of this project, for project M&E, and further into the future - post-project.

The PO and Durrell Madagascar had planned for the PO to visit Durrell Madagascar during this reporting period to develop and cement this relationship and to conduct project M&E, however the visit has had to be postponed due to an outbreak of Pneumonic plague in Madagascar. The PO and Durrell Madagascar had planned for the PO to visit in September-October as this would have been a good time for Durrell Madagascar when the PO could have visited and provided input into several Durrell Madagascar projects, before the rainy season makes some field sites unreachable. However, an outbreak of pneumonic plague resulted in all flights from Seychelles to Madagascar being suspended for several months, and visits strongly discouraged by the Ministry of Health. The PO was prepared to fly to Madagascar via other countries, but she would have been quarantined upon return to Seychelles and Durrell Madagascar also advised to postpone the visit until the dry season (May- September). This trip has been rescheduled to the end of May 2018 (project year 3).

The relationship between SNPA and the PO and PL is very positive. The PO works closely with SNPA as she is based in Seychelles and she line manages 3 project staff employed through SNPA. A mutual trust and respect has developed as a result of this close working relationship and the clear benefit this project is having for SNPA. However, the President of the Republic of Seychelles changed the CEO of SNPA in February this year. He moved the existing CEO of SNPA Flavien Joubert (with whom we have a great and mutually supportive working relationship) to a CEO position in another Authority and put a new CEO in SNPA Mr Selby Remie. The PO is working on getting the new CEO up to speed with this project and forming a good working relationship. However, this change of CEO has contributed to delays in project implementation elaborated on in section 3.1 under activity 2.4 in this report.

Durrell Conservation Training Limited has a new Managing Director (MD). Jamie Copsey has moved on and the new MD is David Derand. The PO and David worked together some years ago so it has been relatively easy to maintain good working relationships despite the change of MD.

The PO, PL and MWF have a long-standing mutually beneficial relationship.

Further progress has been made during this reporting period on the envisaged regional training, skills-sharing and support network between host country partners as a direct result of regional skills- exchanges between host country partners and partner staff undertaking post graduate diplomas in endangered species restoration at the regional training hub in Mauritius. Evidence is provided in section 3.1 of this report.

All partners were involved in project development and planning and continue to be involved in project steering through Skype calls and emails, project implementation, M&E and reporting.

3. Project progress

3.1 Progress in carrying out project Activities

Output 1. Increased regional capacity of WIO SIDs and LDCs (Seychelles, Comoros Mauritius, Madagascar) to research, monitor, manage and restore threatened terrestrial habitats and species

Activity 1.1. 2x Comorians successfully complete English language training course in Madagascar prior to embarking on PGDip in Mauritius

During this reporting period Siti Mohamed, Dahari Comores Monitoring and Evaluation Manager continued intensive one-on-one English language lessons in Mauritius from a British High Commission recommended English language teacher to improve her English proficiency and to help her get the most out of the Post graduate diploma in Endangered Species Restoration course which is taught in English, and which she completed during this reporting period.

This activity has been carried out to a greater extent than planned. It was originally planned for 2 Dahari staff and to be completed in project year 1. However, to date 11 Dahari staff have benefitted from English language lessons and in year 3 we are recruiting an English teacher to Dahari to teach English language to the majority of their staff for a period of c.6 months. See activity 1.2 below for a detailed explanation.

Activity 1.2, 1x Mauritian national and 2x Comoros nationals successfully complete UKC accredited PGDip's in endangered species restoration at DCT regional training hub in Mauritius

Two local conservation practitioners Mrs Siti Mohamed, Dahari Comores Monitoring and Evaluation Manager and Mr Sion Henshaw Mauritian Wildlife Foundation's echo parakeet coordinator have both

successfully completed Postgraduate Diploma's in Endangered Species Restoration at Durrell Conservation Training Ltd in Mauritius. Both Siti and Sion are back at their respective partner organisations working with new skill sets to help them do their jobs even better than before. See as evidence Siti and Sion's short feedback report about the PGDip and how it has benefited them to do their jobs better in Annex 4. Copies of Siti and Sion's individual projects are available on request from the Project Officer (PO). Siti's individual research project is entitled "Leadership and Management especially human motivation in a team": Case study in Dahari Comoros" and Sion's is entitled "Evaluating the impact of intensive conservation management in Mauritius; chick-feather plucking in the endangered parakeet, *Psittacula eques*."

This activity has progressed in the manner and time planned to date. However, in 2018 (project year 3) the PGDip will not be running as DCT has cancelled it for this year. It will resume in 2019. This project had a scholarship for a second Comorian National to complete the PGDip in 2018. As this is no longer possible we (the PO, the PL, DCT and Dahari) discussed alternatives and Dahari themselves requested more English Language training for their staff as currently they miss out on a lot of training opportunities for their staff because their English is no good enough. LTS has agreed to the change request so we are currently recruiting an English teacher volunteer to go to Comoros and teach English to their staff. The funds earmarked for the PGDip will be used to provide air fares, accommodation and a living allowance for the teacher for c.6 months. In fact, it is a blessing in disguise for Dahari as they did not have another staff member whose English is good enough to do the PGDip course and were about to recruit a suitable candidate from Comoros from outside their organisation to benefit from the PGDip. We are delighted that the English language capacity-building has been able to be rolled out to such a greater extent than we had envisaged; this will enable Comoros nationals at Dahari to not miss out on future training opportunities as a consequence of their enhanced English language proficiency. See the change of circumstance request submitted to LTS and Eilidh's reply in annex 5 as evidence.

Activity 1.3. *1x Madagascar national and 1x Seychelles national successfully complete MRes/MSc in biodiversity management at DICE, University of Kent/ UK*

Two local Seychelles conservation practitioners Mr Allen Cedras Inner Island Manager, Seychelles National Parks Authority (SNPA) and Mr James Mougla a terrestrial biologist, Research Section, SNPA both successfully completed MSc's in Conservation Science and Management at DICE, UKC with MERIT and are now back at SNPA. See their official MSc Certificates in Annex 6 as evidence. Allen has been promoted since he got back from the MSc and is now head of the Research Section at SNPA and also acting Deputy CEO. James' MSc research project (Thesis) is provided in Annex 6b. Allen's can be provided on request from the PO. Note also that this project leveraged 2x return tickets Seychelles-UK-Seychelles from GOS-UNDP-GEF financed project entitled "Protected Area Finance in Seychelles" to get James and Allen both got back to UK after doing their research project fieldwork in Seychelles to complete their project write-ups and graduate.

One Madagascar National Ms Alexandra Rasoamanana is currently ½ way through her MSc in Conservation and Rural Development at DICE, UKC. At the end of the reporting period she had almost finished the taught modules for her MSc and is scheduled to begin fieldwork for her research project on "A multi-stakeholder analysis of the perception of factors limiting protected area effectiveness, case study Madagascar" in Manabe Antimena Protected Area in April. See as evidence UKC ethics approval for her research proposal to conduct in Annex 7.

This activity is proceeding to the timeframe planned and exceeding the manner planned as we will achieve 3 MSc's instead of 2 under this project by end year 3.

Activity 1.4. *11x regional skills transfer and x-fertilisation exchange visits undertaken by local field staff between Comoros, Seychelles, Mauritius and Madagascar to actively participate in live in-situ project activities including bird translocations and habitat restoration*

Nine regional skills transfers and cross-fertilisation exchanges have been undertaken during this reporting period (two from Seychelles to Mauritius, two from Madagascar to Mauritius, two from Mauritius to Seychelles, two from Comoros to Madagascar and one from Seychelles to Comoros).

Indira Gamatis the Seychelles paradise flycatcher research assistant visited Mauritius Wildlife Foundation for 4 weeks in January- February 2018 and worked alongside the MWF's Mascarene paradise flycatcher field biologist Elysia Davies to survey for MPF in the wider Ferney area, to monitor MPF at Combo and to mist net MPF for translocation to Ferney. She also gained more experience catching and handling passerines. All these skills are directly transferable to her work with Seychelles paradise flycatchers. This skills-exchange visit was extremely beneficial for Indira as she is relatively new to wildlife monitoring and fieldwork. This trip opened her eyes to how other individuals and organisations work to conserve threatened wildlife including the techniques they use for different species and the problems they have to overcome. The experience of leaving Seychelles and working in another country for 1 month was also very beneficial to Indira on a personal level in terms of fostering her confidence and independence. See Indira's skills-exchange report for details and evidence in annex 8.

The Project Officer (PO) Rachel Bristol undertook two regional visits this reporting period for project Monitoring and Evaluation and two-way skills-exchange. She visited Dahari in Comoros in order to (i) meet the Dahari Team, particularly the project-relevant staff, (ii) discuss implementation of project activities; where we are with them, are we on track to achieving them or not, areas she can provide help, (iii) to conduct project Monitoring & Evaluation, (iv) to learn more about the work Dahari does, their priority work areas and to discuss areas of potential collaboration in the future-post Darwin Project, (v) to better understand the priorities, issues and constraints for Dahari/conservation in the Comores, and (vi) to see the Anjouan sub-species of Madagascar paradise flycatcher *Terpsiphone mutata vulpina* to gain an appreciation of habitat requirements/preferences and potential threats to this sub-species. The PO also went to Mauritius in March to catch MPF for translocation to Ferney. See Rachel's Dahari visit report in Annex 9 as evidence and for further details. A short video of the PO catching Mascarene Paradise flycatchers in Mauritius for translocation to Ferney can be provided on request from the PO. The file size is too large to submit with this report.

The Mauritian Wildlife Foundation (MWF) MPF field biologist from last reporting period and from the first ½ of this reporting period Veronique Couttee left MWF to broaden her horizons and her conservation fieldwork experience, and she is now working in Seychelles. She is not lost to conservation or to Mauritius but is simply doing her own version of skills -exchange which will make her more of an asset to Mauritius (and likely MWF) when she returns with a larger skills-set. She did however make sure she did not leave MWF until she had trained up and transferred as much knowledge as possible to the new MWF flycatcher biologist member Elysia Davies who we hope will be with us throughout the rest of this project.

MWF flycatcher staff Elysia Davies visited Seychelles for a combined holiday and skills-exchange visit in February 2018. She met with the PO and Veronique Couttee and conducted some project M&E and discussed how the season had gone in Mauritius with the MPF monitoring and the reintroduction to Ferney and brainstormed where we could improve our approach for the upcoming season. We all went to La Digue Island and spent some time in the field comparing flycatcher fieldwork and monitoring techniques. This exchange visit was particularly useful for the PO and for Elysia as we had not met before. Meeting in person always makes future communication via internet (email, Skype, messenger, WhatsApp etc) much better and easier.

Dr Vikash Tatayah the Conservation Director of MWF and Mr Vishnu Bachraz the Deputy Director of the Mauritius National Parks and Conservation Service visited Seychelles in April 2017 for an WIONIS meeting and they extended their trip by 3 days in order to spend some time with the PO and visit La Digue to see Seychelles paradise flycatchers and discuss the work we do with flycatchers in Seychelles. They stayed with the PO at her house which was really good for both project M&E discussions and for inter-organisation relations, especially with the Director of Conservation and National Parks as MWF often have a difficult time getting permissions from NPCS for conservation initiatives especially for reintroductions. See photographic evidence of visit in Annex 11.

Durrell Madagascar finance staff Emma Randrianasolo and Lynda Andrianarimalala made a project skills exchange visit to MWF in March in order to see how MWF organises running an NGO with multiple funds, funder requirements, project needs etc. Funding – both procurement and management of finances - is a vital part of all NGO existence. Richard Lewis the director of the Durrell Madagascar Programme said in an email that the skills-exchange proved to be very interesting for both MWF and Durrell Madagascar with learning and sharing from both sides. See skills-exchange trip report in Annex 12 for further details and as evidence.

This activity is progressing to the timeframe and exceeding the manner planned (four regional skills exchanges were planned for this reporting period in comparison to the nine achieved).

Activity 1.5. *10x presentations on terrestrial habitat and species restoration to local partner staff, stakeholders, government officials & wider conservation community in Seychelles, Mauritius, Madagascar, Comoros*

James Mougil and Allen Cedras have given presentations on their MSc's and their research projects to the staff and management of SNPA post MSc completion this reporting period.

The PO presented a ½ day guest lecture to the final year BSc in Environmental Science students at the University of Seychelles (UniSey) on wildlife monitoring techniques in October 2017. These guest lectures are a great way to inform the upcoming environmental science workforce about the kind of work there is out there in Seychelles for them when they graduate and to get them inspired. It is also good for the Darwin Initiative as we make sure the great contribution the Darwin Initiative makes to Seychelles (and the region's) conservation efforts is fully acknowledged.

This activity is progressing in the manner and timeframe planned.

Output 2. Improved conservation status of two WIO threatened paradise flycatcher species (SPF in Seychelles and MPF in Mauritius) through habitat restoration, conservation reintroductions, and refined management practices.

Activity 2.1. *Restore c.20 hectares of lowland native broad-leafed woodland habitat on Curieuse (Seychelles), c.60ha on Felicite (Seychelles) and c.20ha at Ferney (Mauritius)*

Our two project habitat rehabilitation staff Anselm Barra and Paul Uzice continue to be employed full time on this project throughout this reporting period rehabilitating lowland native forest habitat on Curieuse Island Seychelles. They have produced over 800 seedlings of 13 different lowland native tree species in their nursery and planted out c.500 of them out into areas they have cleared of invasive introduced vegetation during this reporting period. They have rehabilitated approximately 10 hectares during the reporting period. A major challenge is the large giant tortoise population on Curieuse - each seedling must be protected with a solid barrier preventing the tortoises from reaching and eating them! Paul and Anselm have adapted their tortoise barrier design over time and now have a design that is strong enough to prevent the tortoises reaching the saplings. We also made 2 signboards 1x1.2 metres explaining about the project and the habitat rehabilitation on Curieuse and asking visitors to the island to please stop decapitating our saplings to feed to the tortoises (this was very frustrating and discouraging for Anselm and Paul who spend a lot of energy to protect the native trees from being eaten by tortoises only to have tourists lean over the barrier and break the young tree off to feed the tortoises!) The signboards were designed by Indira the project flycatcher research assistant. Paul and Anselm have had to replace about 70 individual seedlings that were either eaten by tortoises directly, decapitated by tourists to feed the tortoises, or died due to natural causes e.g. lack of water during the dry season. Additionally, Paul and Anselm have cemented a relationship with Global Vision International (GVI) who have a field research base on Curieuse. A couple of times a month the GVI team and volunteers help Anselm and Paul with labour intensive habitat rehabilitation tasks such as weeding cocoplum regrowth in the rehabilitated areas. See annex 13 for evidence demonstrating Anselm and Paul's progress, their tortoise-proof barriers, the Curieuse Island project signboards and GVI volunteers helping Paul and Anselm.

MWF staff and Vallee de Ferney staff continue to restore native forest habitat in Ferney Valley in Mauritius including controlling invasive mammalian predators (cats, mongooses, rats) and introduced invasive vegetation, c.10 hectares this reporting period.

Félicité Island Ecology team continue to rehabilitate native forest on Felicite (co-financed) and have rehabilitated approximately 20 hectares this reporting period.

Habitat rehabilitation works are progressing in the manner and timeframe planned.

Activity 2.2. *Survey of remnant flycatcher populations in Mauritius and Seychelles to estimate current population sizes and identify suitable areas to source individuals for translocations*

Full island survey of population SPF population size undertaken on La Digue Island during this reporting period. Current population size estimated at 294-441 individuals (294 being very conservative minimum estimate and 441 being a less conservative and more realistic estimate) which represents an increase since last survey in 2007. See the survey report in annex 14 for more detail and as evidence. Additionally the PO applied for and was awarded SCR 21,320 (= £1122) in funding from the Environment Trust Fund (ETF) to co-finance the full island survey of Seychelles paradise flycatchers on La Digue. This a good example of the Darwin Project leveraging co-financing.

A full census of the SPF population introduced to Denis Island in 2008 under Darwin Initiative project 15-009 was undertaken in this reporting period. The population on Denis stands at 84+ individuals and is still increasing (see census report in annex 15.)

Project MPF field biologists Veronique Couttee and Elysia Davies monitored 25 MPF pairs in Combo and in the Bois Cheri tea fields during this field season to collect information on MPF behaviour, breeding biology and breeding success at the source population to have baseline information for the species, and to identify suitable individuals to try and catch for translocation.

This activity is progressing in the manner and timeframe planned.

Activity 2.3. *Translocate 25 SPF to Félicité Island*

A comprehensive proposal to translocate Seychelles paradise flycatchers to Félicité and Curieuse islands was completed and submitted to Seychelles government Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate Change (MEECC) to schedule in August 2017. The proposal included (part I) a feasibility study of the suitability of the proposed islands to support self-sustaining flycatcher populations and (part II) the proposed methods for translocation, post-translocation monitoring and management and timeline.

The feasibility study included assessment of food availability throughout the year, native broad leafed forest area, predator status, consideration of the IUCN guidelines on reintroductions and other conservation

translocations, island commitment to conservation, proximity to other islands, presence of other species with similar habitat requirements, disease and parasite considerations, social feasibility, regulatory compliance, resource availability, availability of founder stock and risk assessment. Feasibility studies were undertaken for 3 islands: Curieuse Island, Felicite Island and North Island and parallel comparative data was collected from La Digue Island (source population). The translocation proposal requested government permissions to translocate c.25 flycatchers from La Digue Island to Felicite in November 2017 (or thereabouts depending on when the rainy season started). And to translocate c.25 individual flycatchers to Curieuse Island in ~November 2018. The translocation proposal also detailed the methods for translocation, and post translocation monitoring, management and timetable of activities and exit strategy. The full translocation proposal is included as Annex 16.

The translocation to Felicite was scheduled for this reporting period. However, the Seychelles government were (i) delayed in providing feedback (ii) and when they did provide an official response in late December, they gave permission for translocation to Curieuse Island to be done first but not Felicite Island for now. Once Curieuse is completed then we can revisit Felicite. See Annex 17 for government feedback.

Félicité Island management are very disappointed in the government's decision to not grant permission for reintroduction of flycatchers to Félicité at this stage. The government have advised to undertake the reintroduction to Curieuse Island first and then they will consider Félicité. The PO has made it clear to Félicité management that she is also very disappointed but to note it is NOT A 'NO' and the translocation will go ahead- just not in the timeframe we were hoping for. Conservation is a marathon not a sprint and we are used to having to fight and suffer delays to make progress. The PO is very confident this translocation will be achieved- it will just be outside the timeframe of this project. The PO and PL are still pushing for this translocation (in fact it is a reinforcement because there are already a couple of flycatchers present on Felicite – natural migration from La Digue, but the immigration rate is not high enough to kick-start a population.) The Darwin Initiative management should also note that without this project to drive flycatcher conservation in Seychelles and to achieve the donkey work required to undertake the feasibility studies and to get the required official support and go-ahead from the government and other stakeholders to do these translocations they will not happen. The actual translocation and the follow-up monitoring are the easy bit in Seychelles. So even if we do not achieve the actual translocation – if we are $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way there under this project, (i.e. the feasibility study is complete and the government acknowledge the island appears suitable for reintroduction of flycatchers [see Annex 17] and acknowledge that flycatchers should be reintroduced to Felicite) we will get the rest of the way post project completion date. This is what the PL and PO have learned with previous projects in Seychelles (please refer to section 3.2 -Output 2 of this report and the paper listed in table 2 of Annex 3, and Annex 19 as evidence for this mind-set.

Activity 2.4. Translocate 25 SPF to Curieuse Island

This activity is scheduled for year 3. However, when the government provided feedback saying the project could only translocate flycatchers to Curieuse for now, we pushed to bring forward the translocation of birds to Curieuse to start this reporting period. However, the Ministry of Environment Energy and Climate Change (MEECC) stipulated in their letter of support that we needed to first to gain permission from the La Digue MNA, DA and general public before we source birds for translocation from La Digue. We then modified our request and asked to source c. 10 individuals from Denis Island in February 2018 in order to start the translocation this rainy season. Denis Island agreed to this, the government agreed to this and they also told us to do the translocation from Denis first, then we go to La Digue as a team (SNPA, MEECC, PO) to get permission to source the rest (c.15 individuals) of the translocation stock from La Digue to the planned schedule in November 2018. So all permissions and logistics were in place to move 10 individuals from Denis Island in late February 2018 (and the rainy season was still in full swing) but on the morning that the PO and the project flycatcher research assistant Indira Gamatis were flying up to Denis to carry out the translocation, the new CEO of National Parks Authority (in place as CEO for c. 1 week) got worried that the La Digue public might not be happy with this transfer and he called the Minister for Environment Energy and Climate Change and voiced his concern and subsequently called off the translocation. The PO has met with Selby Remie the new CEO for SNPA and discussed the fact that this translocation had the full support of his predecessor and his staff and the Ministry of Environment and this was not the correct way to intervene- at the last second, without discussing it with the PO or with his own staff are directly involved in the project and the project planning and implementation. The PO had already provided the new CEO with the project document and reasons for sourcing birds from Denis. We now have his support and we have moved forward. However, we are now back to the original plan – of translocating from La Digue to Curieuse in project year 3 at the start of the rainy season in November-December time. In the meantime the MEECC and the PO and SNPA as a team have already requested meetings with the La Digue MNA, DA and development board to discuss translocation plans and gain their support. Watch this space! See correspondence in Annex 20 for details and as evidence.

Activity 2.5. Translocate c.30 MPF to Ferney

Reintroduction of MPF to Ferney continued in this reporting period. Permissions were obtained from Mauritius government National Parks and Conservation Service (NPCS) to continue with the reintroduction and regular progress updates are provided to NPCS. During this reporting period 12 individuals were translocated to Ferney bringing the total translocated to Ferney to 35 individuals.

As stated prior to the start of this translocation our main concern is how to keep the released individuals at Ferney as there are no barriers to dispersal. We therefore built in experimental trials of different age groups and release group compositions in order to determine if these factors influence post release dispersal behaviour. During this reporting period we translocated 9 adults (7 males and 2 females) in September just prior to the start of the breeding season. However at least 3 of them (2 males and one female) flew straight back to their territories at Combo/Bois Cheri tea fields. Based on this result we decided not to move more adults but to concentrate on moving independent juveniles later in the breeding season once they left their parents territory and were looking for their own territory as they appear less likely to fly back to Combo. We moved a total of 4 juveniles this season, not as many as we would have liked because of a lack of staff qualified to mist net and due to staff injury. Vero Couttee left MWF and was replaced by Elysia Davies who is not yet experienced enough to mist net alone and Christelle Ferriere the passerine coordinator developed a very sore back and was diagnosed with damaged discs and scoliosis and was advised by her doctor to take it easy for a few months and definitely not travel the extremely rough tracks to get into Combo to mist net. Additionally, MPF have proven to be very hard to catch. The only reason we managed to move 23 individuals in project year 1 was because we mist netted most days.

In addition, we caught and ringed five more individuals at Combo and in the tea to facilitate monitoring of the source population, and 25 pairs were intensively monitored at Combo and in the Tea to collect baseline information of breeding frequency and success and to locate potential juveniles to catch for translocation. MWF will be compiling the MPF season report in the next couple of months and we will submit it with our next report.

This activity is progressing more-or-less in the manner and timeframe planned.

Activity 2.6. *Produce updated participatory species conservation assessments and action plans for SPF and MPF (including realistic management recommendations for both remnant and reintroduced populations) and gain relevant government endorsements*

MPF conservation assessment and species action plan is scheduled for project year 3.

This activity is progressing in the manner and timeframe planned.

Output 3. Improved understanding of paradise flycatcher resilience and adaptability in partially restored habitats

Activity 3.1. *Undertake intensive post-release monitoring of survival and breeding success of released individuals + other environmental/habitat variables at all 3 release sites and at source populations, and analyse to provide quality M&E data to inform current and future reintroduction best practice and interventions if necessary*

Intensive post-release monitoring of the Mascarene paradise flycatcher reintroduction to Ferney continued in this reporting period throughout the breeding season (September to February). Two adult males were released with transmitters attached in September and were tracked during the 2-week lifespan of the transmitter to provide info on post-release dispersal and survival. All sightings of released individuals are recorded and GPS points taken. Three adults (2 males and one female: Phoenix, Black Dynamite and Cutie-Pie) are known to have flown straight back to their capture sites in the Bios Cheri Tea after transfer a c.22 km straight line distance. Hence the decision to concentrate on transferring juveniles as they have not been observed flying back to Combo.

The c.50-hectare Conservation Management Area (CMA) at Ferney was thoroughly surveyed for flycatchers during this breeding season determine how many of the released individuals had settled in the CMA. One adult male M&Ms (who was translocated as an adult in September 2017) was found to have settled and established a territory within the CMA at Ferney. However, a comprehensive survey of the much wider Ferney area was not undertaken due to staff shortages. Next season this wider Ferney area survey will be a priority. A think-tank between the PL, PO MWF and other experts is planned early in project year 3 for M&E of the reintroduction so far and to brainstorm other methods we can potentially try to increase the chances of released individuals remaining at Ferney and not over-dispersing. The first translocation of a species is always a challenge and a learning curve. Post release monitoring will continue through-out and post project.

This activity is progressing in the manner and timeframe planned.

Activity 3.2. *Two open access publications on project research and findings accepted for publication in high quality peer reviewed journals (eg: Biological Conservation and Biodiversity and Conservation)*

This activity is scheduled for project year 3; however, we have been collecting project data for these publications throughout the reporting period.

Output 4. Projects restoring critical habitats and/or species initiated in Comoros and Madagascar as a direct result of this project

Activity 4.1. *Design and start implementing a project restoring critical habitat and/or species in Madagascar led by Madagascar project partner Durrell and recipient of project MSc/MRes scholarship*
Scheduled for year 3 and on track to be completed in the manner and timeframe planned.

Activity 4.2. *Design and begin implementing a project restoring critical habitat and/or species in Comoros led by Comoros partner Dahari and the Comorian recipients of project PGDip scholarships*
Scheduled for year 3 and on track to be completed in the manner and timeframe planned.

3.2 Progress towards project Outputs

Output 1. *Increased regional capacity of WIO SIDs and LDCs (Seychelles, Comoros Mauritius, Madagascar) to research, monitor, manage and restore threatened terrestrial habitats and species*

Real on-the-ground progress has been made to increase regional capacity of WIO SIDs and LDCs (Seychelles, Comoros Mauritius, Madagascar) to research, monitor, manage and restore threatened terrestrial habitats and species. Two local conservation practitioners Mrs Siti Mohamed (Dahari's Monitoring and Evaluation Manager) and Mr Sion Henshaw (MWF's echo parakeet coordinator) have completed PGDiploma's in Endangered Species Restoration at DCT in Mauritius and are back working for their respective organisations (see Annex 4). Two Seychelles conservation practitioners, Mr Allen Cedras and Mr James Mougil from SNPA have completed MSc's in Conservation Science and Management at DICE, UKC. Both successfully passed their MSc's with Merit and are back at SNPA working in the SNPA Research Section. Allen has been promoted to head of SNPA research section. Both completed MSc research project dissertations that benefited this project and SNPA directly: Allen undertook a study of Curieuse Marine National Park visitor experience entitled "*Exploring the tourist experience and visitor motives at different phases of visits in a protected area.*" and James undertook a study of Seychelles paradise flycatcher habitat entitled "*Quantifying and assessing vegetation resources available to a critically endangered bird species in a potential source-sink system*" (see Annex 6b). One Madagascan Conservation practitioner Alexandra Rasoamanana is currently ½ way through completing her MSc in Conservation and Rural Development at DICE, UKC. Nine regional skills transfers and cross-fertilisation exchanges have been undertaken during this reporting period (two from Seychelles to Mauritius, two from Madagascar to Mauritius, two from Mauritius to Seychelles, two from Comoros to Madagascar and one from Seychelles to Comoros (details of these exchange visits are provided in section 3.1 and Annexes 8-12).

The baseline situation regarding capacity of implementing partners and host countries in the WIO is that there is a self-identified lack of capacity to conduct meaningful research and monitoring and to manage threatened species and habitats. This lack of capacity is noted in the respective countries NBSAP's: the Seychelles' National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan 2015-2020 pages 59-61; Comoros Strategie Nationale et Plan d' Action Actualises pour la Diversite Biologique-V2 June 2016 page 17; and the Mauritius NBSAP identifies a "lack of training of Mauritian and lack of capacity at all levels" as a major GAP to biodiversity Conservation (<https://www.cbd.int/nbsap/about/latest/>). By providing a combination of academic and practical training to a group of local conservation practitioners we are addressing this underlying deficit at its core.

Indicators for this output are easily measured as they involve either solid UK University endorsed postgraduate qualifications (Postgraduate Diploma's (PGDip) and Masters of Science (MSc) or skills-exchange visit reports and feedback from line managers/CEO's. Indicators remain appropriate.

Output 2. *Improved conservation status of two WIO threatened paradise flycatcher species (SPF in Seychelles and MPF in Mauritius) through habitat restoration, conservation reintroductions, and refined management practices*

Progress towards achieving improved conservation status of two WIO threatened paradise flycatcher species through habitat restoration, conservation reintroductions and refined management practices has

progressed in year 2 in the form of: (i) increased area of good flycatcher habitat in both Mauritius (c.10 hectares in year 2) and in the Seychelles (c.30 hectares in year 2); (ii) expansion of the MPF range by reintroducing 12 more individuals to Ferney Valley in eastern Mauritius in year 2, and by trialling releases of different age groups and different release times in order to identify best practices for reintroducing MPF to mainland sites; and (iii) conducting comprehensive feasibility studies of 3 islands in Seychelles to support self-sustaining flycatcher populations and preparing reintroduction proposals to reintroduce Seychelles paradise flycatchers to two islands Felicite and Curieuse - prerequisites to gaining official permissions and undertaking the reintroductions. Sources of evidence can be found in section 3.1 and in Annexes 13 and 16.

We are measuring output indicators by (i) quantifying the area of habitat rehabilitated under this project, (ii) undertaking reintroductions of a known number of individuals and closely monitoring reintroduction success via ongoing monitoring of released individuals, and by (iii) preparing and presenting to stakeholders 'Species conservation assessment and action/management plans' for both MPF and SPF.

Indicators for this output remain appropriate apart from indicator 2.2 'c.25 SPF reintroduced to Felicite Island (year2)' which will not be achieved in the timeframe of this project as the Seychelles government did not grant permission for this reintroduction to go ahead. The government said that after the SPF reintroduction to Curieuse Island is completed and the outcome assessed we will revisit the plan for a reintroduction to Félicité. Reintroduction (technically reinforcement) will go ahead to Félicité, but it will now be outside the timeframe of this project. The PO will ensure this translocation is achieved as she will personally undertake it.

Please note that with 2 previous Darwin Initiative projects completed by the PL (Jim Groombridge) and the PO (Rachel Bristol) in Seychelles, further outputs and outcomes have been achieved post project completion. For example, it is not usually possible to assess the success of a reintroduction within the timeframe of a Darwin project as it can take several years to ascertain whether the reintroduction has been a success or not. The reintroduction of SPF to Denis Island in 2008 under Darwin Project 15-009 (project ended in 2009), could not be assessed and deemed to have succeeded within the project timeframe, but the PO is still monitoring this population (currently 84 birds!) regularly today and the translocation has been a resounding success. Darwin Initiative project 19-002 which ended in 2015 is still producing outputs (additional to the ones stated in the project logframe) -for example the 2 PhD students supported under project 19-002 have recently run a workshop on amphibian diseases, set up a Seychelles amphibian action group, screened Seychelles amphibians for amphibian infectious diseases, and have installed a monitoring system for Sooglossid frogs to monitor amphibian calls which will be used as an early warning system for detecting possible frog declines. Publications from amphibian research undertaken under the Darwin Initiative Seychelles EDGE species project 19-002 are still being published for example: Maddock ST, Wilkinson M, Nussbaum RA, Gower DJ (2017). A new species of small and highly abbreviated caecilian (Gymnophiona: Indotyphlidae) from the Seychelles island of Praslin, and a recharacterization of *Hypogeophis brevis* Boulenger, 1911. *Zootaxa* 4329 (4) 301-326 see annex 15, 18 & 19 as evidence that project activities, outputs and outcome will very likely be achieved even if they are not all achieved within the timeframe of the project.

Output 3. Improved understanding of paradise flycatcher resilience and adaptability in partially restored habitats

We are measuring output 3 indicators by incorporating research trials into our reintroduction plans and via intensive monitoring of the reintroductions to enable quantification of success and development of best practice. We are likely to achieve this output by project close (though perhaps a better means of verification would be '2x peer reviewed manuscripts submitted for publication or accepted for publication' rather than 'published' as publication can take many months. Otherwise – indicators and means of verification for this output remain appropriate.

Output 4. Projects restoring critical habitats and/or species initiated in Comoros and Madagascar as a direct result of this project

It is planned that two projects to restore critical species and/or habitats in Comoros and Madagascar will be designed and led by the recipients of project academic scholarships to complete MSc or PG Diplomas in project year 3. Progress is being made towards this output and we expect to achieve this output by project close. Alexandra Rasoamanana will complete her MSc in September. While she is in Madagascar doing her MSc research project in April- June the PO, Alexandra and Durrell Madagascar management will meet and start planning this project. Siti Mohamed has completed her PGDip and is back in Comoros. She is pregnant so will be taking some maternity leave, however, the PO and Dahari management have already discussed this output and Dahari are confident that it can be achieved within the project timeframe.

Output indicators will be measured using the means of verification listed in the logframe. Indicator remains appropriate.

3.3 Progress towards the project Outcome

Project OUTCOME. *Increased capacity to conserve Indian Ocean species and habitats through skill-sharing, capacity-building and in-situ learning on three reintroduction and habitat restoration initiatives for two endemic birds enabling their reduced extinction-risk.*

Progress towards achieving our project *Outcome* during year 2 of this project implementation includes: 12 local conservation practitioners (1 Comorian, 4 Seychellois, 4 Mauritian, 3 Madagascan) have increased their capacity to conserve Indian ocean species and habitats through skills-sharing, capacity building and *in-situ* learning during this reporting period. In reality the number is greater as the knowledge and skills exchange is 2-way. The planned MPF reintroduction to Ferney Valley is underway and progress to date is steady and meets expectations. Progress has been made in terms of preparing for both SPF reintroductions: detailed habitat assessments and feasibility studies for reintroduction to Félicité and Curieuse were submitted to government, and an official response received. However, translocation to Félicité Island has not been approved for project timeframe. Translocation to Curieuse has been approved with the condition that we gain the support of the La Digue community which we are currently working on and anticipate gaining before November 2018.

Outcome indicator 1.1. Two additional Seychelles paradise flycatcher (SPF) populations established and breeding (productivity exceeding mortality) on Curieuse and Félicité islands, Seychelles by end of year 3 is still partially relevant for measuring project outcome and likewise partially achievable by project close (for 1 reintroduction not the 2 originally planned). However, only early success will be measured as it will require monitoring over a longer period than the project duration to determine the longer-term success of each reintroduction. Monitoring will be continued by project partner organisations post project close and the second translocation to Felicite will be undertaken by project partners post project close.

Outcome indicator 1.2. One new Mascarene paradise flycatcher (MPF) population established and breeding (productivity exceeding mortality) at Ferney, Mauritius by end year 3 is still relevant and adequate for measuring project outcome, however, it is likely not fully achievable by project close. As we are having some difficulties retaining released individuals at the reintroduction site it will require releases and monitoring over a longer period than the project duration to determine the longer-term success of this reintroduction. Monitoring will be continued by project partner organisations post project close.

Outcome indicator 1.3. SPF recommended for down-listing from Critically Endangered to Endangered on the IUCN red-list at the next assessment (by end year 3) is still relevant and likely achievable by end of year 3, though the actual downlisting will take longer as it will need to wait until the next IUCN red list SPF status assessment. Downlisting will be followed and information provided to IUCN/BirdLife International by the PL and the PO both within and outside the project timeframe.

Outcome indicator 1.4. Government reports to CBD. Information on project progress and outcomes will be provided to compilers of host country reports to CBD for inclusion. Indicator is relevant, adequate and achievable within project timeframe.

Note: All our outcome indicators are related to paradise flycatcher reintroductions to create new populations. We should probably have included an outcome indicator related to the number of SIDS and LDC nationals with increased capacity to conserve species and habitats employed with host country partners after post graduate study (5x MSc or PGDip) and post skills-exchange participation (x11) as this is a major component of this project.

3.4 Monitoring of assumptions

Project Outcome level assumptions

(i) Relevant governments remain stable and continue to view habitat and species conservation as a priority and provide the necessary permissions (and island access) to undertake project activities still holds partially true however the Seychelles government has not approved reintroduction of SPF to Felicite (see annex 17 for evidence) and they also provided their feedback very late with extra conditions attached that had not been hinted at to the PO earlier (even though she had asked and had discussed the topic of permissions from the La Digue community on numerous occasions with the relevant staff at the MEECC (government officials) and was led to believe that we would not have to request written permissions but that we would inform the La Digue community as they had made clear back when we sought their support for the translocation of flycatchers to Denis Island under Darwin Initiative project 15-009, that they do not

have opposition to reintroductions per se, but that they would like future translocations to be to islands near La Digue, which is why we propose to reintroduce flycatchers to Felicite and Curieuse as they neighbour La Digue. See letter from the La Digue Development Board in Annex 21 as evidence and the reintroduction feasibility study and proposal in annex 16). The fact that we did not get permissions to translocate to Felicite, and that the government feedback was provided 2 months later than they had agreed to provide it by (which was after the date the translocation was scheduled to be undertaken) despite repeatedly informing the PO that she would get the official response in 'a couple of days...' has had repercussions for the project in terms of achieving project activities, outputs and outcome related to this translocation. (ii) *No adverse climatic/stochastic events (e.g. cyclones) preventing timely completion of this project* still holds true. There have been no other changes in assumptions during year 2 of this project.

Output 1 assumption: *Trained staff (MSc/PGDip/ skills exchange participants) remain with local partners throughout and after the project finishes, to continue to implement what they have learned and to form an initial alumni who foster a learning network across Indian Ocean.* **Output 2 assumption:** *Relevant Governments and NGO's continue to collaborate to rehabilitate and protect relevant species and habitats* **Output 3 assumption:** *Editors accept papers for publication.* **Output 4 assumption:** *Relevant government permissions are granted enabling project implementation.* All output level assumptions still hold true and there have been no changes in these assumptions during project year 2.

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

This project is DEFRA financed and therefore we will comment on achievement of positive impact on biodiversity we expect to achieve with this project and provide evidence of progress during the current reporting year. The impact this project is having on poverty alleviation is detailed in sections 4 & 6 of this report.

Short-term impact on Biodiversity Conservation:

1. **1** critically-endangered (CR) species and **1** recently-prioritised highly-endangered sub-species of paradise flycatcher will have extinction risk reduced via:
 - (a) **2** reintroductions implemented to establish additional populations, fulfilling Species Action Plan recommendations by Seychelles' and Mauritius government authorities. In this reporting year we have reintroduced 12 more Mascarene paradise flycatchers to Ferney on the east coast of Mauritius increasing the total to 35 individuals translocated. If this reintroduction is successful it will significantly increase the range of this species, thereby significantly reducing their reintroduction risk, and we will have pioneered successful mainland flycatcher reintroduction methodology. We have also received Seychelles government official support to translocate flycatchers to Curieuse in 2018.
 - (b) **100** hectares of habitat restored-providing new habitat for **80-100** more flycatcher pairs. Approximately 40 hectares of flycatcher habitat has been restored during this reporting year.
 - (c) Increased awareness by local Seychellois and Mauritian public of the value of their endemic biodiversity and enhanced national pride in their nations' conservation successes.
2. **5** people from **4** LDC/middle income countries will receive:
 - (a) University postgraduate training and internationally-recognised qualifications (PGDip, MSc) in biodiversity conservation. See Annexes 4, 6 & 7 and report section 3.1- *Activity 1.3 and 1.4* for progress during project reporting year).
 - (b) Total **22** months *in-situ* field experience and exposure to cutting-edge techniques in habitat restoration and reintroduction ('situated learning' via **11** regional exchange-visits + PGDip training) disseminated by field experts. Two PG Diplomas and nine regional skills-sharing and cross fertilisation exchanges have taken place during this reporting period between host countries conservation practitioners from Madagascar, Comoros, Mauritius and Seychelles involving approximately 14.5 in-situ person months this reporting period (see annexes 8-12 as evidence).

Long-term impact on Biodiversity Conservation:

1. **2** flycatcher species substantially closer to down-listing due to reintroduction and habitat restoration (if the SPF reintroduction is successful SPF will be downgraded on IUCN red-list from CR to Endangered at next species assessment).
2. Seychelles: enhanced track-record in flycatcher conservation, from **1** to **2** (outside reporting period=3) successful reintroductions, with increased government commitment to long-term habitat restoration/management programmes on **3** islands (Felicite, Curieuse and La Digue).
3. Mauritius: enhanced skills in flycatcher reintroduction and habitat restoration and enhanced eco-tourism prospects for local landowners. During this reporting period we have been trialling and fine tuning MPF reintroduction methods with a research-by-management approach (detailed in section 3.1 -*Activity 2.5* in this report).

4. Sustainable legacy of **7** people (involving **2** LDCs) with increased capacity, employment prospects and skill-sets to recover endangered species and habitats and to apply these qualities to precipitate further conservation success stories in recipient home countries. During this reporting period one Seychelles flycatcher research assistant and one Mauritian flycatcher biologist were recruited and trained in flycatcher monitoring, research and translocation methods, two Seychelles SNPA staff completed MSc's in conservation and biodiversity management and one MWF and one Dahari staff member completed PGDiploma's in endangered species recovery.
5. **4** Indian Ocean countries (including **2** LDCs) with **15** local personnel each with substantial field conservation experience outside their home country. Progress this year covered in point 2 (short term) above.

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

This project contributes to the Global Goals for Sustainable Development (SDG's) **#4 Quality Education**, **#8 Decent Work and Economic Growth** and **#15 Life on Land** as detailed below:

During this reporting period the following contribution was made to these SDG's

Alleviating poverty in Comoros (LDC) and Madagascar (LDC):

- 1x low income Comorian national Mrs Siti Mohamed completed internationally recognised Postgraduate Diploma in Endangered Species Recovery from renowned conservation training organisation Durrell Conservation Academy (validated by the University of Kent) (SDG 4)
- 1x low income Comorian national Siti undertook intensive English language lessons in Mauritius to raise her English proficiency to the level required to follow the PGDip course (SDG 4)
- 1x low income Comorian national and 3x low income Madagascar nationals with increased capacity, employment prospects and skill-sets to recover endangered species and habitats and to apply these skills to precipitate further conservation success stories back home in the Comoros and Madagascar (SDG 4,8,15). Siti Mohamed (Dahari Comoros) completed a PGDip in Mauritius; Emma Randrianasolo and Lynda Andrianarimalala (Durrell Madagascar) finance staff participated in a skills exchange visit to Mauritian Wildlife Foundation in Mauritius to see how MWF manages the finances of running an NGO with multiple project funds, funder requirements, project needs etc; Alexandra Rasoamanana (Madagascar) is currently undertaking a MSc in Conservation and Rural Development at DICE, University of Kent (September 2017-August 2018).

Evidence for project contributions to SDG's described above can be found in section 3.1.

5. Project support to the Conventions, Treaties or Agreements

All four implementing countries are signatories to the CBD and Nagoya Protocol. This project is contributing substantially to the objectives of the CBD by contributing to **Aichi Strategic Goal C**: 'To improve the status of biodiversity...' specifically **Aichi Biodiversity Target 12** and **Strategic Goal D** 'Enhance the benefits...' specifically **Aichi Target 15** by restoring 100 hectares of threatened & degraded lowland-forest habitat and undertaking two reintroductions of two Critically-Endangered paradise-flycatcher species to increase their numbers and conservation status (identified as priorities in the Seychelles and Mauritius NBSAP's [Mauritius SO 2(c); Seychelles SG 3-Objective 3.2; SG 4-Objective 4.2] Evidence – details of the progress made this reporting year on habitat rehabilitation and flycatcher translocations is provided in section 3.1.

We are contributing to **Aichi Strategic Goal E**: 'Enhance implementation...' specifically **Aichi Target 19** by galvanising knowledge-exchange across 4 WIO countries via formal [5x MSc/PGDiploma's] and informal [11x regional skills-exchanges] training to c.15 individuals from Madagascar, Comoros, Mauritius & Seychelles [Seychelles SG5-Objectives 5.3&5.4]. Evidence and details are provided in section 3.1 and annexes 4-12.

This project assists in supporting implementation of the Nagoya Protocol on ABS, specifically **Article 21** 'Awareness -raising' and **Article 22** 'Capacity' by providing targeted-training via taught modules to all 5 recipients of Scholarships on MSc/PGDiploma courses on: the importance of the Nagoya Protocol and its Objectives; modern DNA techniques; taxonomic skills for assessing genetic resources; facilitation of inclusive stakeholder participation in decision making (particularly indigenous/local communities).

This project proposal was developed in close collaboration with the then CBD national focal point for Seychelles Mr Denis Matatiken, who is no longer the CBD national focal point, but who is now the ABS (Nagoya Protocol) national focal point for Seychelles. Mr Matatiken is regularly provided with project updates by the PO, is on the project steering committee, and was a member of the interview and selection panel to choose the recipient of the project MSc scholarship to DICE, UKC. The Seychelles CBD national focal point is now Mrs Marie-May Muzungaile who is a Director General in the Ministry of Environment. The PO has met with Mrs Muzungaile to discuss Seychelles paradise flycatcher conservation priorities and the upcoming SPF reintroductions to Curieuse and Félicité islands. Mrs Muzungaile was very annoyed

when she heard the flycatcher translocation from Denis Island to Curieuse was called off as she and her superior the Principal Secretary for Environment Mr Alain de Comarmond had both approved it -see evidence in Annex 20.

6. Project support to poverty alleviation

This project is funded by DEFRA and the main aim of the project is to benefit threatened biodiversity. We have detailed our project efforts in the past 12 months to alleviate poverty in Madagascar and Comoros (2 LDC's) in section 4 of this report.

This project contributes to the Global Goals for Sustainable Development (SDG) **#4 Quality Education**, **#8 Decent Work and Economic Growth**, **#15 Life on Land** and **#5 Gender Equality**.

By providing fully funded scholarships for academic qualifications (2x Postgraduate diplomas and 1x MSc from a UK university) to LDC citizens from Madagascar and Comoros we fully expect to directly increase their employability and ability to avoid poverty. In addition we firmly believe that by protecting biodiversity (species and habitats) we are positively impacting poverty alleviation as people, whether we like to believe it or not, are totally dependent on biodiversity for survival. The majority of people employed or receiving scholarships on our project (6 of 10) are female -our project PO is female (Seychellois) our Mauritius team (flycatcher biologist and passerine coordinator) are both female, our Seychelles flycatcher research assistant is female, our scholarship recipient for PGDip from Comoros is female, and our MSc scholarship recipient from Madagascar is female.

7. Project support to gender equality issues

Answered in section 6 "project support to poverty alleviation" above.

8. Monitoring and evaluation

Project Steering Group (PSG) consisting of the the Project Leader (Dr Jim Groombridge), PO (Dr Rachel Bristol) and key representatives from each host country partner (Jamie Copsey/David Derand-DCT, Hugh Doulton/Mederic Carpier-Dahari, Flavien Joubert/Selby Remie-SNPA, Dr Vikash Tatayah and Debby de Chazal -MWF) was set up at the start of the project to guide implementation and to monitor and evaluate project progress (Logframe activity 0.1). During this reporting period sub-sets of the PSG have met meet regularly via Skype, email and in person with the PO to plan different parts of this regional project's implementation and to monitor and evaluate progress. In addition, the PL and the PO regularly have Skype call meetings to keep each other up-to-date, to trouble shoot, and to monitor and evaluate progress against the project logframe, logic and SMART indicators. Project staff (field biologists and habitat restoration fieldworkers) are line managed and mentored by the PO in Seychelles (x3) and by the passerine coordinator in Mauritius (x1) in close consultation with the PO.

Data to ensure SMART M&E is collected by the PO and the two project field biologists (Veronique/Elysia and Indira) 10% of these project staff's time is allocated to M&E data collection, analysis and interpretation and as such 10% of their salaries is allocated to the project M&E budget line.

During the reporting period the PO made an M&E project visit to Dahari Comoros as planned to meet the Dahari team in person (and for the Dahari team to meet the PO in person) monitor and evaluate project progress with Dahari, to plan implementation of remaining project activities, to gain a fuller understanding of the priority areas of work for Dahari and the problems they face in implementation, to determine areas of future collaboration post-Darwin Project, and to facilitate communication in the future as it is always easier to communicate by Skype and email more effectively if you have already met in person. As stated in the last annual report the PO feels there is no substitute for actually meeting all project partners in person and to this end she planned to also visit Durrell Madagascar in project year 2, however, due to a pneumonic (black) plague outbreak in Madagascar the PO was unable to visit as planned in September-October 2017 and this visit has been re-scheduled to May 2018.

9. Lessons Learned

There are some things we cannot control- such as (i) government delays and decisions, (ii) pneumonic plague outbreaks, (iii) Mascarene paradise flycatcher's mobility and ability to disperse away from release site, (iv) DCT cancelling the PGDip in for 2018, however we can be adaptable and make the best of changing circumstances. For example the funds earmarked for the Comorian national to undertake a PGDip will now be used for English lessons for multiple Dahari staff -something identified as a priority by Dahari themselves.

Perhaps when writing project proposals, we do not think carefully enough about measurable indicators and whether they are realistic and able to be achieved within project timeframe. There is also a big pressure to make projects as ambitious as possible as un-ambitious projects probably don't get funded.

Our project steering group will discuss the relevance /appropriateness of our logframe and potentially submit a change request form (Darwin Initiative - Application for approval to amend project or budget) to LTS requesting some modifications to our logframe Outcome level indicators and Output level indicator 2.2 as discussed in sections 3.3 and 3.2 of this report respectively to render them more relevant, appropriate and achievable within the project timeframe.

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

Our AR1 reviewer requested more information on our project exit strategy to be submitted with our Half Year Report – which we did in October 2017 with the project HYR2.

The Reviewer also asked us to provide feedback in this annual report regarding “For activity 1.3, the Malagasy MRes/MSc student is not proposed to start until Year 2 but is also supposed to co-implement a project in Madagascar in Year 3 (activity 4.1). Is there sufficient time available to do this and will the student be sufficiently qualified to undertake the project?” Alexandra Rasoamanana’s MSc is only 1 year in duration, not 2 years as the Reviewer was thinking. She will complete her MSc in early September 2018 leaving her 6 months to co-plan and begin co-implementation of project activity 4.1. (a project to restoring critical species and/or habitat in Madagascar with Durrell Madagascar). Alexandra is collaborating with Durrell Madagascar now for her MSc research project (thesis) and we believe 6 months is sufficient time for Durrell Madagascar and Alexandra to plan and begin implementation of field-based project. The PO will be in Madagascar in May visiting Darrell Madagascar and Alexandra and a brainstorm to plan this activity is already on the agenda. Alexandra does not need to be sufficiently trained to do this activity alone as this was never the plan- she will be co-planning and co-implementing with Durrell Madagascar.

11. Other comments on progress not covered elsewhere

We have already covered everything we could raise here in other sections of this report.

12. Sustainability and legacy

Effort to promote Darwin Project profile and work:

- We have a project webpage on University of Kent website, and a project Facebook page where we put regular updates of project activities.
- An official release of Mascarene paradise flycatchers with the Minister and Mauritius government officials was undertaken in April 2017 at Ferney.
- The PO did a ½ day guest lecture at University of Seychelles and promoted this project and other Darwin Initiative contributions to Seychelles conservation.
- Dahari has been Darwin Initiative project beneficiary before and they are well aware of the Darwin Initiative and their goals.

Exit strategy:

This project includes priority host country partner work which automatically maximises the likelihood that project-trained staff will be kept on by these organisations post-project to continue to implement this priority work. In addition, in most cases, project training opportunities are being given to existing project partner staff, which maximises the likelihood they will stay post project completion as they will (i) have benefited from training opportunities and (ii) their job will still exist post project completion with their host country partner. By retaining project trained staff host country organisations also benefit from increased staff capacity.

We have strong evidence from previous projects with training components that once people are recruited into the conservation sector and receive training, they tend to stay for the long-term; therefore the risk of losing trained staff is minimal (e.g. of 6 project fellows recruited and trained on Darwin project 19-002 in Seychelles, 5 are still employed with their host organisations some 3 years post project completion. In addition, even if trained individuals leave their organisation they usually still work in conservation in their home country so their training and expertise is not lost to the host country.

This project was devised in close collaboration with local organisations in each host country to ensure it includes their priorities, thereby building in sustainable legacy and a clear exit strategy; consequently, it is highly likely project-trained staff will be kept on by these organisations post-project to continue to implement this host country project partner priority work.

Our main project exit strategy is that all host country partners intend to continue to employ all project staff beyond the end of the project. This will ensure two things (i) the work initiated under this project continues

beyond the end of the project and (ii) that skills gained by project staff/ individuals benefiting from postgraduate training and skills-exchanges are retained by host country partners post project end.

To date the only person benefiting from training under this project that is not an existing host country partner staff member is Alexandra Rasoamanana. She is not currently employed by Durrell Madagascar, but she was selected by Durrell Madagascar for their MSc scholarship and she is collaborating with them on her research project. It is also hoped Durrell Madagascar can employ Alexandra after her MSc.

Many parts of this project are discrete and will be completed within the timeframe of the project so specific exit strategy for these activities is unnecessary. Ongoing monitoring of reintroductions and projects implemented as a result of this project will be continued by the people trained and employed by project partners ensuring a water-tight exit strategy.

13. Darwin identity

This question is partially answered in section 12 'Sustainability and Legacy' above. In addition to that stated in section 12 above: The Darwin Initiative logo is included in all presentations, reports etc related to this project, and the Darwin Initiative is named and credited for its contribution. Darwin Logo is prominent on our project Facebook page and our page is also linked to the Darwin Initiative Facebook page.

The Darwin Initiative funding for this project is generally recognised as a distinctive project with a clear identity. For example the sign board produced for Curieuse Island habitat rehabilitation (see annex 13) note Darwin Initiative logo features prominently, the Darwin Initiative is recognised as the funder and as a distinct project on this sign board which will be very visible to the 46,000 + visitors the park receives annually. Within the 4 host countries the Darwin Initiative is well known to all conservation organisations both government and NGO as the Darwin Initiative has financed projects in all countries and has a very good reputation for funding useful practical conservation projects. Outside the conservation sector of society, we are less certain how well the Darwin Initiative is known, despite the fact that we include the logo and state that projects are financed by the Darwin Initiative, through Defra, the UK government, as we have not undertaken any survey to quantify it.

14. Project expenditure

Please note that the finance manager of this project Mr Rob Goldsmith at the University of Kent is on annual leave throughout April. Prior to going on annual leave he spoke to Eilidh Young at LTS and they agreed that he could submit the project financial summary separately from this report in May when he returns to work. However, we do not anticipate any great variation in expenditure from the agreed project budget.

Annex 1: Report of progress and achievements against Logical Framework for Financial Year 2017-2018

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2017 - March 2018	Actions required/planned for next period
<p>Impact</p> <p>Four Indian Ocean countries including two LDC's and three SIDS expertly restoring their endemic biodiversity with continual improvement sustainably supported by a regional network of training and skill-sharing opportunities.</p>		<p>40 hectares of new flycatcher habitat rehabilitated this reporting period (=60 ha since project start)</p> <p>13 SIDS and LDC nationals with increased capacity, employment prospects and skill-sets to recover endangered species and habitats and to apply these qualities to precipitate further conservation success stories in recipient home countries via (i) 4 internationally recognised Postgraduate qualifications and (ii) 9 individuals gaining 14.5 person months of <i>in-situ</i> field experience and exposure to cutting-edge techniques in habitat restoration and reintroduction during this reporting period</p> <p>Significant progress with 2x WIO flycatcher reintroductions to establish additional populations, increase range and numbers and significantly reduce extinction risk.</p> <p>Pioneering new mainland reintroduction methodology in the making</p>	
<p>Outcome Increased capacity to conserve Indian Ocean species and habitats through skill-sharing, capacity-building and <i>in-situ</i> learning on three reintroduction and habitat restoration initiatives for two endemic birds enabling their reduced extinction-risk.</p>	<p>1.1 Two additional Seychelles paradise flycatcher (SPF) populations established and breeding (productivity exceeding mortality) on Curieuse and Félicité islands, Seychelles by end of year 3</p> <p>1.2 One new Mascarene paradise flycatcher (MPF) population established and breeding (productivity exceeding mortality) at Ferney, Mauritius by end year 3</p>	<p>Progress towards achieving our project <i>Outcome</i> during year 2 of this project implementation includes: 12 local conservation practitioners (1 Comorian, 4 Seychellois, 4 Mauritian, 3 Madagascan) have increased their capacity to conserve Indian ocean species and habitats through skills-sharing, capacity building and <i>in-situ</i> learning (though in reality the number is greater as the knowledge and skills</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SPF reintroduction to Curieuse Island, Seychelles • Reintroduction to Ferney continues and intensifies -moving independent juveniles as our trials have shown they are less likely to return to Combo. • Madagascan national Alexandra Rasoamanana completes MSc in

	<p>1.3 SPF recommended for down-listing from Critically Endangered to Endangered on the IUCN red-list at the next assessment (by end year 3)</p> <p>1.4 Government reports to CBD</p>	<p>exchange is 2-way); The MPF reintroduction continues with 12 more individuals translocated this season and survey and ongoing monitoring to determine whether the birds are staying at Ferney (the reintroduction site) or not.) Progress has been made in terms of preparing for both SPF reintroductions: detailed habitat assessments and feasibility studies for reintroduction to Félicité and Curieuse completed, submitted to government for official support. Translocation to Curieuse has been approved with the condition that we gain the support of the La Digue community which we are currently working on and anticipate gaining before November 2018. Official approvals also gained to source 10 individuals from Denis Island translocate to Curieuse. However government approvals for translocation of flycatchers to Félicité Island were not forthcoming.</p>	<p>Conservation science and Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dahari Comores staff improve their English through English Language lessons and training for multiple staff in-situ. • Minimum of 3 regional skills transfer and x-fertilisation exchange visits completed by local practitioners
<p>Output 1. Increased regional capacity of WIO SIDs and LDCs (Seychelles, Comoros Mauritius, Madagascar) to research, monitor, manage and restore threatened terrestrial habitats and species</p>	<p>1.1 Three local conservation practitioners complete Postgraduate Diploma in Endangered Species Restoration at DCT regional training hub in Mauritius (years 2 & 3)</p> <p>1.2 Two local conservation practitioners complete MSc/MRes in Conservation Science & Manag^t at DICE, University of Kent, UK (years 1-2 & 2-3)</p> <p>1.3 Eleven regional skills transfer and cross fertilisation exchanges undertaken between Mauritius, Madagascar, Seychelles and Comoros to work for c. 1 month each on project activities including bird reintroductions and habitat</p>	<p>Real on-the-ground progress has been made to increase regional capacity of WIO SIDs and LDCs (Seychelles, Comoros Mauritius, Madagascar) to research, monitor, manage and restore threatened terrestrial habitats and species:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two local conservation practitioners Mrs Siti Mohamed (Dahari's Monitoring and Evaluation Manager) and Mr Sion Henshaw (MWF's echo parakeet coordinator) have completed PGDiploma's in Endangered Species Restoration at DCT in Mauritius and are back working for their respective organisations (see section 3.1-<i>Activity 1.2</i>, and Annex 4 for details & evidence) • Two Seychelles conservation practitioners, Mr Allen Cedras and Mr James Mougale from SNPA have completed MSc's in Conservation Science and Management at DICE, UKC. Both successfully passed their MSc's with Merit and are back at SNPA working in the SNPA Research Section. Allen has been promoted to head of SNPA research section. Both completed MSc research projects that benefited this project and SNPA directly (see section 3.1-<i>Activity 1.3</i> and Annexes 6 and 6b for details & evidence) 	

	restoration projects (throughout project)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One Madagascan Conservation practitioner Alexandra Rasoamanana is currently ½ way through completing a MSc in Conservation and Rural Development at DICE, UKC. • Nine regional skills transfers and cross-fertilisation exchanges have been undertaken during this reporting period (two from Seychelles to Mauritius, two from Madagascar to Mauritius, two from Mauritius to Seychelles, two from Comoros to Madagascar and one from Seychelles to Comoros. (details & evidence of these exchange visits are provided in section 3.1- <i>Activity 1.4</i> of this report and in Annexes 8-12). <p>Indicators remain appropriate.</p>
Activity 1.1 2x Comorians successfully complete English language training course in Madagascar prior to embarking on PGDip in Mauritius		<p>During this reporting period Siti Mohamed is completed intensive one-on-one English language training in Mauritius from a qualified and British High Commission recommended English language teacher to improve her English proficiency and to help her get the most out of her PGDip course which is taught in English. The PO met Siti in Comoros after completion of her PGDip and English Language lessons and her English is much improved. Evidence and details are provided in section 3.1 Annex 4.</p>
Activity 1.2, 1x Mauritian national and 2x Comoros nationals successfully complete UKC accredited PGDip's in endangered species restoration at DCT regional training hub in Mauritius		<p>Two local conservation practitioners Ms Siti Mohamed (Dahari Comores Monitoring and Evaluation Manager) and Mr Sion Henshaw (MWF's echo parakeet coordinator) completed PGDiploma's in Endangered Species Restoration at DCT in Mauritius March-October 2017. Evidence is provided in section 3.1 and Annex 4.</p> <p>The PGDip course is not running in 2018 so we had planning discussion between Dahari, the PO, the PL and DCT and Dahari requested that the most useful training the project could provide to them is English Language training for their staff as currently they miss out on many relevant training opportunities because their English is not good enough. We requested a change of circumstance from LTS to use the funds earmarked for the PGDip course for Dahari to be used to recruit an English teacher to go to Comores and teach English to a whole pile of their staff for a period of c. 6 months. This request was granted by Eilidh young (LTS-DI) See report section 3.1 and Annex 5 evidence. The PO is helping to recruit a suitable English Teacher.</p>
Activity 1.3. 1x Madagascar national and 1x Seychelles national successfully complete MRes/MSc in biodiversity management at DICE, University of Kent/ UK		<p>Two Seychelles conservation practitioners (Mr Allen Cedras and Mr James Mougoual from SNPA) have successfully completed MSc's in Conservation Science and Management at DICE, UKC both passing with MERIT. We would like to highlight that this is one more MSc/MRes than expected under this project. This is an excellent example of Darwin Project funds leveraging extra funds and outputs that will benefit the host country partners. See section 3.1 and Annexes 6 and 6b for MSc for details and evidence.</p>

	<p>Note also that this project leveraged 2x return tickets Seychelles UK-Seychelles from GOS-UNDP-GEF financed project entitled “Protected Area Finance in Seychelles” to get James and Allen both got back to UK after doing their research project fieldwork in Seychelles to complete their project write-ups and graduate.</p> <p>Madagascan conservation practitioner Alexandra Rasoamanana is ½ way through her project funded MSc in Conservation and Rural Development at DICE, UKC. At the end of this reporting period she was almost finished her taught modules and is planning to return to Madagascar to undertake fieldwork for he research project in April-June 2018. See Section 3.1.</p>
<p>Activity 1.4. 11x regional skills transfer and x-fertilisation exchange visits undertaken by local field staff between Comoros, Seychelles, Mauritius and Madagascar to actively participate in live <i>in-situ</i> project activities including bird translocations and habitat restoration</p>	<p>Nine regional skills transfers and cross-fertilisation exchanges have been undertaken during this reporting period (two from Seychelles to Mauritius, two from Madagascar to Mauritius, two from Mauritius to Seychelles, two from Comoros to Madagascar and one from Seychelles to Comoros. This exceeds the four planned regional skills exchanges for this reporting period. Refer to report section 3.1 and Annexes 8-12 for details and evidence.</p> <p>Three regional skills transfer and x-fertilisation exchange visits are scheduled for year 3.</p>
<p>Activity 1.5. 10x presentations on terrestrial habitat and species restoration to local partner staff, stakeholders, government officials & wider conservation community in Seychelles, Mauritius, Madagascar, Comoros</p>	<p>James Mougale and Allen Cedras have given presentations on their MSc’s and their research projects to the staff and management of SNPA post MSc completion this reporting period.</p> <p>The PO presented a ½ day guest lecture to the final year BSc in Environmental Science students at the University of Seychelles (UniSey) on wildlife monitoring techniques in October 2017.</p>
<p>Output 2. Improved conservation status of two WIO threatened paradise flycatcher species (SPF in Seychelles and MPF in Mauritius) through habitat restoration, conservation reintroductions, and refined management practices.</p>	<p>2.1 c.20 hectares of lowland native broad-leafed forest habitat restored on Curieuse, c.60ha on Felicite (Seychelles) and c.20ha at Ferney (Mauritius) (ongoing throughout project).</p> <p>2.2 c. 25 SPF reintroduced to Félicité Island (year 2)</p> <p>2.3 c. 25 SPF introduced to Curieuse Island (year 3)</p> <p>2.4 c.30 MPF reintroduced to Ferney (year 2)</p> <p>2.5 2x Updated participatory species conservation assessments and action plans for SPF and MPF produced</p> <p>Progress towards achieving improved conservation status of two WIO threatened paradise flycatcher species through habitat restoration, conservation reintroductions and refined management practices has progressed in year 2 in the form of: (i) increased area of good flycatcher habitat in both Mauritius (c. 10 hectares in year 2) and in the Seychelles (c.30 hectares in year 2); (ii) expansion of the MPF range by reintroducing 12 more individuals to Ferney Valley in eastern Mauritius in year 2, and by trialling releases of different age groups and different release times in order to identify best practices for reintroducing MPF to mainland sites; and (iii) conducting comprehensive feasibility studies of 3 islands in Seychelles to support self-sustaining flycatcher populations and preparing reintroduction proposals to reintroduce Seychelles paradise flycatchers to two islands Felicite and Curieuse - prerequisites to gaining official permissions and undertaking the reintroductions. Sources of evidence can be found in section 3.1 and in Annexes 13 and16.</p> <p>Some delays have occurred with the planned SPF reintroductions for more than 1 reason- detailed in section 3.1 and Annexes 17 and 20.</p>

	<p>(including realistic management recommendations for both remnant and reintroduced populations) (year 3)</p>	<p>After submission of Feasibility the Seychelles government (i) was very delayed in giving feedback to our request for permissions to undertake reintroductions to Curieuse and Felicite. They approved reintroduction to Curieuse only for now and will review Félicité after Curieuse is completed. However they stipulated that we must gain permissions from the La Digue community before undertaking any reintroduction This has created a delay as we were led to believe that we would not have to ask their permission, but rather would need to inform them. We then got official government permissions to source some individuals from Denis Island (a population introduced to the island in 2008 under Darwin Initiative project 15-002) that has since flourished.) After some negotiations we full logistical support from Denis Island management and Air Seychelles to undertake the translocation. However, one week before the translocation was scheduled to go ahead the president appointed a new CEO for SNPA who called off the translocation at the last minute until he was up to speed and happy with the planning and transparency of this translocation and this put a major 'spanner in the works'. However, the PO and the PL are very aware that conservation is a marathon not a sprint and that these politically charged reintroductions will never be done without the support of a project like this to back them. The PO is confident that the translocations will go head- just not to the planned project schedule.</p> <p>We are now preparing to undertake the translocation to Curieuse during the next rainy season, and in the interim we are working to gain the La Digue community support.</p> <p>Indicators may need some refining as government of Seychelles has not given permissions to reintroduce flycatchers to Felicite at this stage; specifically Indicator 2.2 'c.25 SPF reintroduced to Felicite Island (year2)' which will not be achieved in the timeframe of this project as the Seychelles government did not grant permission for this reintroduction to go ahead. The government said that after the SPF reintroduction to Curieuse Island is completed and the outcome assessed we will revisit the plan for a reintroduction to Félicité. Reintroduction (technically reinforcement) will go ahead to Felicite, but it will now be outside the timeframe of this project. The PO will ensure this translocation is achieved as she will personally undertake it.</p>
<p>Activity 2.1. Restore c.20 hectares of lowland native broad-leafed woodland habitat on Curieuse (Seychelles), c.60ha on Felicite (Seychelles) and c.20ha at Ferney (Mauritius)</p>		<p>The project habitat rehabilitation staff Anselm Barra and Paul Uzice continue to make good progress with rehabilitating lowland native forest habitat on Curieuse Island Seychelles. They have produced over 800 seedlings of 13 different lowland native tree species in their nursery and planted them out into areas cleared of invasive introduced vegetation. They have rehabilitated 10 hectares during the reporting period. A major challenge is the giant tortoises population on Curieuse - each seedling must be protected with a solid barrier preventing the tortoises from reaching and eating them! Paul and Anselm have adapted their tortoise barrier design over time and now have a design that is strong enough to prevent the tortoises reaching the saplings. We also made 2 signboards 1x1.2 metres</p>

	<p>explaining about the project and the habitat rehabilitation on Curieuse and asking visitors to the island to please stop decapitating our saplings to feed to the tortoises (this was very frustrating and discouraging for Anselm and Paul who spend a lot of energy to protect the native trees from being eaten by tortoises only to have tourists lean over the barrier and break the young tree off to feed the tortoises!) See annex 13 for evidence demonstrating Anselm and Paul's progress and section 3.1 for further details.</p> <p>MWF staff and Vallee de Ferney staff continue to restore native forest habitat in Ferney Valley in Mauritius including controlling invasive mammalian predators (cats, mongooses, rats) and introduced invasive vegetation. 10 hectares this reporting period.</p> <p>Félicité Island Ecology team continue to rehabilitate native forest on Felicite (co-financed). 20 hectares this reporting period.</p> <p>Habitat rehabilitation/restoration will continue at all 3 sites in year 3.</p>
<p>Activity 2.2. Survey of remnant flycatcher populations in Mauritius and Seychelles to estimate current population sizes and identify suitable areas to source individuals for translocations</p>	<p>Full island survey of population SPF population size undertaken on La Digue Island during this reporting period. Current population size estimated at 294-441 individuals which is an increase since last survey in 2007 -see survey report in Annex 14 for details and evidence.</p> <p>Full census of the SPF population introduced to Denis Island in 2008 under Darwin Initiative project 15-009 completed in this reporting period. Population stands at 84+ individuals and is still increasing -see census report in Annex 15 for evidence and details.</p> <p>Project MPF field biologists Veronique Couttee and Elysia Davies monitored 25 MPF pairs in Combo and in the Tea to collect information on MPF behaviour, breeding biology and breeding success at the source population to have baseline information for the species, and to identify suitable individuals to try and catch for translocation.</p>
<p>Activity 2.3. Translocate 25 SPF to Félicité Island</p>	<p>This translocation was originally scheduled for this reporting period. Feasibility study and reintroduction proposal were researched, compiled and submitted to the government (MEECC) of Seychelles to schedule in August 2017. Government were delayed in providing a response and they said NO to reintroduction to Felicite for now and that we should start with Curieuse. See section 3.1 and Annexes 17 and 20 for details and evidence.</p>
<p>Activity 2.4. Translocate 25 SPF to Curieuse Island</p>	<p>This activity is scheduled for the rainy season (November to February) in year 3. See government official response as evidence in Annex 17. Meetings have been requested with the La Digue MNA, DA and Board (representing the community) to discuss the upcoming translocation plans. See section 3.1. for more detail.</p>

<p>Activity 2.5. Translocate c.30 MPF to Ferney</p>	<p>Reintroduction of MPF to Ferney continued in this reporting period. Permissions were obtained from Mauritius government National Parks and Conservation Service (NPCS) to continue with the reintroduction and regular progress updates are provided to NPCS. During this reporting period 12 individuals were translocated to Ferney bringing the total translocated to Ferney to 35 individuals.</p> <p>As stated prior to the start of this translocation our main concern is how to keep the released individuals at Ferney as there are no barriers to dispersal. We therefore built in experimental trials of different age groups and release group compositions in order to determine if these factors influence post release dispersal behaviour. During this reporting period we translocated 9 adults (7 males and 2 females) in September just prior to the start of the breeding season. However at least 3 of them (2 males & 1 female) flew straight back to their territories at Combo/Bois Cheri tea fields. Based on this outcome we decided not to move more adults but to concentrate on moving independent juveniles later in the breeding season once they left their parents territory and were looking for their own territory as they appear less likely to fly back to Combo. We moved a total of 4 juveniles this season, not as many as we would have liked because of a lack of staff qualified to mist net and due to staff injury. See section 3.1 for details.</p> <p>A project meeting between PL, PO and MWF and other experts to review the translocation to date and plan for next season is planned for early in year 3. This reintroduction will step up in effort in year 3 to ensure we move more individuals. The PO will spend more time in Mauritius in year 3 toward the end of the breeding season (January to March) to help catch independent juveniles.</p>
<p>Activity 2.6. Produce updated participatory species conservation assessments and action plans for SPF and MPF (including realistic management recommendations for both remnant and reintroduced populations) and gain relevant government endorsements</p>	<p>MPF conservation assessment and SAP is scheduled for project year 3.</p>
<p>Output 3. Improved understanding of paradise flycatcher resilience and adaptability in partially restored habitats</p>	<p>3.1 Research by management approach to all 3 reintroductions with intensive post release monitoring of survival and breeding success of released individuals, as well as other environmental/habitat variables</p> <p>Progress is already being made towards improving understanding of paradise flycatcher resilience and adaptability in partially restored habitat as evidenced by the trials we are undertaking to determine best practice (best age, timing and release group composition) for MPF reintroductions. Habitat variables have also been quantified at release and source sites to aid in interpretation, and post release monitoring of reintroductions is underway for MPF and will be undertaken for SPF reintroductions in order to quantify success in habitats with differing levels of restoration. Evidence is provided in section 3.1 of this report and in Annex 16.</p> <p>Indicator remains appropriate.</p>
<p>Activity 3.1. Undertake intensive post-release monitoring of survival and breeding success of released individuals + other environmental/habitat variables at all 3 release sites and at source populations, and analyse to provide quality M&E data</p>	<p>Intensive post-release monitoring of the MPF reintroduction to Ferney continued in this reporting period throughout the breeding season (September to February). 2 males were released with transmitters to provide info on post-release dispersal</p>

<p>to inform current and future reintroduction best practice and interventions if necessary</p>	<p>and survival. All sightings of released individuals are recorded and GPS points taken. 3 adults translocated in September just prior to breeding season flew straight back to their capture sites at Combo/Tea c.22 km straight line distance.</p> <p>The c.50-hectare Conservation Management Area (CMA) at Ferney was thoroughly surveyed for flycatchers during this breeding and 1 adult male M&Ms (who was translocated as an adult in September 2017) was found to have settled and established a territory within the CMA at Ferney. However, a comprehensive survey of the much wider Ferney area was not undertaken due to staff shortages. Next season this wider Ferney area survey will be a priority. A think-tank between the PL, PO MWF and other experts is planned early in project year 3 for M&E of the reintroduction so far and to brainstorm other methods we can potentially try to increase the chances of released individuals remaining at Ferney. The first translocation of a species is always a challenge and a learning curve. Post release monitoring will continue through-out and post project. (see section 3.1 for details.)</p>	
<p>Activity 3.2. Two open access publications on project research and findings accepted for publication in high quality peer reviewed journals (eg: Biological Conservation and Biodiversity and Conservation)</p>	<p>This activity is scheduled for project year 3; however, we have been collecting project data for these publications throughout the reporting period</p>	
<p>Output 4. Projects restoring critical habitats and/or species initiated in Comoros and Madagascar as a direct result of this project</p>	<p>4.1 Projects (x2) designed and implementation underway in Madagascar (x1) and Comoros(x1) (year 3)</p>	<p>This Output is scheduled for year 3 of the project. Indicator remains appropriate.</p>
<p>Activity 4.1. Design and start implementing a project restoring critical habitat and/or species in Madagascar led by Madagascar project partner Durrell and recipient of project MRes scholarship</p>	<p>This activity is scheduled for project year 3. The PO will be visiting Durrell Madagascar and Alexandra Rasoamanana the Project funded MSc scholarship recipient in Madagascar at the end of May 2018 where we will all sit down together and plan this activity, given the timeframe constraints we have (Alexandra finishes her MSc in September 2018 and we then have 6 months to design and begin implementation.</p>	
<p>Activity 4.2. Design and begin implementing a project restoring critical habitat and/or species in Comoros led by Comoros partner Dahari and the Comorian recipients of project PGDip scholarships</p>	<p>The PO and Dahari discussed this activity during the PO's project visit to Dahari in March 2018. Dahari have some good ideas and are confident they can achieve this activity to schedule in year 3.</p>	

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: (Max 30 words) Four Indian Ocean countries including two LDC's and three SIDS expertly restoring their endemic biodiversity with continual improvement sustainably supported by a regional network of training and skill-sharing opportunities.</p>			
<p>Outcome: (Max 30 words) Increased capacity to conserve Indian Ocean species and habitats through skill-sharing, capacity-building and <i>in-situ</i> learning on three reintroduction and habitat restoration initiatives for two endemic birds enabling their reduced extinction-risk.</p>	<p>1.1 Two additional Seychelles paradise flycatcher (SPF) populations established and breeding (productivity exceeding mortality) on Curieuse and Félicité islands, Seychelles by end of year 3 1.2 One new Mascarene paradise flycatcher (MPF) population established and breeding (productivity exceeding mortality) at Ferney, Mauritius by end year 3 1.3 SPF recommended for down-listing from Critically Endangered to Endangered on the IUCN red-list at the next assessment (by end year 3) 1.4 Government reports to CBD</p>	<p>1.1 Project annual reports 1.2 SNPA/MWF reintroduction progress reports 1.3 Recommendation letters to IUCN red-list authority 1.4 Government reports to CBD</p>	<p>Relevant Governments remain stable and continue to view habitat and species conservation as a priority and provide the necessary permissions (and island access) to undertake project activities.</p> <p>No adverse climatic/stochastic events (e.g. cyclones) preventing timely completion of this project.</p>
<p>Outputs: 1. Increased regional capacity of WIO SIDs and LDCs (Seychelles, Comoros Mauritius, Madagascar) to research, monitor, manage and restore threatened terrestrial habitats and species</p>	<p>1.1 Three local conservation practitioners complete Postgraduate Diploma in Endangered Species Restoration at DCT regional training hub in Mauritius (years 2 & 3) 1.2 Two local conservation practitioners complete MSc/MRes in Conservation Science & Manag^t at DICE, University of Kent, UK (years 1-2 & 2-3) 1.4 Eleven regional skills transfer and cross fertilisation exchanges undertaken between Mauritius, Madagascar, Seychelles and Comoros to work for c. 1 month each on project activities including bird reintroductions and habitat restoration projects (throughout project)</p>	<p>1.1 PGDip graduation certificates 1.2 MSc graduation certificates 1.3 Training exchange trip reports from hosting partner NGOs (8 exchanges by project participants; 3 by PO; total=11).</p>	<p>Trained staff (MSc/PGDip/ skills exchange participants) remain with local partners throughout and after the project finishes, to continue to implement what they have learned and to form an initial <i>alumni</i> who foster a learning network across Indian Ocean.</p>

<p>2. Improved conservation status of two WIO threatened paradise flycatcher species (SPF in Seychelles and MPF in Mauritius) through habitat restoration, conservation reintroductions, and refined management practices.</p>	<p>2.1 c.20 hectares of lowland native broad-leaved forest habitat restored on Curieuse, c.60ha on Felicite (Seychelles) and c.20ha at Ferney (Mauritius) (ongoing throughout project).</p> <p>2.2 c. 25 SPF reintroduced to Félicité Island (year 2)</p> <p>2.3 c. 25 SPF introduced to Curieuse Island (year 3)</p> <p>2.4 c.30 MPF reintroduced to Ferney (year 2)</p> <p>2.5 2x Updated participatory species conservation assessments and action plans for SPF and MPF produced (including realistic management recommendations for both remnant and reintroduced populations) (year 3)</p>	<p>2.1 Habitat restoration progress reports and images</p> <p>2.2 reintroduction progress reports Felicite</p> <p>2.3 Curieuse reintroduction progress reports</p> <p>2.4 Ferney reintroduction progress reports</p> <p>2.5a 2x Species conservation assessment and action plan documents</p> <p>2.5b SAP implementation progress reports</p>	<p>Relevant Governments and NGO;s continue to collaborate to rehabilitate and protect relevant species and habitats</p>
<p>3.Improved understanding of paradise flycatcher resilience and adaptability in partially restored habitats</p>	<p>3.1 Research by management approach to all 3 reintroductions with intensive post release monitoring of survival and breeding success of released individuals, as well as other environmental/habitat variables</p>	<p>3.1a reintroduction monitoring and research reports</p> <p>3.1b 2x peer reviewed scientific manuscripts resulting directly from this project work published</p>	<p>Editors accept papers for publication</p>
<p>4. Projects restoring critical habitats and/or species initiated in Comoros and Madagascar as a direct result of this project</p>	<p>4.1 Projects (x2) designed and implementation underway in Madagascar (x1) and Comoros(x1) (year 3)</p>	<p>4.1a Project concept documents</p> <p>4.1b Project implementation progress reports</p>	<p>Relevant government permissions are granted enabling project implementation</p>
<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) 0. Activities relate to project management activities.</p> <p>0.1 Project Steering Group set-up (by month 3) and meet (may be virtually) bi-annually throughout the duration of the project to monitor and evaluate progress and plan ahead</p> <p>0.2 Project staff hired in a timely manner (Seychelles field biologist in month 13; Mauritian field biologist by month 2, Seychelles habitat restoration fieldworkers by month 2)</p> <p>0.3 Annual, ½ year and final reports submitted to Darwin Initiative in a timely manner</p> <p>1.1 2x Comorians successfully complete English language training course in Madagascar prior to embarking on PGDip in Mauritius</p> <p>1.2 1x Mauritian national and 2x Comoros nationals successfully complete UKC accredited PGDip's in endangered species restoration at DCT regional training hub in Mauritius</p>			

- 1.3 1x Madagascar national and 1x Seychelles national successfully complete MRes/MSc in biodiversity management at DICE, University of Kent/ UK
- 1.4 11x regional skills transfer and x-fertilisation exchange visits undertaken by local field staff between Comoros, Seychelles, Mauritius and Madagascar to actively participate in live *in-situ* project activities including bird translocations and habitat restoration
- 1.5 10x presentations on terrestrial habitat and species restoration to local partner staff, stakeholders, government officials & wider conservation community in Seychelles, Mauritius, Madagascar, Comoros
- 2.1 Restore c.20 hectares of lowland native broad-leafed woodland habitat on Curieuse (Seychelles), c.60ha on Felicite (Seychelles) and c.20ha at Ferney (Mauritius)
- 2.2 Survey of remnant flycatcher populations in Mauritius and Seychelles to estimate current population sizes and identify suitable areas to source individuals for translocations
- 2.3 Translocate 25 SPF to Félicité Island
- 2.4 Translocate 25 SPF to Curieuse Island
- 2.5 Translocate c.30 MPF to Ferney
- 2.6 Produce updated participatory species conservation assessments and action plans for SPF and MPF (including realistic management recommendations for both remnant and reintroduced populations) and gain relevant government endorsements
- 3.1 Undertake intensive post-release monitoring of survival and breeding success of released individuals + other environmental/habitat variables at all 3 release sites and at source populations, and analyse to provide quality M&E data to inform current and future reintroduction best practice and interventions if necessary
- 3.2 Two open access publications on project research and findings accepted for publication in high quality peer reviewed journals (eg: Biological Conservation and Biodiversity and Conservation)
- 4.1 Design and start implementing a project restoring critical habitat and/or species in Madagascar led by Madagascar project partner Durrell and recipient of project MRes scholarship
- 4.2 Design and begin implementing a project restoring critical habitat and/or species in Comoros led by Comoros partner Dahari and the Comorian recipients of project PGDip scholarships

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
Established codes								
2	Number of people to attain Masters qualification (MSc, MPhil etc.) *	M,F	Seychellois, Malagasy	0	2 (F)	1 (F)	2	2
3	Number of people to attain other qualifications (e.g. Not standard measures 1 or 2 above)	F,M,F	Comorian, Mauritian, Comorian	0	2 (MF)	1	2	3
6A	No of people to receive other forms of education/training (which does not fall into categories 1-5 above) *	Fx4, Mx4	Seychellois x2	6	5	2	11	8
6B	(regional skills-exchange visits) <i>Number of training weeks to be provided</i>		Malagasy x2 Comorian x2 Mauritian x2	(MMM MFF) 7	(FFFFF) 8	7	15	21
9	Number of species/habitat management plans (or action plans) to be produced for Governments, public authorities, or other implementing agencies in the host country			1	0	1	1	2
11A	Number of papers to be published in peer reviewed journals			0	0	2	0	2
11B	Number of papers to be submitted to peer reviewed journals			0	0	2	0	2
20	Estimated value (£'s) of physical assets to be handed over to host country(ies)			£ 7700	£ 1600	£ 1000	£ 9300	£ 10300
23	Value of resources raised from other sources (e.g., in addition to Darwin			£ 98248	£ 111203	£ 108820	£ 210573	£ 318271

	funding) for project work				(+SCR 21320 ≈ £1122)			
--	---------------------------	--	--	--	----------------------	--	--	--

Table 2 Publications

Title	Type (e.g. journals, manual, CDs)	Detail (authors, year)	Gender of Lead Author	Nationality of Lead Author	Publishers (name, city)	Available from (e.g. weblink or publisher if not available online)
A new species of small and highly abbreviated caecilian (Gymnophiona: Indotyphlidae) from the Seychelles island of Praslin, and a recharacterization of <i>Hypogeophis brevis</i> Boulenger, 1911.	Scientific Paper	Maddock ST, Wilkinson M, Nussbaum RA, Gower DJ	M	British	Zootaxa	Zootaxa 4329(4) 310-326 Online

Publications are planned for year 3 of this project

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

Annex 4. Sion’s and Siti’s summaries of their experiences on the University of Kent accredited Postgraduate Diploma in Endangered Species Restoration and whether it was useful to them or not.

Post-graduate Diploma in Endangered Species Recovery Sion Henshaw Echo parakeet project coordinator, Mauritian Wildlife Foundation

I came to Mauritius in 2010 to work as a research assistant on a PhD on Phelsuma day geckos. The position got me familiar with Mauritian biodiversity, and I soon found myself developing a strong interest in the rare species on the island. When the position ended in 2011, I was lucky enough to get a job on the Mauritius kestrel project, and worked on the West coast for four breeding seasons. In between breeding seasons I worked with the echo parakeets and found myself being drawn more and more to the project. In 2015 I left the kestrel team in order to coordinate the echo parakeet project. This year I had the opportunity to participate in the Durrell Post Graduate Diploma in Endangered Species Recovery thanks to a Darwin Initiative grant. Having spent the last seven years concentrating entirely on fieldwork, I welcomed the opportunity to step back into academia.

During the course I had the opportunity to re-visit some fundamental conservation principles. This helped me see the ‘bigger picture’; having worked on species-centric projects for so long, I believe my view of conservation may have narrowed. The most essential learning experience I gained from the post graduate diploma was getting the opportunity to reflect on the way I have been working, and also on the way I have been managing my team. I returned to work in October; the course has acted as a great motivator for me, it has also made me more determined to continue developing in my role so that I can work and lead more effectively.

As part of the course we had to write a pilot project on a subject of our choosing. I chose to examine an issue that had been of great interest to me and my colleagues whilst working with the echo parakeets. The issue in question is an abnormal repetitive behaviour that has developed within some breeding pairs. The behaviour consists of parent birds actively plucking feathers from their chicks. This abnormal behaviour originated during a period of intensive conservation management, and continues to affect a relatively large proportion of echo parakeet breeding attempts. I found that the behaviour likely has an impact on the survival of the chicks that are affected, the relevance of which being that it might justify the investment of more time and resource into this issue. My project made the first steps towards determining the cause and impact of this abnormal behaviour, in doing so it provided additional knowledge that might help aid the development of more effective conservation management actions. I also found through the project that chick-feather plucking individuals are more likely to have spent time in captivity; this highlights the importance of getting captive conditions right when working with intelligent bird species. On a bigger scale, my findings have hinted that conservation measures can cause behavioural abnormalities in target species, be that in captive or wild populations. Importantly, my project should function as a cautionary tale to other parrot conservation projects that might be considering intensive conservation management techniques.

Therefore to summarise, I believe that the course has given me the ability to work and lead more effectively. It has reinvigorated my motivation to always look to improve my performance as a conservation professional so that I might achieve more successful conservation outcomes. The project I

completed as part of the course gave me the time to examine an issue that has been of great interest to me and my colleagues, and the findings of the report will hopefully inform future management actions. I am grateful to the Darwin Initiative for having given me the opportunity to participate in the course which has helped me further develop as a conservation practitioner.

Summary of training
Post-graduate Diploma in Endangered Species Recovery
Siti Mohamed, Dahari

Modules followed

- Conservation Education and stakeholder Management
- Management and Leading Conservation
- Writing for Conservation
- Reinforcement of English language

Methods

- Alternation of theoretical and practical contributions
- Assignment for every module about 2000 words
- Put into practice the presentation sequence with group works and individual works
- Sharing of experience with managers of MWF NGO

Skills acquired across modules

Writing for conservation

- How to write a bibliography in using Zotero Software
- How to make graphics using Veusz Software

Management and Leading Conservation

- What motivates people? We cannot motivate people, but we can influence people to become motivated. Maslow's hierarchy of need and Herzberg's theory illustrate this concept.
- The role of the manager or leader is to ensure the developing and working of their team by Bechard Model through purpose, goals, roles, process and relationships. Every organization has to assess results of projects. The five elements cited previously and the role of each member of the team are important to be defined in the first in order to achieve goal. Team performance is useful to assess results by Tuchman Model through forming, storming norming and performing. Adding situation leadership by Blanchard and Harvey through directing, coaching, supporting and delegating. These concepts are important for managing a team. Getting the environment right, providing feedback, time management, running projects are key elements characterizing a good manager.
- The role of the team. A team formed has shared a goal, the members of the team work together to make decisions and achieve goals
- Some tools for problem solving like Fishbone analysis, six honest men, 5 whys.

Conservation Education and Stakeholder Management

- The role of the communities in conservation projects and how to involve communities because communities play a great role for conservation projects, especially when they have a part of the responsibility to manage the project. For example, involving community in managing a project to manage the octopus fishery at Andavadoka with Blue Venture shows the importance of the community across the project adding his slogan " *I'm vezo*". It is one of the model projects which we can refer to in our organization.
- Some tools to collect data in the field like questionnaire, focus group, semi-structured interview, livelihood matrix and type of questions used to collect data.

Fieldwork

- This training was beneficial and successful through sharing knowledge, meeting and discovery. I was very excited by the different managers drive with his/her team in the field stations and the organization of the activities. I didn't find the difference between the manager and his team members because they worked together for some activities even if each one has responsibilities.

- Data recording and following
- Nest watches, watch pink pigeons, feeding birds are also some points of training but the context is very different of our activities and our context at Dahari.

Individual Pilot Project

“Leadership and Management especially human motivation in a team”: Case study in Dahari Comoros”

Annex 5. Change of circumstance request submitted to LTS regarding English Language training for Dahari staff in place of cancelled PG Diploma and Eilidh Young’s reply.

See separate PDF file named Annex 5.

Annex 6. James and Allen’s MSc official certificates

See separate PDF file named Annex 6.

Annex 6b. James Mougale’s MSc Research Project Dissertation

See separate PDF file named Annex 6b.

Annex 7. Alexandra Rasoamanana’s RMSc research project Ethics Approval.

See separate PDF file named Annex 7.

Annex 8. Indira Gamatis’s regional skills-exchange report.

See separate PDF file named Annex 8.

Annex 9. The PO’s Dahari project visit report.

See separate PDF file named Annex 9.

Annex 11. Dr Vikash Tatayah the Conservation Director of MWF and Mr Vishnu Bachraz the Deputy Director of the Mauritius National Parks and Conservation Service visit to Seychelles.

See separate PDF file named Annex 11.

Annex 12. Emma Randrianasolo and Lynda Andrianarimalala’s regional skills-exchange trip report.

See separate PDF file named Annex 12.

Annex 13. Curieuse Island habitat rehabilitation progress in pictures. Anselm and Paul's progress, their tortoise-proof barriers, the Curieuse Island project signboards and GVI volunteers helping Paul and Anselm.



Annex 14. Report of survey of Seychelles paradise flycatcher population size on La Digue, 2017.

See separate PDF file named Annex 14.

Annex 15. Report of a census of Seychelles paradise flycatcher population on Denis Island, 2017.

See separate PDF file named Annex 15.

Annex 16. Proposal to translocate SPF to Félicité and Curieuse islands, Seychelles.

See separate PDF file named Annex 16.

Annex 17. Government official feedback on translocation proposal.

See separate PDF file named Annex 17.

Annex 19. Amphibian working group workshop draft report

See attached PDF file named Annex 19.

Annex 20. Email correspondence between the PO, the Ministry of Environment officials and Denis Island Management regarding reintroductions of flycatchers to Curieuse.

See attached PDF file named Annex 20. Please NOTE that Annex 20 is **CONFIDENTIAL** and should be removed before this report is put in the public domain on the Darwin Website.

Annex 21. Letter of support for Flycatcher translocations from the La Digue Development Board (representing the La Digue community).

Checklist for submission

	Check
Is the report less than 10MB? If so, please email to Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.uk putting the project number in the Subject line.	YES
Is your report more than 10MB? If so, please discuss with Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.uk about the best way to deliver the report, putting the project number in the Subject line.	
Have you included means of verification? You need not submit every project document, but the main outputs and a selection of the others would strengthen the report.	YES
Do you have hard copies of material you want to submit with the report? If so, please make this clear in the covering email and ensure all material is marked with the project number.	NO
Have you involved your partners in preparation of the report and named the main contributors	YES
Have you completed the Project Expenditure table fully?	NO
Do not include claim forms or other communications with this report.	