Darwin Initiative: Final 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)*

Darwin Project Information

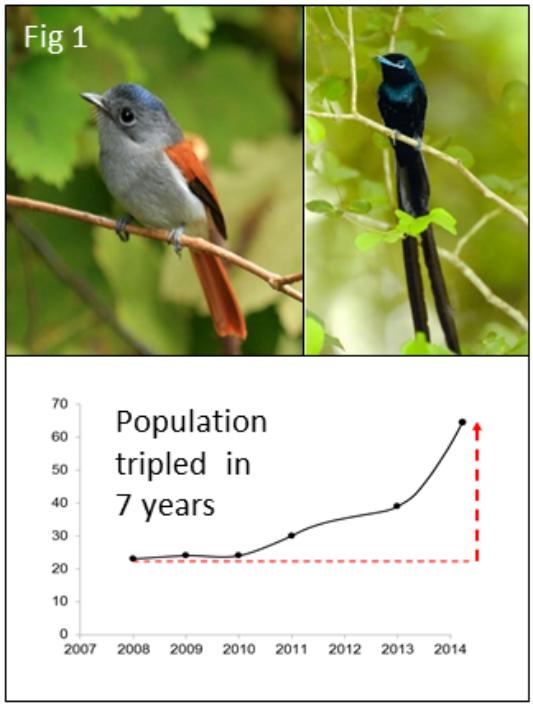
Project reference	23-006
Project title	Translocating conservation success and skills-exchange across four Indian Ocean countries
Host country(ies)	Seychelles, Mauritius, Comoros, Madagascar
Lead organisation	University of Kent
Partner institution(s)	Seychelles National Parks Authority (SNPA) Mauritian Wildlife Foundation (MWF) Dahari (Comoros) Durrell Conservation Training Ltd (DCT) (Madagascar) Rachel Bristol (Independent Conservation Biologist based in Seychelles)
Darwin grant value	£306,364
Start/end dates of project	01 April 2016-31 March 2019
Project leader's name	Professor Jim Groombridge
Project website/blog/Twitter	Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/Translocating-conservation-success-and-skills-exchange-across-the-WIO-318569868505836/ University of Kent project webpage: https://research.kent.ac.uk/dice/research-overview/?article=2670
Report author(s) and date	Compiled by the Project Officer Rachel Bristol with input from all project partners including Jim Groombridge (Project Leader) Christelle Ferriere (MWF), Mederic Carpier (Dahari), Alexandra Rasoamanana (Madagascar), James Mougal and Indira Gamatis (SNPA) and contributions from many others, June 2019

1 Project Rationale

Many global conservation success-stories originate from Seychelles and Mauritius. Remarkably, however, propagating these much-needed skill-sets elsewhere doesn't happen naturally, particularly across low-income and island nations. Building upon previous Darwin-funded success, we will implement three flycatcher reintroductions, and via a newly-established regional 'training hub', galvanise skill-sharing between four Indian Ocean countries.

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.



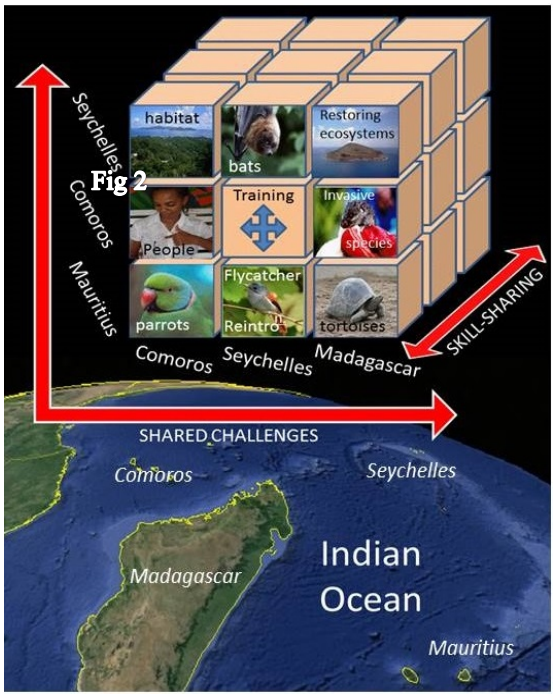
GALVANISING REGIONAL IMPACT ACROSS INDIAN OCEAN: Low-income and island nations, such as Madagascar and Comoros, are less able to benefit from neighbourhood success, as a consequence of their poverty and isolation which, together with language barriers can profoundly limit skills-exchange opportunities. Fortuitously, 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. The whole project was developed in close collaboration with the host country partners to ensure it 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 SNPA and the Project Officer -Rachel Bristol (PO) and the Project Leader (PL) is very positive. The PO works closely with SNPA as she is based in Seychelles and she line managed 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 2018. He moved the existing CEO of SNPA Flavien Joubert (with whom we had a great and mutually supportive working relationship) to a CEO position in another Government Authority and put a new CEO in SNPA Mr Selby Remie. The PO and the new CEO now have a good working relationship, but the change of CEO at a crucial time in the project resulted in a delay in translocating of flycatchers to Curieuse of almost a year. It took quite some work to bring the new CEO up to speed with this project, and to get his full support. The PO and SNPA are still working together monitoring and managing the newly translocated flycatcher population on Curieuse, and they will likely continue to collaborate on future conservation initiatives.

The PL, the PO and the Managing Director (MD) of Durrell Conservation Training LTD (DCT) have a long-standing friendship based on trust and past project collaborations. However DCT also changed Managing Director (MD) mid-project. Jamie Copsey has moved on and the new MD is David Derand. Fortunately, the PO and David worked together some years ago so it was relatively easy to maintain good working relationships despite the change of MD.

A new relationship between the PO, the PL and Durrell Madagascar has formed as a direct result of implementing this project. The PO visited Durrell in Madagascar in mid-2018 and met with the country programme director Richard Lewis and quite a few Durrell Madagascr staff, including the ones that participated in this project's regional skills-exchange visits. Future regional project ideas and collaborations were discussed during the visit which are detailed below.

The PO, PL and MWF have a long-standing mutually beneficial relationship so there was no big ground to break to create trust or good working relationships. Our supportive working relationship was well maintained through-out the project.

The relationship between the PL the PO and Dahari has developed nicely during the project. Prior to this project we had never met or worked together. The PO visited Dahari in Anjouan in early 2018 during the project, which was extremely useful; the importance and benefit of meeting people face-to-face cannot be exaggerated. Since this visit, Dahari has requested input from the PO on several of their other projects, and this newly formed relationship with Dahari is going to well-and-truly outlive this project timeframe. See as evidence Annex 7 - Livingstone's fruit bat project running now, as well as a future regional bat project idea below.

The project has made excellent progress with an 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 postgraduate diplomas in endangered species restoration at the DCT regional training hub in Mauritius. We now have a live and active regional conservation support network: partner staff are contacting each other for both professional and social benefit and completely outside of work are visiting each other for their holidays.

Both Seychelles and Mauritius governments have been involved directly in this project, mainly as they must approve all project work such as working in National Parks and Protected Areas and undertaking reintroductions.

All partners were directly involved in project development and planning, in project steering through face-to-face meetings, Skype calls, emails, and in actual project implementation, M&E and reporting. All partners have contributed to the preparation of this final project report.

Partners will keep in touch post-project as during this project we brainstormed to identify common conservation issues/priorities that we all share and found that all four partner countries have serious and urgent BAT conservation issues. The Mauritius government has recently introduced culling of their endemic *Pteropus* fruit bat much to the alarm of the conservation community, Seychelles has a critically endangered Microchiropteran bat with a world population of less than 100 individuals, Comoros has a critically endangered endemic *Pteropus* species and Madagascar has threatened bats in need of conservation efforts. Watch this space for a regional bat conservation initiative!

3. Project Achievements

3.1. 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 and restore threatened terrestrial habitats and species. We exceeded our expectations for this output.

Two local conservation practitioners Mrs Siti Mohamed (Dahari's Monitoring and Evaluation Manager) and Mr Sion Henshaw (MWF's echo parakeet coordinator) completed Post-graduate Diploma's in Endangered Species Restoration at DCT in Mauritius and are back working for their respective organisations (see *Annex 2 activity 1.2* , and Annex 8 for details & evidence). Note: Sion has recently been promoted to Fauna Manager at MWF, taking on greater responsibility and now oversees not only the echo-parakeet recovery programme, but all MWF's fauna recovery programmes(see as evidence https://www.mauritian-wildlife.org/boardofdirectors and click on "managers" in the left pane). Siti is still in her position as Human Resources Manager at Dahari Comoros. Note three PGDip scholarships were planned under this project (2 Comoros citizens and one Mauritius citizen) however the second Comoros national could not undertake the PGDip as it was cancelled in 2018, the year they were scheduled to participate, so we had to adapt. We had a project steering group meeting between the PO, PL, DCT, and Dahari and Dahari proposed that English lessons for their staff was something they really needed as their staff were missing out on training opportunities due to their poor English. We requested and received approval from Darwin (LTI) to use the project funds earmarked for the PGDip to get an English teacher to Dahari in Anjouan to teach multiple Dahari staff English (see Annex 9 as evidence for the change request and Annex 10 feedback from Dahari on the benefit of the English lessons).

Two Seychelles conservation practitioners, Mr Allen Cedras and Mr James Mougal from SNPA completed MSc's in Conservation Science and Management at DICE, UKC. Both successfully passed their MSc's with Merit. James Mougal has since been promoted to head of SNPA Research Section. Allen has since moved on from SNPA. However importantly Allen has not been lost. He is working for UNDP based in Mauritius as Project Manager of a regional project the SAPPHIRE-Joint Management Area demonstration Project (joint management of Seychelles and Mauritius extended continental shelf). 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*" . James and Allens dissertations can be provided by the PO on request. They were already submitted with project Annual report #2 and it is impossible to resubmit all project reports as Annexes to this final report as file size will be too huge. One Madagascan Conservation practitioner Alexandra Rasoamanana successfully completed a MSc in Conservation and Rural Development at DICE, UKC with Distinction. Her dissertation entitled "Identifying institutional factors impeding effective management of a multiple use protected area: a case study from Madagascar" can be provided on request from the PO. See Annex 11 for all three MSc graduation certificates as evidence. Since finishing her MSc Alexandra has provided feedback to local communities living in the Menabe-Antimena Protected Area about the consequences of different management practices and activities undertaken on the longer-term ability of the PA to provide ecosystem services and to support both the parks human and wildlife inhabitants. She has also, with several Malagasy colleagues and friends, recently set up an NGO called Harmonia with the Vision 'rural communities living in healthy environment for rural sustainable development' and a mission 'promoting opportunities for autonomous rural communities'. Harmonia may soon apply to Darwin Initiative for project funds to help them implement projects to secure sustainable livelihoods for local communities in the Menabe-Antimena PA without needing to conduct illegal deforesting activities. We have discussed it. For the PO it has been (and still is) an absolute pleasure to meet and work with Alexandra who has exceptional drive and passion, thinks outside the box and is really pushing to make changes for the better for people and the environment in Madagascar.

Twenty regional skills transfers and cross-fertilisation exchanges were undertaken during this project between the four country partners (7 from Seychelles to Mauritius, 4 from Madagascar to Mauritius, 4 from Mauritius to Seychelles, 2 from Comoros to Madagascar, 1 from Seychelles to Comoros, 1 from Seychelles to Madagascar, 1 from Mauritius to Comoros). Very positive feedback was received from both the participants themselves and their organisations. Most of these exchange visits were for less than 1 month, but we undertook almost twice as many regional exchange visits as we planned during the project (11 planned but 20 undertaken). See as evidence some of the skills-exchange and cross fertilisation visit reports and line manager feedback in Annex 12. It is also worthwhile to note that these regional skills-exchange visits were two-way with people at both ends benefitting so in fact many more people than the numbers reported here benefitted from these exchanges.

One mini symposium organised and run under this project by partner MWF entitled "Avian reintroductions-what works and what does not". Presentations were given by 9 project partner staff from Madagascar,

Mauritius and Seychelles to an audience of over 50 people from MWF, the Mauritius Government and other conservation NGOs (see Annex 13 as evidence).

During the project at least 15 other presentations were given on terrestrial habitat and species restoration to local partner staff, stakeholders, government officials & wider conservation community in Seychelles, Mauritius, Madagascar, Comoros by project people (as opposed to the 10 agreed in the project document). In total over 100 people (>50% female) attended these presentations.

The baseline situation regarding capacity of implementing partners and host countries in the WIO is that there is a self-identified a 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 Diversitie Biologique-V2 June 2016 page 17; and the Mauritius NBSAP identifies a "lack of training of Mauritians 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 have addressed 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.***

The majority of this output has been achieved. Improved conservation status of two WIO threatened paradise flycatcher species through habitat restoration, conservation reintroductions and refined management practices has progressed in the form of:

Increased area of good flycatcher habitat in both Mauritius (c.20 hectares during this project) and in the Seychelles (c.80 hectares, 20 hectares on Curieuse Island and c.60 hectares on Felicite Island.) In Vallee de Ferney, Mauritius this habitat restoration has been undertaken by both MWF staff and Vallee de Ferney wildlife sanctuary staff and included removal of invasive plant species, planting of native tree species and ongoing introduced mammalian predator (cat, rat, mongoose and monkey) control. On Félicité Island, Seychelles the islands own ecology team have rehabilitated approximately 60 hectares of native forest habitat on Felicite (co-financed) across this project timeframe as planned. On Curieuse Island, Seychelles, the habitat rehabilitation work was undertaken by our two project habitat restoration staff Anselm Barra and Paul Uzice who worked full time for 2 years rehabilitating lowland native forest habitat. They produced c.1500 seedlings of 13 different lowland native tree species in their nursery and planted them out into areas they have cleared of invasive introduced vegetation. A major challenge they encountered was the giant tortoise population on Curieuse - each tree had to be protected with a solid barrier to prevent the tortoises from reaching and eating them until they were big enough to no longer be endangered by the tortoises. Paul and Anselm trialled an adapted their tortoise barrier design over time and came up with a design that was strong enough to prevent the tortoises reaching the saplings, and utilised the coconut and other invasive tree species they were removing. We also made 2 signboards each 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 spent 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 70-80 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. See Annex 14 for photographic evidence of their rehabilitation work and Annex 15 the signboard. Paul and Anselm, since finishing working on this project have both been employed by a local NGO (Terrestrial Restoration Action Society Seychelles (TRASS) and are currently rehabilitating fire damaged habitat on neighbouring Praslin Island, so the skills they gained during this project are being utilised to improve more native forest habitat in Seychelles.

A reintroduction of the Mascarene paradise flycatcher from Combo in the south of Mauritius to vallee de Ferney on the east coast was undertaken across the project timeframe. Initially a feasibility study was conducted (see Annex 16) and then official permissions sought and obtained from the Mauritius Government National Parks and Conservation Service (NPCS), then the reintroduction began and ran across the project timeframe. A total of 51 MPF translocated to Ferney Valley (23 in year 1, 12 in year 2 and 16 in year 3) with the aim of (i) increasing the species range in Mauritius and (ii) trialling and refining methods and best practice for mainland reintroductions of this species. Methods were developed, trialled and refined; however most individuals have not settled at the release site. Monitoring is ongoing post

project as even though this reintroduction appears to have resulted in a second breeding population at Ferney, it cannot be deemed to have definitely failed until further monitoring confirms birds have or have not settled in the wider bamboos mountains area and bred or otherwise. See Annex 2 under activities 2.4 and especially 3.1 for further details.

A conservation introduction of Seychelles paradise flycatcher was undertaken from to Curieuse Island in December 2018-Feb 2019. A total of 26 SPF were translocated to Curieuse: 20 individuals from La Digue in December 2018 and 6 individuals from Denis Island in February 2019, creating a third island population and increasing the range of the species. The birds are already breeding and had by report writing time successfully fledged 3 chicks. Monitoring and management is ongoing post-project and the early signs of success are positive, however it is not possible to assess the longer-term 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. For example the reintroduction of SPF to Denis Island in 2008 under Darwin Project 15-009 (project ended in 2009), could not be deemed to have succeeded within the project timeframe, but the PO is still monitoring this population annually and the translocation has been a resounding success- the population currently numbers over 84 individuals and is still growing. Further details are provided in Annex 2 under activity 3.1. It took a considerable amount of work, stress, pushing and persistence to gain the official permissions to undertake this translocation. Initially comprehensive feasibility studies of 3 islands in Seychelles to support self-sustaining flycatcher populations were undertaken and reintroduction proposals to reintroduce Seychelles paradise flycatchers to two islands Felicite and Curieuse -were prepared and submitted to Seychelles government (see the reintroduction proposal in Annex 17 as evidence). Then the government failed to respond for over 6 months until the Minister for Environment had to intervene to get his ministry to act. Additional unexpected hoops were placed in front of us to jump through before permissions were finally given to introduce flycatchers to Curieuse but NOT to Félicité Island at this stage. Initially this project aimed to undertake 2 SPF reintroductions in Seychelles. The government was involved in this project's planning, so it came as a surprise that they only allowed the one translocation during this project. Changes to project logframe to remove the second translocation were requested from Darwin and accepted, refer to section 6.1 Monitoring and Evaluation and to Annex 18 for details of this whole process as evidence.

A Seychelles paradise flycatcher Conservation Assessment and Species Action Plan was drafted, stakeholder reviewed and approved in year 1 which provides priority actions for improving SPF conservation status. See Annex 19 as evidence.

A Mascarene paradise flycatcher participatory conservation assessment and action plan has not been produced under this project. Instead we have provided information on the species biology, territorial behaviour, breeding behaviour, breeding season, breeding success with which to better plan for this species conservation. Prior to this project no research had been undertaken into this species and almost nothing was known about their behaviour, biology, life history etc. We have also learned how difficult it is to reintroduce them to locations with no barriers to dispersal, i.e. mainland sites. This information, along with information gained by all the monitoring undertaken under this project shows that, at least at Combo the species appears to live at high densities, maintain territories year-round and have good levels of productivity. This, along with the species distribution maps and population estimate, is important information for MWF and NPCS to start formulating SAP, and to monitor this species trends in distribution and numbers into the future. See as evidence one of our MPF annual reports in Annex 20.

Indicators for this output are appropriate. We conducted regular project M&E and monitored our progress and success by measuring our achievements against our project logframe measureable indicators (e.g. quantifying area of habitat rehabilitated). Part way through the project with the approval of Darwin Initiative (Eilidh Young at LTSI) we modified our logframe to remove an indicator *2.2 'c.25 SPF reintroduced to Felicite Island (year2)'* as it was no longer relevant 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 outside the timeframe of the project, as she will personally undertake it.

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

This output has been largely achieved by project close and will be completely achieved post-project

We undertook a research by management (implement, monitor and adapt as necessary) approach to the (re) introductions with intensive post-release monitoring of movements, settling, survival and breeding success of released individuals and other environmental variables in order to improve our understanding of paradise flycatcher resilience and adaptability.

Seychelles paradise flycatchers (SPF): Post release monitoring and management of SPF Conservation Introduction to Curieuse has been ongoing since the release of the first individuals. Survival of released

individuals, territory establishment and breeding activity is monitored, and breeding attempts (nests) are protected with rat traps to reduce the probability of them being depredated by rats. Common myna birds are also being controlled on Curieuse as mynas have also been implicated in breeding failure. See as evidence a translocation progress report in Annex 21.

At the time of writing this report 3 chicks have successfully fledged on Curieuse (2 outside the reporting period -project ended 31 March 2019) but good news should be reported!

Ongoing intensive monitoring is planned for at least 24 months post release and then less intensive monitoring will continue for the long-term. This monitoring has been incorporated into the new Curieuse National Park management plan, currently the project flycatcher research assistant Indira Gamatis has been kept on short term contract with SNPA to continue the intensive monitoring and to ensure a smooth transition to SNPA staff taking over the monitoring and management. SNPA is also working on employing Indira on a permanent base but this is not finalised as SNPA board of directors needs to approve it.

Unusually, the vast majority of SPF were moulting in December, the traditional beginning of the main breeding season when all birds are traditionally in perfect breeding plumage and heading into breeding activities. They traditionally moult between July-October time (in the South-east trade wind or DRY season) Climate change is mucking around with the traditional seasons in Seychelles resulting in less rain in the rainy season and more rain in the dry season. We can only assume (we were not measuring invertebrate diversity and abundance at this time) that flycatcher insect food supplies are affected; there are normally more leaf dwelling invertebrates (flycatcher food) in the rainy season and less in dry season, but now the dry season is not so dry food supplies probably remained higher throughout the “dry” season” and the birds just kept breeding. They have to stop breeding sometime to moult and that just happened to be right when they would traditionally be heading into main breeding season. This is not necessarily a bad thing, but it is a change. The effect on the translocation is that the birds were not in breeding condition ready to breed upon release, they had to complete moulting first Secondly almost ½ the females we translocated were juveniles. These females will not start breeding until they reach adulthood (and moult into adult plumage). They reach maturity and can breed at c.12 months old.

Mascarene paradise flycatchers (MPF): Monitoring at the source population at Combo and the reintroduction site at Ferney was undertaken throughout the project timeframe. Fifty-one individuals were reintroduced to Ferney, 13 with transmitters to monitor short term movements and dispersal. Trials undertaken to determine whether juveniles, adults or family groups were “better” release stock (i.e. more likely to settle at the desired reintroduction location where there are no barriers to dispersal) were incorporated into the reintroduction design. Ongoing monitoring of Ferney and the wider Bambous mountain ranges is underway to determine whether any of the release birds have settled. If birds are located, they will be regularly monitored for breeding success etc by project partner MWF. All individuals were ringed with a metal ID ring and individually identifiable colour combinations. Monitoring in Combo (the source site) was also undertaken throughout the 3-year project to have baseline data on behaviour, breeding success, survivorship or ringed birds, and to determine whether translocated birds returned to Combo.

One publication on SPF conservation introduction has been submitted to Biodiversity and Conservation, and second SPF publication has been drafted and will be submitted shorty. A third publication detailing the MPF reintroduction effort is planned and will be submitted to Conservation Evidence for publication so that our methods and what we learned are out there for the benefit of the wider reintroduction community.

Indicators remained appropriate. See as evidence the SPF and MPF progress reports in Annexes 20 &21 and the manuscript submission conformation from Biodiversity and Conservation in Annex 22.

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

This output has been completely achieved.

Siti Mohamed, Dahari’s human resource manager, upon return to Dahari after her PGDIp designed and implemented a Dahari staff survey using skills and methods learned on her PGDip course. Dahari designed and implemented a pilot study of the Critically Endangered Livingstone’s fruit bat, *Pteropus livingstonii,* habitat and resource-use for conservation management. The study provided data on the applicability of solar-recharging GPS tags for use on this species and gave first insights into important feeding sites in the wet season by equipping two individuals (one female, one male) with GPS tags. The project has been successfully implemented, and Dahari intends to expand it into a full project (see activity 4.2 in Annex 2 for details and the pilot study progress report in Annex 7 as evidence).

Alexandra Rasoamanana and Durrell Madagascar designed and produced a graphic booklet in the local Sakalava dialect as a tool to communicate important research findings on the current and future management scenarios and their efficacy for the Menabe-Antimena Protected Area back to the local communities living within the PA. She went back to the villages to present her findings and the booklets to the local communities. See activity 4.1 in Annex 2 for details and the booklet in Annex 24 as evidence.

Alexandra and Durrell have also designed a second project to gain local communities' input into plans for Manabe-Antimena PA forest rehabilitation. Rehabilitation of this PA is a priority project for Durrell Madagascar, but any rehabilitation plan that does not take into account local communities views, current uses and needs is designed to fail. This project would visit local villages located within the PA and gain their views and input about habitat rehabilitation in the PA including what, when, where and how within the PA, whether they think it is feasible, whether they would like to be involved in the restoration work, and including local community input into a GIS mapping exercise of potential/priority areas and methods for rehabilitation work. Finally Alexandra and a few friends and colleagues have set up and officially registered a NGO called Harmonia (detailed under Output 1 above) with the aim of to help local communities living in the Menabe-Antimena PA to kick-start sustainable livelihood projects that will reduce deforestation and other unsustainable uses of the parks resources by providing set-up financing and practical implementation advice.

Indicator remains appropriate.

3.2. 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.

Our Outcome was mostly achieved during the project timeframe.

With reference to the agreed indicators:

Measurable Indicator 1.1. *One additional Seychelles paradise flycatcher (SPF) population reintroduced and breeding) on Curieuse Island, Seychelles by end of year 3*
Completely achieved, details provided throughout this report and in Annexes 2 & 21.

Measurable Indicator 1.2. *One new Mascarene paradise flycatcher (MPF) population established and breeding (productivity exceeding mortality) at Ferney, Mauritius by end year 3*
Not achieved. Fifty-one Mascarene paradise flycatchers were translocated to Ferney but to date we have no evidence that they have settled or are breeding at Ferney (details provided throughout this report for example in section 3.1 above and in Annex 2 under activities 2.4 and 3.1. Failure of the released individuals to settle at Ferney was our main identified concern with this mainland reintroduction where there are no barriers to dispersal (as opposed to the Seychelles paradise flycatcher conservation introductions which have both been to islands which by definition have a significant barrier to dispersal (the sea). See the recommendations for a proposed reintroduction of Mascarene paradise flycatcher to vallee de Ferney Forest and Wildlife Reserve in Annex 16a as evidence of our awareness of and proposed mitigations against dispersal away from the release site.

Measurable 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)*
The last SPF species red-list assessment was in 2016 and both the PO and PL contributed to that assessment. Since then we have kept in touch with the IUCN Redlist Authority (BirdLife International for Birds) and have since also communicated to Dr Stuart Butchart at BirdLife International (BLI is the official red-list authority for birds) that when Seychelles paradise flycatcher status is next up for revision in 2021 (species are reviewed every 5 years) we will be recommending its threat status is downgraded due to increase in range, numbers and number of self-sustaining populations. Quote from the IUCN red-list justification from the last (2016) review of threat status "Following the successful reintroduction of birds to Denis Island, this species will warrant downlisting after five years if both populations are still self-sustaining, as the species occurs at multiple locations; but in the meantime it retains this classification as a precautionary measure." See https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/22707133/94107925

Measurable Indicator 1.4. *Government reports to CBD*
The PO provided Seychelles paradise flycatcher data to the consultant tasked with drafting the Seychelles 6th National report to the CBD (John Nevill) and to the Director General, Biodiversity Conservation and Management Division Ministry of Environment Energy and Climate Change (Marie-May Jeremie Muzungaile) for same CBD report. The report appears to not to have been submitted to the CBD yet but as soon as it is it will be available on the CBD website here:

https://chm.cbd.int/database?schema_s=nationalReport6

Measurable Indicator 1.5. *Sixteen local conservation practitioners apply training received under this project in their work and make a positive difference to biodiversity conservation in host countries*

Mauritius:
Adisha Sewdyal (regional skills-exchange recipient) spent 5 weeks in Seychelles in early 2019, working alongside the PO and SNPA research team staff learning about the SPF introduction to Curieuse and helping with the monitoring. She also visited several other conservation NGO's in Seychelles and was paired with their staff to learn about the wider conservation community on Seychelles, the work they do and the techniques they use. Adisha is still working for MWF on their passerine team as mainland predator free island manager and is applying for scholarships to undertake a MSc in the near future to further build her skill-set to conserve Mauritius biodiversity.

Sion Henshaw (PGDip scholarship recipient) has been promoted from Echo parakeet coordinator to Fauna Manager at MWF so is now applying his skills to a wider range of species conservation programmes (all MWF species recovery programmes). As evidence see https://www.mauritian-wildlife.org/boardofdirectors then click 'managers' on left panel.

Veronique Couttee, MWF/Darwin Project Mauritius paradise flycatcher staff (regional skills-exchange visit) is currently undertaking a MSc on a fully funded Fulbright Scholarship at the State University of New York. She is expecting to return to Mauritius upon completion of her MSC with a more comprehensive toolset to make a positive difference to biodiversity conservation in Mauritius. See the below Facebook post from the US Embassy in Mauritius regarding Veronique's Fulbright foreign student programme scholarship as evidence.

2.1.1.1.1 ***U.S. Embassy, Port Louis***

17 August 2018 ·

Join us in bidding farewell to Véronique Couttee, who's leaving this afternoon for State University of New York (SUNY) Albany under the Fulbright Foreign Student Program. Véronique told us that "to protect our unique biodiversity, Mauritius requires trained conservation leaders. Those leaders will encourage people to participate in the existing conservation efforts but they will also come forward with innovative conservation incentives. Through the Fulbright Foreign Student Program, I am being given the opportunity to develop the proper skills and academic background to become one of those conservation leaders. I am honored to represent Mauritius in the Fulbright Foreign Student Program." Way to go Véronique!

Madagascar:

Emma Randrianasolo and Lynda Andrianarimalala are both still working in finance management at Durrell Madagascar. The feedback Lynda and Emma provided to the PO when she conducted a M&E visit to Durrell Madagascar in 2018 was that they were very thankful for the opportunity to visit MWF in Mauritius for 2 reasons: Firstly they gained information and ideas to help them do their jobs better: it gave them insight into how the well-established NGO MWF organises running an NGO with multiple funds, funder requirements, project needs etc. Procurement and management of finances is a vital part of all NGO existence but managing the finances and the associated financial reporting for many different projects can be a challenge. 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 their skills-exchange trip report in Annex 12 for further details and as evidence. Secondly they said that they have never had the opportunity to go on a work skills-exchange visit like this before, and that in addition to gaining skills to help them do their jobs better , it also gave them a big boost in terms of making them feel valued and appreciated employees.

Floriot Randrianarimangason and Mahazaka Ratsimalandy are both still working for Durrell Madagascar as the Madagascan pochard captive management and hand rearing team. They manage the captive pochard population and are also undertaking the first ever reintroduction of pochard into lake Alaotra. where skills gained from their visit to MWF and the avian reintroduction mini- Mini Symposium on "Avian reintroductions-what works and what does not" where reintroduction practitioners, several with considerable reintroduction experience, from MWF, DCT, the PO and Floriot and Mahakaza all presented. See for details and as evidence their skills exchange report in Annex 12 and Invitation and image of workshop participants in Annex 13.

Alexandra Rasoamanana since completing her project sponsored MSc is back in Masdagascar and collaborating with Durrell Madagascar to make a positive difference to biodiversity conservation in Madagascar. She is working with local communities in Menabe Antimena Protected Area with the ultimate aim of improving both PA management effectiveness and the livelihoods of communities living within the PA. Evidence is provided in section 3.1 under Outputs 1& 4 and in Annex 24.

Seychelles:

Indira Gamatis the project Seychelles paradise flycatcher research assistant visited Mauritian Wildlife Foundation for 4 weeks in early 2018 and worked alongside the MWF's Mascarene paradise flycatcher field biologist. Since project close she has been employed on a short- term contract by SNPA to continue to monitor the flycatcher reintroduction to Curieuse. The CEO of SNPA has stated to the PO that he is

hoping to employ her on a longer-term basis and he is seeking SNPA Board of Directors approval. INdiras skills-exchange report is in Annex 12 as evidence.

Elsie Pierre, SNPA Conservation Officer at the Seychelles paradise flycatcher (Veuve) Special Reserve visited Mauritius on a project regional skills exchange visit in 2017 where she participated in the MPF reintroduction to Ferney and visited several other MWF conservation projects to get an overview of the methods used by MWF to recover threatened bird species. Elsie largely works alone in the Veuve Special Reserve on La Digue Island Seychelles with little line management or support and this skills-exchange was hugely beneficial in giving her an injection of ideas on techniques available for managing and monitoring threatened birds and helped her to establish a network of "friends" and fellow conservation managers to contact for help, ideas and feedback. The CEO of SNPA Mr Flavien Joubert noted: "the importance of skills exchanges like this for isolated conservation staff such as Elsie cannot be over-stated, not only as a learning and sharing platform to share skills and knowledge, but also as a motivational experience to see there are others working on similar projects with similar problems to overcome elsewhere in the region. Elsie had never been out of Seychelles before and this experience has clearly expanded her skills, knowledge, motivation and confidence in her work".

Allen Cedras (MSc scholarship recipient) is no longer working for SNPA, however he is still *applying the training received under this project to make a positive difference to biodiversity conservation in host countries.* He is working as project manager on a regional project to co-manage Seychelles and Mauritius shared oceans. The Western Indian Ocean Large Marine Ecosystems **S**trategic **A**ction **P**rogramme **P**olicy **H**armonisation and **I**nstitutional **Ref**orm (SAPPHIRE) JMA- demonstration project to support the development and management of an area of ocean between Seychelles and Mauritius that extends 200nautical miles beyond each countries EEZ's.

James Mougal has been promoted to head of SNPA's Research section since returning to Seychelles with his project supported MSc.

Rachel Bristol the PO on this project continues to work in Seychelles and the region on biodiversity conservation projects. She has also been asked to advise and help with planning and implementing a Reunion Cuckoo shrike reintroduction, resulting from contacts made during this project.

Comoros:

Misbahou Mohammed Strategic Advisor at Dahari and Hugh Doulton Technical Advisor at Dahari Comores visited Fanamby, Feedback Madagascar, WWF Madagascar, Blue Ventures, Vahatra, Vatosoa and Durrell Madagascar in 2017 to share ideas and learn about community-led participatory conservation and resource management including sustainable agriculture and productive varieties, sustainable livelihood and ecotourism initiatives. Both are still employed with Dahari.

Ryszard Olesky a bat expert based in Mauritius with experience trapping and using GPS loggers on fruitbats was invited to visit Dahari to train Dahari ecology team staff how to catch, attach transmitters and retrieve data for their Livingstone fruit bat research (reverse skills-exchange visit). The skills the Dahari ecology team gained from Ryszard's skills-exchange visit are definitely still in use as the team are currently applying for funding to scale-up the GPS tracking project.

Siti Mohamed (PGDip scholarship recipient) still works for Dahari as Human Resource Manager and has implemented staff surveys and made some human resource management and motivation recommendations resulting from skills she gained on the Postgraduate Diploma in Endangered Species Recovery.

It is worthwhile to note that many more than the reported numbers gained from these regional skills-exchange and cross-fertilisation trips as the learning and skills-exchange was two-way!

Measurable Indicator 1.6. *Gender balance in staff employed and trained under this project (> 50% female)*

This project employed 6 host local staff (4 female & 2 male) and trained, through regional skills-exchanges and formal MSc's and Postgraduate Diplomas from UK universities, 19 local staff/ nationals (10 female and 9 male).

Totals :14 female and 11 male = 56% female and 44% male.

3.3. Impact: achievement of positive impact on biodiversity and poverty alleviation

The Impact or change expected in our agreed application form is pasted below and our actual impact or change achieved is written in *underlined italics* throughout for clarity.

This project was DEFRA financed and therefore we will comment on positive impact on biodiversity achieved by this project. The impact this project has had on poverty alleviation is detailed in section 4 (specifically 4.1 and 4.3) of this report.

Short-term Impact:

1. **1** critically endangered (CR) species and **1** recently-prioritised highly-endangered sub-species of paradise flycatcher will have extinction risk reduced via:
   (a) **3** reintroductions implemented *(2 implemented during project)* to establish additional populations, fulfilling Species Action Plan recommendations by Seychelles' and Mauritius government authorities.
   (b) **100** hectares of habitat restored-providing new habitat for **80-100** more flycatcher pairs *(100 hectares restored during project).*
   (c) Management plan for flycatcher habitat on La Digue to (i) reduce current habitat loss and (ii) enhance state owned habitat management *(management recommendations for flycatcher habitat management and rehabilitation on La Digue is incorporated into the Species Action Plan -see Annex 19). The PO has also been asked to lead the process of drafting and stakeholder review of a new Veuve Special Reserve Management Plan by SNPA and partners, but they are are not quite ready to do the Management plan yet- it is scheduled for 2020.*
   (d) Increased awareness by local Seychellois and Mauritian public of the value of their endemic biodiversity and enhanced national pride in their nations' conservation successes. *Achieved through publicity of the reintroduction projects for SPF and MPF in national press releases, national newspapers, on national TV news; and on Curieuse Island that receives almost 50,000 visitors per year and at Vallee de Ferney Forest and Wildlife Reserve that receives thousands of visitors per year including many school groups (via signboards and guided tours). See as evidence:*

   - *Press coverage of project activities: 2 x national newspaper articles: Seychelles News Agency see http://www.seychellesnewsagency.com/articles/9596/Project+to+hatch+new+population+of+Paradise+Flycatcher+on+island+in+Seychelles & Seychelles Nation Newspaper article on 27 February 2019 (see Annex 25)*
   - *Seychelles National TV news item 4 August 2018 explaining about the upcoming flycatcher reintroduction to Curieuse and why we need to do it featuring Indira Gamatis the project flycatcher research assistant see https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DHRDF2dKFJY 3.5-minute piece starting at minute 13.06.*
   - *National TV news item on 25 February 2019 when we were releasing flycatchers on Curieuse that we had caught and transferred Denis Island featuring the PO Rachel Bristol and the CEO of SNPA Mr Selby Remie - see https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=auFL6d76T_o 5-minute piece starting at minute 07.40.*
   - *Air Seychelles Inflight magazine article (see Annex 25)*
   - *University of Kent Press release -see here* https://www.kent.ac.uk/news/environment/21334/crucial-milestone-for-critically-endangered-bird *which attracted some interest and reposting - see for example https://www.birdguides.com/news/paradise-flycatchers-given-a-new-home/*

2. **5** people from **4** LDC/middle income countries will receive: *(16 people from 4 countries)*
   (a) University postgraduate training and internationally-recognised qualifications (PGDip, MSc/MRes) in biodiversity conservation. *3x MSc's and 2x PGDip qualifications awarded during project. Evidence is provided in the narrative of this report and in Annexes 8 and 11.*
   (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 *(a minimum of 22 months of in-situ field experience and exposure to cutting-edge techniques in habitat restoration and reintroduction disseminated by experts a was achieved during project via 20 regional skills-exchange visits between host country conservation practitioners from Madagascar, Comoros, Mauritius and Seychelles + PGDiploma training).*

Long-term Impact:

1. **2** flycatcher species substantially closer to down-listing due to reintroduction and habitat restoration (if the **2** SPF reintroductions are successful SPF will be downgraded on IUCN red-list from CR to Endangered at next species assessment). *1 flycatcher species is substantially closer to downlisting: SPF will be downlisted on the IUCN red-list at the next assessment in 2021 – see section 3.2 Outcome under measurable indicator 1.3 as evidence. MPF not officially listed as it is a sub-species).*
2. Seychelles: enhanced track-record in flycatcher conservation, from **1** to **3** *(2 achieved and logframe modified to read from 1 to 2 successful reintroductions with agreement from Darwin LTSI – see Annex 26 and further details are provided in section 6.1 M&E)* successful reintroductions, with increased

government commitment to long-term habitat restoration programmes on **3** islands (Felicite, Curieuse and La Digue) *(commitment achieved to habitat rehabilitation on 3 islands by both government and private sector see as evidence SPF reintroduction proposal in Annex 17).*

3. Mauritius: enhanced skills in flycatcher reintroduction and habitat restoration, and enhanced eco-tourism prospects for local landowners. *Our skills at catching MPF have considerably improved. At the start of this project we had difficulty catching the SPF we wanted to catch for reintroduction. We have also definitely progressed our understanding of MPF and their behaviour and we have established through trials of different cohorts of MPF that juveniles and family groups appear to disperse more slowly from the reintroduction site than adults, however we have not been able to fine tune an effective method of keeping the released individuals at the intended reintroduction site for the long term. See as evidence Annex 2 under Activity 3.1 and Annex 20 . Visitors to Vallee de Ferney Forest and Wildlife Reserve are aware (via signboards and guided tours) that a MPF reintroduction is underway to the site.*
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 project **1** Seychelles flycatcher research assistant and **2** Mauritian flycatcher biologists were recruited and trained in flycatcher monitoring, research and translocation methods, **2** Seychelles SNPA staff and **1** Madagascar national completed MSc's in conservation and biodiversity management or conservation and rural development and **1** MWF and **1** Dahari staff member completed PGDiploma's in endangered species recovery. All **8** of them (except one who is currently studying for an MSc in biodiversity conservation so is further improving her skill-set) are still working in biodiversity conservation precipitating further conservation success in recipient home countries – see section 3.2 Outcome under Measurable Indicator 1.5 for details and evidence.*
5. **4** Indian Ocean countries (including **2** LDCs) with **15** local personnel each with substantial field conservation experience outside their home country. *During the project - 4 Indian Ocean Countries including 2 LDCs have 16 local personnel with substantial field conservation experience outside their home country. See for details and evidence Section 3.1 Outputs under output 1, section 3.2 Outcome under Measurable Indicator 1.5 and Annex 12.*

4. Contribution to Darwin Initiative Programme Objectives

4.1. Contribution to Global Goals for Sustainable Development (SDGs)

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

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

- 1x low income Comorian national obtained internationally recognised Postgraduate Diploma in Endangered Species Recovery from renowned conservation training organisation Durrell Conservation Academy (validated by the University of Kent) (SDG 4)
- 8x low income Comorian nationals substantially improved their English language proficiency though individually tailored English lessons from qualified English language teachers (SDG 4)
- 1x low income Malagasy obtains internationally recognised MSc in biodiversity management from University of Kent (SDG 4)
- 6x low income Comorian nationals and 5x 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)
- 3x low income Comorian nationals and 4x low income Malagasy acquire substantial field conservation experience outside their home country (SDG 4)
- 25x low income Malagasy (including 13 women) and 30x low income Comorians (including 15 women) acquire a greater understanding of endangered species and habitat recovery methods as a result of attending 6 presentations/workshops designed and led by MRes/PGDip recipients upon completion of studies (SDG 4)
- 1x priority habitat and/or threatened species restoration programme designed and initiated by PGDip recipient upon return to Comoros (with the ongoing support of local project partner Dahari) (SDG 15)
- 1x priority habitat and /or threatened species restoration programme designed and initiated by MSc recipient upon return Madagascar (with the ongoing support of project partner DWCT in Madagascar) (SDG 15)

Evidence illustrating the project contributions to the SDG's described above can be found throughout this report.

4.2. Project support to the Conventions or Treaties (CBD, CITES, Nagoya Protocol, ITPGRFA)

All four implementing countries are signatories to the CBD and Nagoya Protocol. This project contributed 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].

We contributed 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 [20x regional skills-exchanges] training to a minimum of 16 individuals from Madagascar/Comoros/Mauritius&Seychelles [Seychelles SG5-Objectives 5.3&5.4].

This project assisted 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).

4.3. 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 to alleviate poverty in Madagascar and Comoros (2 LDC's) in section 4.1 of this report.

By providing fully funded scholarships for academic qualifications (1x Postgraduate diploma 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. By providing English language lessons to 8 Comoros citizens by qualified English teachers we expect to increase their opportunities to participate in regional training initiatives (Dahari receive invitations for their staff to attend regional training initiatives – fully funded, but in the past they have often had to turn down many of these training opportunities because their English was not good enough. We have evidence that the English lessons organised and financed under this project are paying off as one Dahari staff completed her PGDIp in endangered species restoration in Mauritius in English, and more recently one of Dahari's Ecology technicians has been accepted on a Durrell organised training in Mauritius later this year which will be taught in English.The PO recently received the following feedback from Mederic Carpier Dahari's Programme Manager *"The English lessons our staff attended for 4 months were really beneficial in improving our staffs English proficiency. In particular, thanks to the English lessons, Nadia Keldi, one of our Ecology technicians has been selected to participate in the Durrell training in Mauritius this August - which was the original aim of this work. Her English level was not strong enough last year, so we have a clear result!"* (see Annex 10 as evidence). 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 11) 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.

4.4. Gender equality

This project employed 6 local staff (4 female & 2 male) and trained through formal MSc's (2 male and 1 female) and Post-graduate diplomas (1 male and 1 female) and informal regional skills-exchanges (7 female and 5 male). Details and evidence can be found in section 3.1 under output 1; section 3.2 under measurable indicators 1`.5 and 1.6; and in section 4.3 above. Totals for employed and trained staff: 13 female and 10 male = **57% female and 43% male** which is in line with our project Outcome measurable indicator 1.6 '*gender balance in staff employed and trained under this project greater than 50% female'*

4.5. Programme indicators

- **Did the project lead to greater representation of local poor people in management structures of biodiversity?**

Yes we believe so: Evidence (i) Sion Henshaw after completing PGDIP was promoted to Fauna Manager at MWF and is now one of MWF's senior management team; (ii) Allen Cedras was promoted to Head of Research Section at SNPA after he completed his MSc at University of Kent UK. He then left SNPA for a regional project management position under the UNDP SAPPHIRE-JMA Demonstration project where he is managing a regional project and project team; (iii) James Mougal has been promoted to Head of Research section at SNPA since completing his MSc at University of Kent. He is a member of several government biodiversity related committees and is regularly sent overseas to represent Seychelles government at regional meetings.
Other young project staff / trainees: (i)Veronique Couttee the project Mauritius paradise flycatcher field biologist is currently undertaking a MSc at the State University of New York (SUNY) Albany under the Fulbright Foreign Student Program. She is going places and will definitely shine out as one of the bright young conservationist leaders in Mauritius is the near future; (ii) Alexandra Rasoamanana the Malagasy recipient of project MSc scholarship has set up and NGO called Harmonia and is planning projects to benefit poor communities in Madgascar. PL and PO expect to see her climb biodiversity and poverty alleviation management structures as her career progresses.

- **Were any management plans for biodiversity developed and were these formally accepted?**

Yes the Seychelles paradise flycatcher Conservation Assessment and Species Action Plan developed and accepted

- **Were they participatory in nature or were they 'top-down'? How well represented are the local poor including women, in any proposed management structures?**

Participatory

- **How did the project positively influence household (HH) income and how many HHs saw an increase?**

We are a DEFRA financed project and did not aim to positively influence or measure HH income

- **How much did their HH income increase (e.g. x% above baseline, x% above national average)? How was this measured?**

N/A

4.6. Transfer of knowledge

This project has sought to transfer knowledge through:

- formal postgraduate MSc's and Diploma: 2x MSc's from University of Kent, UK to Seychellois males (High Income Country), 1x MSc from University of Kent, UK to a Malagasy female (LDC); 1x Postgraduate Diploma validated by DICE at the University of Kent to a Mauritian (UMIC) male; 1x Postgraduate diploma in endangered species restoration (validated by DICE, University of Kent) to a Comorian (LDC) female.
- 1x Mini symposium on Avian Reintroductions in Mauritius – what worked and what didn't -with presentation from 9 reintroduction practitioners from Mauritius, Seychelles and Madagascar.
- 150 graphic colour booklets disseminated to managers (government and NGOs) and local communities all involved in management and/or illegal practices affecting the Menabe Antimena PA in West Madagascar explaining the likely longer-term effects of different management scenarios. See Annex 24
- Presentations to Ministers, Government officials, and the general public as detailed in Annex 2 under activity 1.5.
- National Media coverage as detailed in Annex 2 under activity 1.5 and in section 3.3 Impact.

Madagascar and Comoros are least developed countries (LDCs)s while Mauritius is an upper-middle income country (UMIC) and Seychelles has recently been reclassified from UMIC to a High Income or developed country (DC)

4.7. Capacity building

This has already been answered elsewhere in this report. Staff from host county partners that received promotions and their genders are detailed in sections 4.5 Programme Indicators, Section 3.1 Outputs under Output 1, and Section 3.2 Outcome under Measurable Indicator 1.5.

5. Sustainability and Legacy

This project was devised in close collaboration host country partner organisations to ensure it included their priorities, which have not suddenly lost their priority status post-project! They are still priorities for host country partners and are included in their workprogrammes thus ensuring sustainable legacy and a clear exit strategy.

The project achievements most likely to endure are (i) the capacity development of host country partner staff achieved under this project, (ii) the live regional network of conservation practitioners achieved under this project and (iii) the habitat rehabilitation and reintroductions of paradise flycatchers achieved under this project.

Capacity Development of conservation practitioners in the four host countries

Our main project exit strategy is that all host country partners continue to employ all project staff/people benefitting from project training beyond the end of the project. This ensures 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. Of the 17 individuals who were selected for project funded training (project scholarships for MSc's or PGDiplomas and regional skills-exchanges) 16 of them were host country partner existing staff. Of the 17 that received training under the project 14 are still employed with their host country partners and the other 3 have NOT been lost to biodiversity conservation in the region and their skills are /will continue to benefit the region:

(a) Alexandra Rasoamanana (who was not a host country partner staff) collaborated with Durrell Madagascar for her MSc research and post-project completion Alexandra is still collaborating with Durrell Madagascar on other projects (see section xxx as evidence).
(b) Veronique Couttee who is currently doing an MSc which is building her capacity for biodiversity management
(c) Allen Cedras who left SNPA to work as project manager on a regional UNDP demonstration project "Demonstrating Innovative Ocean Governance Mechanisms and Delivering Best Practices and Lessons for Extended Continental Shelf Management within the Western Indian Ocean Large Marine Ecosystems (Short Title: SAPPHIRE Joint Management Area Demonstration)".

Staff employed specifically on this project in Seychelles: (i) Indira Gamatis the Seychelles paradise flycatcher research assistant is currently still being employed by host country partner SNPA on short term contract to continue monitoring the SPF on Curieuse post release. The CEO of SNPA is working on a plan to employ her more permanently and has put the request in to the SNPA board of Directors for their approval; (ii) Anselm Barra and Paul Uzice the project's two Habitat Restoration Officers, Curieuse Island have both been employed by a local NGO called TRASS (Terrestrial Restoration Action Society of Seychelles on 2 year contracts to rehabilitate fire damaged hillside habitat on Praslin. The Darwin Project Officer organised these jobs for them under a UNDP/GEF/ Government of Seychelles financed project and highly recommended them to TRASS (implementing organisation for parts of the project) as we must ensure our good project staff still have jobs and can earn a livelihood when a project finishes. Their skills are benefitting another local NGO and habitat restoration of Seychelles native forests; (iii) Rachel Bristol the Project Officer is sourcing funding and implementing projects for the benefit of threatened Seychelles and regional biodiversity. So all the project staff employed specifically on this project are still employed in the conservation sector benefitting biodiversity conservation in their host country.

Regional network of conservation practitioners

As a direct result of all the regional-skills exchange visits an informal network of host country conservation practitioners has established. The recipients of the skills-exchange visits lived and worked with the host country partner organisation staff during their exchange visits and in addition to professional learning from each other they also made lasting friendships. The benefit of these skills-exchange visits cannot be over-estimated as in addition to learning new skills and ways of doing things, they also create networks and lasting friendships through meeting like-minded people with similar interests. Once you have met someone in person it is so much easier to fire an email or a Whats app or a Messenger text or Skype call to ask for advice or input. It also invigorates and revitalises staff who may not otherwise get opportunities to travel to other organisations or countries as part of their job and makes them feel valued by their employer which is very good for long-term staff retention. The Postgraduate diploma in endangered species restoration run by the Durrell regional training hub in Mauritius also contributed to network development as cohorts of c.16 students from the region and the wider world lived, worked and studied together for 6 months in

Mauritius and did their field work and practical training in the MWF field stations with MWF staff further expanding the network.

Habitat rehabilitation and reintroductions of paradise flycatchers
The founding of a third population of Seychelles paradise flycatchers by the reintroduction of 26 individuals to Curieuse Island, and the successful establishment of territories and breeding is a very positive first step towards the end goal of a self-sustaining population of flycatchers on Curieuse.
The reintroduction of Mascarene paradise flycatchers to the east coast of Mauritius (Ferney). Despite the fact that early indications are that this reintroduction has not resulted in the successful establishment of a population at Ferney, the methods tested and information gained during the reintroduction is enormously beneficial to not only future efforts to reintroduce flycatchers, but also to other conservation practitioners planning to undertake passerine reintroductions to mainland sites lacking barriers to dispersal.
The considerable amount (c.100 hectares) of habitat rehabilitation/restoration undertaken under this project in Mauritius and Seychelles. This habitat will benefit not only flycatchers but also other threatened endemic biodiversity into the future.

Post release monitoring of both paradise flycatcher reintroductions is being continued by MWF and SNPA as detailed in section 3.1 under Output 3.

The PO will ensure three papers resulting from this project work as detailed in section 3.1 under Output 4 are published.

The PO is committed to ensuring a SPF reintroduction to Felicite Island that was included in the original project logframe does happen because she will lead it. It will happen- we just do not have control over the timeline.

Dahari and Durrell Madgsacar are committed to completing/expanding projects developed during this project related to Livingstone's fruit bat in Comoros and habitat rehabilitation planning with community input in Menabe-Antimena Protected Area as detailed in section 3.1 under Output 4; in Annex 2 under activities 4.1 and 4.1. See also Annexes 23 and 24 as evidence.

The capital equipment purchased under the project has been given to host country project partners post project as follows: the motorbike and helmet remain with Mauritian Wildlife Foundation to continue the MPF recovery programme, the binoculars, mist nets, ringing and playback equipment remain with MWF, SNPA and the PO to carry on with the paradise flycatcher monitoring programmes, and the chainsaw, nursey and nursery equipment (spades, hoses, machetes, wheelbarrow etc) and the myna and rat traps remain SNPA to continue with habitat restoration and ongoing management activities on Curieuse Island, Seychelles.

6. Lessons learned

Lessons learned during this project implementation include:

- Build adaptive management into project design and management as for sure it will not always be possible to implement project activities in exactly the timeframe and manner originally planned. There are some things we cannot control- for example (examples taken directly from this project) (i) government delays and decisions, (ii) pneumonic plague outbreaks, (iii) Mascarene paradise flycatcher mobility and ability to disperse away from release site, (iv) DCT cancelling the PGDip in 2018. However, we can adapt to ensure the BEST project implementation and outcomes possible under uncertain and changing conditions. For example, the funds earmarked for the 2nd Comorian national to undertake a PGDip was used for English lessons for multiple Dahari staff -something identified as a priority by Dahari themselves.
- Project managers should build into project design meetings in person with all project partners early on in project implementation if they do not already know project the partners personally. There is no substitute for meeting colleagues/project partners in person and for seeing first-hand the work, situation, priorities and constraints of host country partners. Meeting in person facilitates future communication via skype, email etc in both directions.
- 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 a big pressure to make projects as ambitious as possible as un-ambitious projects probably don't get funded. Care must be taken to balance ambition and achievability.
- Monitor and evaluate your project regularly-and if you have real problems that are out of your control that will affect your ability to achieve certain activities, outputs or outcome- ask Darwin

(LTS) if you can make reasoned changes to your logframe to make it more relevant, appropriate and achievable within the project timeframe and they will probably agree.

6.1. Monitoring and evaluation

During the course of project implementation, it became clear that due to circumstances beyond our control, mainly due to the fact that the Seychelles government declined to give official permissions to translocate flycatchers to Felicite during the timeframe of the project (unexpected seeing as they were fully involved in project development) we would not be able to achieve all out project Outcome and Output level indicators. We therefore discussed these issues fully in our second annual report (AR) and suggested that our project steering group (PSG) discuss the relevance/appropriateness of our logframe and potentially submit a change request form to LTSI requesting some modifications to our logframe, in particular Outcome level indicator 1.1 and Output level indicator 2.2. to render them more relevant, appropriate and achievable within the project timeframe. The AR Reviewer agreed with us so we submitted a change of circumstance request to Darwin (LTSI) and our request was reviewed by Eilidh Young (LTSI) and an unknown technical reviewer, who suggested couple of further changes which we included and then the changes were accepted. The details of the changes requested and agreed and the final approved logframe with the changes highlighted are provided in Annex 26.

When we were informed in year 2 by DCT that they were not running the Postgraduate diploma in endangered species restoration in 2018, we had a PSG Skype meeting (PL,PO, Dahari and DCT) and brainstormed alternatives. Deferring till 2019 was not an option as the course would be outside the project timeframe. Dahari themselves proposed that the most useful training for Dahari staff would be English Language lessons as poor English Language skills are preventing Dahari staff from participating in relevant training opportunities and courses. Improved English language proficiency would open doors and enable Dahari staff to benefit from future ecological and environment training opportunities. There were no logframe or budgetary implications just a request to use the finances earmarked for the 2nd Comorian national to participate in the PGDip in Mauritius be used instead for English Language training for Dahari staff, by getting an English Teacher over to Comoros for an extended length of time so that multiple Dahari staff could benefit from this training opportunity. Eilidh Young (Darwin /LTSI) approved the change. The change request and Eilidh Young's reply are provided in Annex 9.

We also submitted an application to amend project budget request in year 1 because the project document planned to employ our two project habitat restoration staff for 2 years starting on the first day of the project (or that was how the funds for their salaries was in the budget. However, we were not able to employ them until 4 months into the project so we requested to move project funds earmarked for 4 months of their salary from year 1 to year 3 which was thankfully accepted by Darwin /LTSI. We employed them for the planned 24 months but needed to move funds between project years to make it work. See as evidence Eilidh's email confirming Darwins agreement to our requested changes in Annex 27.

We managed this project via a Project Steering Group (PSG) consisting of the Project Leader, the PO and key representatives from each host country partner that was set up at the start of the project to guide implementation and to monitor and evaluate project progress (Logframe activity 0.1) and close monitoring by the PO. A meeting was held in Mauritius near the start of the project where all project partners apart from Dahari and SNPA were present in person. During the project often, rather than the full steering group, sub-sets of the PSG met 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 had 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) were 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 was collected by the PO and the two project field biologists. 10% of these project staff's time was allocated to M&E data collection, analysis and interpretation and as such 10% of their salaries was allocated to the project M&E budget line.
During the project the PO made M&E project visits to all project partners in their home countries which was particularly useful to monitor and evaluate project progress in situ, to plan implementation of upcoming project activities, to gain a fuller understanding of the priority areas of work for the different partners 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. The PO's visits to Dahari and Durrell Madagascar were particularly important as she had never met these organisation or people before. See Annex 29 for PO M&E visit to Dahari Comoros report.

We found our project M&E system to be practical and efficient and it worked well to highlight potential issues and to decide how to best deal with them as evidenced by our change of circumstance requests

and our M&E that flagged up the issues in the first place. During the project, apart from our regular self-evaluation, the other evaluations were the Project Annual Report Reviews which were useful.

6.2. Actions taken in response to annual report reviews

We have responded to all issues raised in our annual report reviews in previous reporting and have no outstanding issues. Both our annual report reviews were shared with all project partners and any issues raised were discussed with project partners.

7. Darwin identity

The Darwin Initiative logo is included in all presentations and reports related to this project, and the Darwin Initiative is named and credited for its contribution (see for example Annexes 15, 16, 17). The Darwin Initiative logo is prominent on our project Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/Translocating-conservation-success-and-skills-exchange-across-the-WIO-318569868505836/ where we post new of project activities, and our page is linked it to the Darwin Initiative Facebook page. In other publicity such as press releases, newspaper articles, TV coverage, we make sure that it is clearly stated that the project (or the work being covered) has been financed by **the UK Government through the Darwin Initiative** See for example https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=auFL6d76T_o
and https://www.kent.ac.uk/news/environment/21334/crucial-milestone-for-critically-endangered-bird
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 Curiesue Island habitat rehabilitation (see Annex 15) note Darwin Initiative logo features prominently, the UK government through the Darwin Initiative is recognised as the funder and as a distinct project on this sign board which is 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 4 countries and with all current project partners, 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.

8. Finance and administration

8.1. Project expenditure

*Please note that this has the status of “draft” at present because the claim is currently being audited.

Project spend (indicative) since last annual report	2018/19 Grant (£)	2018/19 Total actual Darwin Costs (£)	Variance %	Comments (please explain significant variances)
Staff costs (see below)			1.32	
Consultancy costs			0	
Overhead Costs			0	
Travel and subsistence			1.32	
Operating Costs			1.19	
Capital items (see below)			40.04	Capital purchasing lower than expected
Others (see below)			50.50	Purchasing lower than expected (did not spen funds earmarked for open access publicatio fees)

Audit Costs			0	
TOTAL			**5.76**	

Staff employed (Name and position)	Cost (£)
Rachel Bristol Co-ordinator (Project Officer)	
A Barra Habitat restoration Field worker	
P Uzice habitat restoration Field worker	
Indira Gamatis Flycatcher Research Assistant	
TOTAL	

Capital items – description	Capital items – cost (£)
Purchase of supplies and materials to construct Myna traps Digital Camera Mistnets for catching birds for the flycatcher translocations Storage box for flycatcher equipment	
TOTAL	

Other items – description	Other items – cost (£)
DHL courier cost to UKC and ink cartridges for Rachel Bristol (PO) DHL courier for project receipts to UKC, ZooVet electrolyte for flycatchers, tape for their boxes Flights, transportation and fuel costs for translocation for Mauritian Wildlife Foundation SNPA fuel & ferry costs for staff and birds transportation Bank fees to pay overseas partners (3x £2.00) Artwork for and printing of project booklet	
TOTAL	

8.2. Additional funds or in-kind contributions secured

Further finances secured during the timeframe of the project were £3317 for 12 radio transmitters and a receiver and aerial to radio-track the Mascarene Paradise flycatchers during the reintroduction.

Source of funding for project lifetime	Total (£)
DICE/University of Kent: Project leader staff time, overheads and office space, contribution to audit fees	
Seychelles National Parks Authority (SNPA): Staff time, transport, housing & office facilities on Curieuse	
Mauritian Wildlife Foundation (MWF):	
Project Officer: office facilities, private vehicle use + radio transmitters & receiver	
Felicite Island Development Ltd: Habitat staff, transport, accommodation and meals	
Dahari: Logistics staff time and in-country support	

Durrell Conservation Training Ltd: Logistics, staff time & in-country support	
TOTAL	

Source of funding for additional work after project lifetime	Total (£)
SNPA (wages for staff to conduct ongoing monitoring of flycatchers translocated to Curieuse).	
Project Officer (in-kind time spent monitoring of the flycatcher population on Curieuse and writing scientific publications from this project work)	
TOTAL	

8.3. Value for Money

This project capitalised on existing infrastructure to raise capacity regionally which substantially reduced costs. The Durrell Conservation Academy's Mauritius branch (Durrell Conservation Training Limited) training hub based in Mauritius provided a world-class and regionally relevant postgraduate training course at extremely strong value for money. The translocation of local know-how and expertise across the region to four Indian Ocean countries (including two LDC's and three SIDS) was a cost-effective way of up-scaling regional capacity in biodiversity restoration whilst ensuring maximum relevance. **76%** of requested Darwin funds were invested in the four host countries and a further **21%** on MSc training for host country personnel at UK universities thereby maximising the project's financial impact across the Indian Ocean. Steering group and other routine meetings were largely undertaken by Skype minimising the travel budget required to maintain strong project management.

Project partners committed substantial **£321,588** matching funding which demonstrated their buy-in on the project which, in addition to ensuring the project had sufficient finances, also acted to minimise the project risks and ensure the project was sustainable post-project. Successful implementation of this project has cemented the regional partnerships forged and nurtured during this project's development implementation providing a sustainable and long-lasting mutually beneficial regional network. Project partners are already planning future collaborative projects on common biodiversity conservation challenges that all four host countries share - watch this space!

Annex 1 Project's original (or most recently approved) logframe, including indicators, means of verification and assumptions.

Note: Insert your full logframe. If your logframe was changed since your Stage 2 application and was approved by a Change Request the newest approved version should be inserted here, otherwise insert the Stage 2 logframe.

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
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.			
Outcome: (Max 30 words) 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.	1.1 One additional Seychelles paradise flycatcher (SPF) population reintroduced and breeding) on Curieuse Island, 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 1.5 16 local conservation practitioners apply training received under this project in their work and make a positive difference to biodiversity conservation in host countries 1.6 Gender balance in staff employed and trained under this project (> 50% female)	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 1.5 Before and after self-assessments of changes in effectiveness of personnel who received project training 1.6 Genders of project staff and recipients of training	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. No adverse climatic/stochastic events (e.g. cyclones) preventing timely completion of this project. Trained staff continue to work/be employed in the field of biodiversity conservation in host countries.
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	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) 1.3 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 restoration projects (throughout project)	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). 1.4 Pre and post training assessments from line manangers	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.
2. Improved conservation status of two WIO threatened paradise flycatcher species (SPF in Seychelles and MPF in	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). 2.2 c. 25 SPF introduced to Curieuse Island (year 3)	2.1 Habitat restoration progress reports and images 2.3 Curieuse reintroduction progress reports	Relevant Governments and NGO's continue to collaborate to rehabilitate and protect relevant species and habitats

Mauritius) through habitat restoration, conservation reintroductions, and refined management practices.	2.3 c.30 MPF reintroduced to Ferney (year 2) 2.4 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)	2.4 Ferney reintroduction progress reports 2.5a 2x Species conservation assessment and action plan documents 2.5b SAP implementation progress reports	
3. Improved understanding of paradise flycatcher resilience and adaptability in partially restored habitats	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	3.1a reintroduction monitoring and research reports 3.1b 2x peer reviewed scientific manuscripts resulting directly from this project work submitted to appropriate journal	Editors accept papers for publication
4. Projects restoring critical habitats and/or species initiated in Comoros and Madagascar as a direct result of this project	4.1 Projects (x2) designed and implementation underway in Madagascar (x1) and Comoros(x1) (year 3)	4.1a Project concept documents 4.1b Project implementation progress reports	Relevant government permissions are granted enabling project implementation

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.

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

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)

0.3 Annual, ½ year and final reports submitted to Darwin Initiative in a timely manner

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

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

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 an identify suitable areas to source individuals for translocations

2.3 Translocate 25 SPF to Curieuse Island

2.4 Translocate c.30 MPF to Ferney

2.5 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 submitted 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 2 Report of progress and achievements against final project logframe for the life of the project

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements
Impact: 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.		**Short-term Impact:** One critically-endangered (CR) species and one recently-prioritised highly-endangered sub-species of paradise flycatcher have extinction risk reduced via: • reintroduction to establish an additional population fulfilling Species Action Plan recommendations by Seychelles' government authorities. • first research and trial reintroductions to understand the species requirements and to refine reintroduction techniques. • **100** hectares of habitat restored-providing new habitat for **80-100** more flycatcher pairs • Management recommendations for flycatcher habitat on La Digue reducing current habitat loss and enhancing state owned habitat Increased awareness by local Seychellois and Mauritian public of the value of their endemic biodiversity and enhanced national pride in their nations' conservation successes achieved through publicity of the reintroduction projects for SPF and MPF in national press releases, national newspapers and on national television (see report section 3.3 Impact and activity 1.5 below for details and evidence); on Curieuse Island that receives almost 50,000 visitors per year and at Vallee de Ferney Forest and Wildlife Reserve that receives thousands of visitors per year including many school groups (via signboards and guided tours) Five people from four LDC/SIDS countries received university postgraduate training and internationally-recognised qualifications (PGDiplomas MScs) in biodiversity conservation. A minimum of 22 months of in-situ field experience and exposure to cutting-edge techniques in habitat restoration and reintroduction disseminated by experts a was achieved during project via 20 regional skills-exchange visits between host country conservation practitioners from Madagascar, Comoros, Mauritius and Seychelles + PGDiploma training. **Long-term Impact:** One Critically Endangered flycatcher species substantially closer to downlisting on the IUCN red-list due to reintroduction and habitat restoration: The SPF will be downlisted from CR to Endangered at the next assessment in 2021 (see section 3.2 Outcome under measurable indicator 1.3 as evidence.) Seychelles: enhanced track-record in flycatcher conservation, from **1** to **2** successful reintroductions, with increased government and private sector commitment to long-term habitat restoration programmes on **3** islands (see as evidence SPF reintroduction proposal in Annex 17). Mauritius: enhanced understanding of flycatcher behaviour, reintroduction techniques and flycatcher and habitat restoration. Sustainable legacy of **8** 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. Four Indian Ocean countries (including **2** LDCs) with **16** local personnel each with substantial field conservation experience and networking outside their home country For evidence and more detail of our project Impact see report section 3.3 "Impact"
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	1.1 One additional Seychelles paradise flycatcher (SPF) population reintroduced and breeding) on Curieuse Island, Seychelles by end of year 3 1.2 One new Mascarene paradise flycatcher	• One additional SPF population reintroduced and breeding on Curieuse • One Mascarene paradise flycatcher reintroduction implemented including trials to refine techniques, however population not yet established at Ferney • SPF will be recommended for down-listing from Critically Endangered to endangered at their next assessment (which is scheduled for 2021- species are reassessed every 5 years) • Seychelles 6th National Report to CBD included project supplied SPF data • More than 16 local conservation practitioners are applying training received under this project in their work and making a positive difference to biodiversity conservation in Seychelles Comoros, Mauritius and Madagascar • 56% of staff employed and trained under this project are female Evidence and greater detail of achievement of Outcome (project purpose) are provided in section 3.2 of this report.

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements
endemic birds enabling their reduced extinction-risk.	(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 1.5 16 local conservation practitioners apply training received under this project in their work and make a positive difference to biodiversity conservation in host countries 1.6 Gender balance in staff employed and trained under this project (> 50% female)	
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	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	This output has exceeded expectations. Real on-the-ground progress has been made to increase regional capacity of WIO SIDs and LDCs (Seychelles, Comoros, Mauritius, Madagascar) to research, monitor 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 Activity 1.2 below, and Annex 8 for details & evidence). Note: Sion has recently been promoted to Fauna Manager at MWF, taking on greater responsibility and now oversees not only the echo-parakeet recovery programme, but all MWF's fauna recovery programmes. • Two Seychelles conservation practitioners, Mr Allen Cedras and Mr James Mougal from SNPA have completed MSc's in Conservation Science and Management at DICE, UKC. Both successfully passed their MSc's with Merit. James Mougal has since been promoted to head of SNPA research section. Allen has moved on from SNPA but has not been lost to regional conservation initiatives. He is now working for UNDP based in Mauritius as Project Manager of the SAPPHIRE-JMA demonstration Project (joint management of Seychelles and Mauritius oceans) Both completed MSc research projects that benefited this project and SNPA directly (see for details and evidence Activity 1.3 below, Annex 11 and section 3.1 of report under Output 1) • One Madagascan Conservation practitioner Alexandra Rasoamanana successfully completed a MSc in Conservation and Rural Development at DICE, UKC. See Annex 11 evidence. Alexandra, since finishing her MSc has provided feedback to

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements
	Kent, UK (years 1-2 & 2-3) 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 restoration projects (throughout project)	local communities in the Menabe-Antimena PA about the consequences of different management practices and activities undertaken on the long-term ability of the PA to provide ecosystem services and provide for both the parks human and wildlife inhabitants. She went aback her study communities to present her findings personally and she produced a mostly pictorial and graphic publication in local language to facilitate reading and understanding by local community members. She has since also with several Malagasy colleagues and friends set up a NGO "Harmonia" with the aim of providing technical advice and start-up finances to local communities living in the Menabe-Antirema PA to secure sustainable livelihoods without needing to conduct illegal deforesting activities. • 20 regional skills transfers and cross-fertilisation exchanges have been undertaken during this project (7 from Seychelles to Mauritius, 4 from Madagascar to Mauritius, 4 from Mauritius to Seychelles, 2 from Comoros to Madagascar, 1 from Seychelles to Comoros, 1 from Seychelles to Madagascar, 1 from Mauritius to Comoros) -details & evidence of these exchange visits are provided in section 3.1 of this report under Output 1 and in Annex 12 . Most of these exchange visits were for less than 1 month , but we have undertaken almost twice as many regional exchange visits as we planned in the project (11 planned but 20 undertaken). • One mini symposium organised and run under this project by partner MWF entitled "Avian reintroductions- what works and what does not" with participation by project partner staff from Madagascar, Mauritius and Seychelles. See section 3.1 under Output 1 of this report, Activity 1.5 below and Annex 13 for details and as evidence. • Minimum of 15 presentations given on terrestrial habitat and species restoration to local partner staff, stakeholders, government officials & wider conservation community in Seychelles, Mauritius, Madagascar, Comoros by project people Note: we sent 3 local practitioners on fully funded scholarships to DICE to complete MSc's instead of the planned 2. Funding was leveraged from other sources to send a third person on a DICE MSc (funds were leveraged from SNPA, Seychelles government and from a UNDP-GEF-Seychelles government financed project.) This project also achieved 20 rather than the planned 11 regional skills transfer and cross fertilisation exchanges between the 4 country partners, with very positive feedback from all participants. Indicators remained appropriate
Activity 1.1 2x Comorians successfully complete English language training course in Madagascar prior to embarking on PGDip in Mauritius		Dahari staff member Siti Mohamed undertook English language lessons from a qualified teacher recommended by the British High Commissioner in Mauritius prior to and during her participation in the PGDip in Mauritius in order to improve her English proficiency and to get the most out of her PGDip which is taught in English. The PO met Siti in Comoros after completion of English language lessons and the PGDip and her English was very good and the Dahari Programmes Manager Mederic Carpier said "Siti's English was vastly improved upon her return from Mauritius post English Language lessons and PGDIp participation". In addition, seven Dahari staff undertook English language lessons for 4 months, tailored to their individual levels and needs by a volunteer English teacher supported under this project using funds that were earmarked for a second Comorian National to undertake PGDip in Mauritius which could not go ahead as the course was cancelled in 2018. Low proficiency in English was identified by Dahari themselves as a constraint to their staff being able to participate in regional trainings because their English was not good enough, therefore we sought and received permission from Darwin (LTSI) to use the funds earmarked for the 2nd PGDip to be used for English lessons for all Dahari staff. See Annexes 10 & 27.
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 and Sion has been promoted to Fauna Manager. See as evidence Siti and Sion's short feedback reports about the PGDip and how it has benefited them to do their jobs better in Annex 8. Copies of Siti and Sion's individual projects are available on request from the Project Officer (PO). Siti's individual research project is entitled

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements
		"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*." The PGDip course is was cancelled in 2018 so we had a planning discussion between Dahari, the PO, the PL and DCT about best use of the funds earmarked for a scholarship for a second Comoros National to attend the PGDip. Dahari said 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 Darwin/LTSI 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 multiple staff for a period of 4-6 months. This request was granted by Eilidh young (LTSI-DI) (see Annex 27 as evidence) and Dahari recruited an English language teacher who taught 7 Dahari staff English at their office in Anjouan for 4 months in project year 3. See report section 3.1 under output 1 and Annex 10 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 Seychelles conservation practitioners (Mr Allen Cedras and Mr James Mougal from SNPA) successfully completed MSc's in Conservation Science and Management at DICE, UKC both passing with MERIT September 2016-August 2017) One Madagascan conservation practitioner Ms Alexandra Rasoamanana successfully completed her project funded MSc in Conservation and Rural Development at DICE, UKC with Distinction (September 2017-August 2018). 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 under output 1 and Annex 11 for details and evidence. Their dissertations can be requested from the PO .
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		Twenty regional skills and cross-fertilisation exchange visits were undertaken between project partner organisation staff over the course of this project (8 in year 1, 9 in year 2 and 3in year 3). This well exceeds the 11 exchange visits planned for the project (4 scheduled for yr1, 4 for yr2 and 3 for yr3.) refer to section 3.1 of this report and Annex 12 for details and evidence of these exchange visits.
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		During the course of this project we ran one Avian Reintroduction mini Symposium in Mauritius in March 2017 where 9 speakers from our host country partners from Madagascar, Mauritius and Seychelles presented to an invited audience of c.50 people from the wider Mauritius conservation community. See Annex 13 for verification. This symposium was organised to maximise the opportunity for our Madagascar skills-exchange participants Floriot Randrianarimangason and Mahazaka Ratsimalandy to learn about reintroduction techniques for threatened birds in preparation for their upcoming Madagascar pochard reintroduction. PO gave 3 presentations on the SPF and MPF reintroductions to both the 2016 and the 2017 PGDip students and to a group of about 30 MWF conservation staff during project year 1. Two meetings year 1 and 1 meeting in year 3 (involving the PO, Senior MWF staff and Senior Mauritian government National Parks and Conservation Service (NPCS) officials to secure permissions to begin and then to continue with the Mauritian paradise flycatcher reintroduction to Ferney. One meeting with Seychelles government officials to present draft Seychelles paradise flycatcher conservation strategy and recovery plan and to define requirements and prerequisites for gaining government permissions to reintroduce flycatchers to Curieuse and Félicité islands + 2 meetings 2 with MEECC staff + Minister of Environment, Energy and Climate Change to gain permissions to translocate + 1 meeting with La Digue MNA (member of the National Assembly) and administrators to gain permissions for SPF translocation to Curieuse and Felicite in year 2 + 1 public stakeholder meeting and presentation on La Digue in project year 3 regarding the planned reintroduction to provide info and gain feedback and answer questions The PO gave 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 and in 2018.

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		Press coverage of project activities: 2 x national newspaper articles: Seychelles News Agency -see http://www.seychellesnewsagency.com/articles/9596/Project+to+hatch+new+population+of+Paradise+Flycatcher+on+island+in+Seychelles and a Seychelles Nation Newspaper article on 27 February 2019 (see Annex 25); 2 x Seychelles National TV news items: 1 on 4 August 2018 explaining about the upcoming flycatcher reintroduction to Curieuse and why we need to do it featuring Indira Gamatis the project flycatcher research assistant see - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DHRDF2dKFJY 3.5-minute piece starting at minute 13.06. and a second on 25 February 2019 when we were releasing flycatchers on Curieuse that we had translocated from Denis Island featuring the PO Rachel Bristol and the CEO of SNPA Mr Selby Remie - see https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=auFL6d76T_o 5-minute piece starting at minute 07.40. 1x Air Seychelles Inflight magazine article (see Annex 25) University of Kent Press release (see here https://www.kent.ac.uk/news/environment/21334/crucial-milestone-for-critically-endangered-bird which attracted some interest and reposting - see for example https://www.birdguides.com/news/paradise-flycatchers-given-a-new-home/ PGDip recipients Sion Henshaw and Siti Mohamed gave presentations of their PGDip and on their respective projects to their organisations staff and invited guests on completion of their PGDips. James Mougal and Allen Cedras have given presentations on their MSc's and their research projects to the staff and management of SNPA post MSc completion in project year 2. Alexandra Rasoamanana gave a presentation on her MSc research project and findings to Durrell Madagascar staff and presented her findings back to the different management and enforcement stakeholders involved in her MSC research and to the local villagers who live in and beside the Menabe -Antimena PA and whom she interviewed as part of her thesis research -also see activity 4.1 below.
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.	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). 2.2 c. 25 SPF introduced to Curieuse Island (year 3) 2.3 c.30 MPF reintroduced to Ferney (year 2) 2.4 2x Updated participatory species conservation assessments and action plans for SPF and MPF produced (including realistic management recommendations for	The majority of this output has been achieved. 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 the form of: • increased area of good flycatcher habitat in both Mauritius (c20 hectares during project) and in the Seychelles (c.80 hectares in Seychelles). Details provided under activity 2.1 below and evidence in Annex 14 • A total of 51 MPF translocated to Ferney Valley across the project (23 in year 1, 12 in year 2 and 16 in year 3) with the aim of increasing the species range in Mauritius. Methods were developed, trialled and refined, however individuals have not settled at the release site. Details are provided under Activity 3.1 below. • A total of 26 SPF translocated to Curieuse in December 2018 (20 individuals) and February 2019 (6 individuals), creating a third island population and increasing the range of the species. The birds are already breeding and have by report writing time successfully fledged 3 chicks. Details are provided under Activity 2.3 below, in Annex 21. • SPF Conservation Assessment and Species Action Plan produced and stakeholder reviewed in year 1 which provides priority actions for improving SPF conservation status. Detail provided under Activity 2.5 below and evidence in Annex 19. Indicators remained appropriate

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements
	both remnant and reintroduced populations) (year 3)	
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)		Project Curieuse habitat rehabilitation team Anselm Barra and Paul Uzice worked solidly for 2 years growing native lowland broad-leafed tree species from seed in their nursery, clearing invasive species from areas to be rehabilitated and planting out over 1500 native trees of 13 different species. They rehabilitated around 20 hectares over the course of the project. Protecting the newly planted out seedlings from the 100+ free living Aldabra giant tortoises on Curieuse provided a real challenge for Paul and Anselm but they solved it by building solid barriers around each seedling using the invasive trees they cut down. We also designed and produced 2 signboards of 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 spent 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 14 for evidence demonstrating Anselm and Paul's vegetation rehabilitation work. MWF and Vallee de Ferney staff restored c.20 hectares of native forest habitat in Ferney Valley in Mauritius including controlling invasive mammalian predators (cats, mongooses, rats) and introduced invasive vegetation. This habitat management work in Vallee de Ferney is continuing post project to further improve the quality and quantity of habitat at Ferney Félicité Island Ecology team have rehabilitated c.60 hectares of native forest on Felicite (co-financed) by removing introduced and invasive vegetation and replanting with native vegetation. This habitat rehabilitation work is ongoing post project close.
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		Census and territory mapping of SPF on western plateau of La Digue completed in year 1. Whole island survey of population SPF population size undertaken on La Digue Island in 2017. Current population size estimated at 294-441 individuals which is an increase since last survey in 2007 -see survey report in Annex 23 for details and evidence. Census of the SPF population introduced to Denis Island in 2008 under Darwin Initiative project 15-009 completed in 2017 in project year 2. The population was estimated at 84+ individuals and is still increasing -see census report in Annex 28 for evidence and details. Survey of MPF population size was completed just before this project officially started and current population size estimated at c.800 individuals (MWF). Combo field site in the Black River Gorges National park was identified as a hotspot for MPF with a high density of territories. Project MPF field biologist Veronique Couttee surveyed Combo and identified areas for sourcing individuals for translocation. In addition Veronique in yrs1&2 (with the help of Elysia Davies in yr 2) monitored a subset of MPF territories (pairs) in Combo in order to collect vital baseline information on MPF behaviour, breeding biology and breeding success at the source population in order to have baseline information for the species and to identify suitable individuals to try and catch for translocation. See 2016-2017 annual report in Annex 20 as example/evidence of the annual reports produced for MPF reintroduction.
Activity 2.3 Translocate 25 SPF to Curieuse Island		20 SPF were selected on La Digue, caught in mistnets and translocated to Curieuse via SNPA boat between 02-05 December 2018. On 26 February 2018 a further 6 individuals (4 female and 2 males) were translocated from Denis Island to Curieuse via aeroplane to Praslin then boat from Praslin across to Curieuse. Most birds were caught o the same day as they were released but some were caught at dusk the evening before and kept overnight. The birds were given rehydration and energy fluid upon release. The translocated individuals comprised 13 males (9 adult and 4 juvenile) and 13 females (7 adult and 6 juvenile) so the population started with an even sex ratio and a mix of ages (adults and independent juveniles). The birds appeared to settle relatively quickly and well on Curieuse and at the time of writing this report 3 chicks had successfully fledged on Curieuse so the early signs are very positive. The responsibility for monitoring the flycatchers on Curieuse for the long-term has been taken over by project partner SNPA who manage Curieuse Island and flycatcher management and monitoring on Curieuse has been written into the island's management plan. Additionally to ensure a good hand-over/transition between Darwin project staff monitoring and managing the flycatcher translocation and post-translocation monitoring, Indira Gamatis (the project flycatcher research assistant) has been kept on at SNPA on short term contract in order to continue monitoring the flycatchers until suitable SNPA staff are trained and have work-programme time allocated

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements
		to flycatcher monitoring. The Darwin Project Officer is still also sporadically visiting Curieuse to check on the flycatchers. Further details can be found in Annex 21 as evidence
Activity 2.4 Translocate c.30 MPF to Ferney		A total of 51 MPF were translocated to Ferney from Combo (23 in yr1; 12 in yr2 and 16 in yr3). Birds were caught, transferred and released on the same day. They were given rehydration and energy fluid on release. Each year permissions were from the Mauritius government (National Parks and Conservation Service-NPCS) were renewed to continue with the reintroduction. Our main concern right from the planning stages of this reintrouction was how to maximise chances of the reintroduced birds staying at the reintroduction site as there are no barriers to dispersal at this mainland site. We therefore incorporated trials of 3 different groups into the reintroduction design - adults just before the start of the main breeding season, family groups with dependent juveniles and independent juveniles to see if certain ages or times were more likely to settle at the release sites than others. See activity 3.1 below and Annex 20 for details.
Activity 2.5 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		SPF Conservation Assessment and Action Plan drafted, presented to government and stakeholders and finalised for SPF (see Annex 19) Participatory conservation assessment and action plan not produced for MPF – instead we have provided information on the species biology, territorial behaviour, breeding behaviour, breeding season, breeding success with which to better plan for this species conservation. We have also learned how difficult it is to reintroduce them to locations with no barriers to dispersal. This information, along with information gained by monitoring of under this project shows that, at least at Combo the species appears to live at high densities, maintain territories year-round and have good levels of productivity. This, along with the species distribution maps and population estimate produced by project partner MWF (see activity 2.2) is important information for MWF and NPCS to start formulating a SAP, and to monitor this species trends in distribution and numbers into the future.
Output 3. Improved understanding of paradise flycatcher resilience and adaptability in partially restored habitats	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	This output has been largely achieved and will be completely achieved post-project We undertook a research by management (implement, monitor and adapt as necessary) approach to the (re) introductions with intensive post-release monitoring of movements, settling, survival and breeding success of released individuals and other environmental variables in order to improve our understanding of paradise flycatcher resilience and adaptability. Seychelles paradise flycatchers (SPF): Post release monitoring and management of SPF Conservation Introduction to Curieuse is ongoing since the release of the first individuals. Survival of released individuals, territory establishment and breeding activity is monitored, and all breeding attempts are protected with rat traps to reduce the probability of them being depredated by rats. Common myna birds are also being controlled on Curieuse as mynas have also been implicated in breeding failure. We note that climate change is affecting SPF. The vast majority of SPF were full-on moulting in December. This is unheard of; they normally moult in July-October time (in the South-east trade wind or DRY season) and have always been in perfect new shiny plumage and heading in to the main breeding season in December (the North-west monsoon or RAINY season). Climate change is mucking around with the traditional seasons in Seychelles resulting in less rain in the rainy season and more rain in the dry season. We can only assume (we were not measuring invertebrate diversity and abundance at this time) that flycatcher insect food supplies are affected; there are normally more leaf dwelling invertebrates in rainy season and less in dry season, but seeing as dry season is not so dry food supplies probably remained higher throughout the “dry” season” and the birds just kept breeding. They have to stop sometime to moult though and that just happened to be right when they would traditionally be heading into main breeding season. This is not necessarily a bad thing, but it is a change. The effect on the translocation is that the birds were not in breeding condition ready to breed upon release, they had to complete moulting first. Secondly almost ½ the females we translocated were juveniles. These females will not start breeding until they reach adulthood (and moult into adult plumage). They reach maturity and can breed at c.12 months old. Intensive monitoring is planned for at least 24 months then less intensive monitoring will continue for the long-term. This monitoring has been incorporated into the new Curieuse National Park management plan, currently the project flycatcher research assistant Indira

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements
		Gamatis has been kept on, on a short term contract with SNPA to continue the intensive monitoring and to ensure a smooth transition to SNPA staff taking over the monitoring and management. SNPA is also working on employing Indira on a permanent base but this is not finalised as SNPA board of directors needs to approve it. Mascarene paradise flycatchers (MPF). Monitoring at source and reintroduced populations undertaken throughout the project timeframe. 51 individuals were reintroduced to Ferney, 13 with transmitters to monitor short term movements and dispersal. Trials undertaken to determine whether juveniles, adults or family groups were “better” release stock were incorporated into the reintroduction design. Ongoing monitoring of Ferney and the wider Bambous mountain ranges is underway to determine whether any of the release birds have settled. If birds are located, they will be regularly monitored for breeding success etc by project partner MWF. All individuals were ringed with a metal ID ring and individually identifiable colour combinations. One publication on SPF conservation introduction has been submitted to Biodiversity and Conservation (see Annex 22 as evidence), and second SPF publication has been drafted and will be submitted shorty. A publication detailing the MPF reintroduction effort is planned and will be submitted to Conservation Evidence for publication so that our methods and what we learned are out there for the wider reintroduction community. Indicators remained appropriate
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 undertaken post SPF translocation to Curieuse by the Project Flycatcher Assistant Indira Gamatis with help and guidance from the PO. See Annex xx as evidence. To date it appears the translocation is going well with most birds re-sighted on Curieuse, birds settling into territories quickly, breeding initiated by several pairs and one chick already fledged at the end of this project (March 2019). At the time of reporting (June 2019) two further chicks have successfully fledged in May and June - outside the reporting period- but good news! See Annex 21 for details and as evidence. Intensive monitoring is ongoing post project close (Indira Gamatis the project flycatcher research assistant has been employed on short-term contract by SNPA to continue the monitoring and to train SNPA staff to ensure the handover to SNPA taking over the monitoring goes smoothly and their staff are sufficiently trained and competent. The CEO of SNPA Mr Selby Remie hoping to employ Indira more permanently, however this is not yet finalised as it needs approval from the SNPA board of Directors as it obviously has financial implications to the organisation. Post release monitoring of the MPF reintroduction at Ferney shows that the flycatchers appear to not have settled within the release area for the longer term. We put radio transmitters onto 13 individuals at release so we could determine their initial movements and behaviour post release for the c. 12-day lifetime of the tiny transmitters. Our main concern from the planning stage of this reintroduction was how to minimise dispersal from the release area as it is a mainland reintroduction and there are no barriers to dispersal at the release site at Ferney Valley. Ferney located in east Mauritius in the Bambous mountain range, part of a large contiguous forested area. We therefore incorporated trials into the reintroduction to determine whether certain ages (juvenile/adult) or times of the year (pre breeding season, post breeding season) were more likely to remain and settle at the release site. We trialled family groups, adults just prior to the breeding season, and independent juveniles) our reasoning being that adults prior to the breeding season are preparing to breed so may just get on with it at Ferney, family groups with dependent juveniles would slow the ability to rapidly disperse from the release site as the presence of dependent juveniles would slow them down and finally independent juveniles because they have recently been kicked out of their parents territories, have no fixed territory and are actively searching for a territory of their own to settle and live in, so they are way less likely to be stressed by the move or want to fly home, and possibly more likely to settle. The first thing we found was that MPF are very difficult to catch. They see the mistnet. Family groups proved to be almost impossible to catch in year 1 as one needs to catch the whole family and the chicks do not respond to call play-back. In year 1 we did not get permission from the Mauritian Government National Parks and Conservation Service (NPCS) to start moving birds until December, well into the breeding season. We translocated 23 birds in Year 1 (2 family groups [mum, dad and dependent juvenile], 3 pairs, 1 adult male, 1 adult female, 9 independent juveniles). We put transmitters on 8 individuals, and they were the only birds we saw after release (along with birds associated with these birds with transmitters)- so transmitters proved vital to monitoring. 1

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements
		adult female flew back to Combo and was seen back in her territory at Combo (a 22km straight line flight, though we suspect they would have travelled much further than this to follow forested areas rather than fly through miles of sugarcane). It appeared from the transmitter data that juveniles stayed around the release area longer than adults, and that family groups also stayed around (sample size of 1- the father who had a transmitter and his dependent juvenile stayed around for some time also, and the same juvenile was resighted at Ferney 2 ½ months later with another juvenile that had a transmitter.) Year 2. Staff changes meant that we did not have flycatcher field-staff qualified to mistnet so we did not move as many independent juveniles as we intended later in the season. In year 2 we translocated 12 individuals (5 adult males and 2 adult females just prior to the main breeding season, and 5 independent juveniles later in the season). Three of the adults translocated at the start of the breeding season (2 males and 1 female) returned straight back to their territories at Combo. Transmitters were placed on two adults (one female and one male). The c.50-hectare Conservation Management Area (CMA) at Ferney was thoroughly surveyed for flycatchers during this season and 1 adult male (who was translocated as an adult in September 2017) was found to have settled and established a territory within the CMA at Ferney. Searches of the wider Ferney area were also undertaken but no other MPF were located. Early in year 3 a think-tank between the PL, PO MWF and other experts was undertaken for M&E of the reintroduction so far and to brainstorm the best way forward and how to 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. It was agreed that in order to give this translocation the necessary effort and to ensure sufficient birds of different ages and times in the breeding cycle were translocated to gain maximum information and learning from this reintroduction, whether it ultimately resulted in a self-sustaining population at Ferney or not, we needed to translocate more individuals and to undertake more searches of the wider release area to try and locate released birds. We also all agreed that it was pointless to move more adults at the start of the breeding season as trials to date showed that they were likely to return back to Combo. We decided to catch independent juveniles, and family groups (if we could catch them but we were not confident that we could catch family groups). Year 3. MWF did not have staff dedicated to catching and transferring flycatchers this season so it was brainstormed and agreed that the PO and a volunteer would go to Mauritius for the whole of January 2019 to continue with the reintroduction and monitoring. A total of 16 individuals were translocated from Combo to Ferney in year 3 to complete the trials and to ensure enough individuals had been translocated so we could really say we had given it sufficient birds and effort and if it fails it will not be because we did not give it sufficient effort or individuals. The 16 individuals were translocated in January 2019: 1 adult male with his dependent chick; 1 adult female with her 2 dependent chicks; 1 pair with their 2 dependent chicks; 8 independent juveniles). The last 3 transmitters were used to gain information on movements of the released birds. We also searched parts of the wider Ferney area and played MPF vocalisations to try and locate MPF. We also checked out 2 leads regarding MPF calls heard but we did not locate any birds. One positive result we did achieve in the third year was how to reliably catch MPF, even family groups!. Family groups with quite big dependent chicks (not too far off reaching independence) could be caught along with their parents in the ½ light in the very early morning, in gaps where they had to fly through a gap where the net was (i.e. with vegetation not too close to the net otherwise they move slowly up to the net in the vegetation and then they see it). Ideal mist netting sites are ones where the vegetation is low on both sides of the net (so they don't fly over the top) and with a gap for the net (e.g. a path or road) so the birds have to fly rather than hop through the vegetation. The PO made new recordings of MPF vocalisations and edited it to increase the volume to make sure we had a variety of calls at loud enough volume to attract the birds to the net. The chicks also have to be big enough to be following their parents rather than perching and waiting for the parents to come and feed them. The best way to locate and target dependent juveniles is to search for them in the mid-late afternoon and decide on suitable location to put a mistnet to try and catch them. Then get up before dawn the next morning and put the net up at ½ light and play MPF calls loudly beside the net. After about 7am it becomes much harder to catch MPF because the sun is up and they see the net, even in shady locations. Independent juveniles that have recently been kicked out of their parents territories are floating around looking for a territory so there is no point is locating them days before you intend to try and catch them as they will have moved on.

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements
		The radio tracking results indicated that some birds left the release area immediately and were not located again after a day or 2, while others stayed around for longer; however they did move around a lot each day– see for example- figure 10 a-d showing locations of radio tracked birds post release in the MPF monitoring report in Annex 20 . Dependent juveniles did appear to slow the rate of dispersal of family groups, at least for the short term, and independent juveniles did remain near the release site for longer than adults, at least for the short term, however by the end of the project we did not have any confirmed territories in the CMA or nearby. Monitoring is continuing post-project to see whether any territories are located in the wider Bambous mountain area. MWF has staff working on other species (mainly kestrels, but also pigeons and echo parakeets) who work in the Bambous mountains and in the wider Ferney area in addition to the CMA, and they are all keeping their eyes and ears open for MPF. Our suspicions regarding the difficulty of keeping released birds in the desired area when there are no barriers to dispersal were sadly correct. However we are confident that the birds have dispersed rather than died, supported by the fact that 4 individuals returned to Combo, a dependent juvenile released in year 1 was resighted looking fit and healthy 2.5 months past release, and an adult male did settle in the CMA and remained there for c.6 months.
Activity 3.2 Two open access publications on project research and findings submitted for publication in high quality peer reviewed journals (eg: Biological Conservation and Biodiversity and Conservation)		One scientific publication entitled "Drivers of productivity differ between relict and reintroduced populations of a critically endangered passerine; considerations for conservation managers" has been submitted to Biodiversity and Conservation for publication. A second publication entitled "Evolutionary and ecological determinants of parental provisioning and juvenile survival; implications for management of (re)introduced populations of a critically endangered passerine" is being finalised and will be submitted shortly. A third publication detailing the Mascarene paradise flycatcher reintroduction is planned and will be submitted to Conservation Evidence. We would like to highlight that it takes time to write, submit and get papers published, and publication often comes sometime after the end of projects as data is being collected during the project. This is evidenced by the publication during this current project timeframe of 2 new scientific publications on 2 of Seychelles EDGE species (caecilians and sooglossid frogs) resulting from our (the PL&PO) previous Darwin Initiative Financed project #19-002 entitled " A cutting-*EDGE* approach to saving Seychelles' evolutionarily distinct biodiversity"which ran from 2012-2015. See Annex 5 for details of these publications.
Output 4. Projects restoring critical habitats and/or species initiated in Comoros and Madagascar as a direct result of this project	4.1 Projects (x2) designed and implementation underway in Madagascar (x1) and Comoros(x1) (year 3)	This output has been completely achieved. Siti Mohamed, Dahari's human resource manager, upon return to Dahari after her PGDIp designed and implemented a full Dahari staff survey using skills and methods learned on her PGDip course. Dahari designed and implemented a pilot study of Livingstone's fruit bat, *Pteropus livingstonii,* habitat and resource-use for conservation management. The project was successfully implemented, and Dahari intends to expand it into a full project (see activity 4.2 below and Annex 7 as evidence). Alexandra Rasoamanana and Durrell Madagascar designed and produced a graphic booklet in the local Sakalava dialect as a tool to bring back important research findings on the current and future management scenarios and their efficacy for the Menabe-Antimena Protected Area to the local communities living within the PA. She went back to the local villages to present her findings and the booklets to the local communities. See Annex 24 as evidence and activity 4.1 below for details. Alexandra and Durrell have also discussed a second project idea to gain local communities input into plans for Manabe-Antimena PA forest rehabilitation. Rehabilitation of this PA is a priority project for Durrell Madagascar, but any rehabilitation plan that does not take into account local communities views, current uses and needs is designed to fail. This project would visit local villages located within the PA and gain their views and input about habitat rehabilitation n the PA- e.g. what, when, where and how within the PA, whether they think it is feasible, whether they would like to be involved in the restoration work, and including local community input into a GIS mapping exercise of potential/priority areas and methods for rehabilitation work. Finally Alexandra and a few friends and colleagues have set up and officially registered a NGO with the mission to help local communities living in the Menabe-Antimena National Park to kick start sustainable livelihood projects that will reduce deforestation and other unsustainable use of the parks resources by providing set-up financing and practical implementation advice. Indicator remains appropriate

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements
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		Alexandra Rasoamanana our Malagasy MSc project scholarship recipient in collaboration with Durrell Madagascar has designed and completed one post-MSc project which was to bring feedback on the findings of her research to identify institutional factors impending effective management of Menabe Antimena Protected Area back to the 12 villages that participated in her study. Based on feedback and comments she got from local communities when she was doing her participatory interviews diring her MSc, she designed produced a graphic booklet in the local Sakalava dialect that is mostly graphical with few words explaining: 1- Menabe Antimena Boundaries and Stakeholders supposed responsibilities 2- Menabe Antimena Ecosystem services (why we need to conserve based) and Overexploitation and consequence (What is it wrong with the current overexploitation) 3- Disrespect of boundaries: why we don't respect the management plan (I need to be careful on the way I present information here) (Drivers and underlining drivers to root causes) 4- Hypothetical scenario: Picturing the present and future (if we keep the same overexploitation and if we change the path through actions from the different actors) 150 copes of the booklet were printed and taken back to the local communities where feedback was given along with distributing the booklets. The completed booklet is in Annex 24 as evidence. A second project that Alexandra has discussed and planned with Durrell is related to a Durrell Madagascar priority which is restoration of areas of the Menabe-Antimena PA. The joint project involves a) talking to the local communities to determine their views about habitat rehabilitation- e.g. what, when, where and how within the PA, whether they think it is feasible, whether they would like to be involved in the restoration work, and including local community input into a GIS mapping exercise of potential/priority areas and methods for rehabilitation work. Finally Alexandra, her field assistant (who after assisting Alexandra with her community interviews for her MSc was employed by Durrell Madagasscar, and a couple of other people have recently set up aimed at helping local communities living in the Menabe-Antimena National Park to kick start sustainable livelihood projects that will not involve deforestation and other unsustainable use of the parks resources (see section 3.1 “Outputs” under Output 1 for details).
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		Dahari with relevant staff designed and completed the implementation of “A pilot study of Livingstone’s fruit bat, *Pteropus livingstonii,* habitat and resource-use for conservation management” The study aimed to provide preliminary data on the applicability of solar-recharging GPS tags for use on this species and to give first insights into important feeding sites in the wet season by equipping two individuals (one female, one male) with GPS tags. In order to gain the necessary skills to implement this project Dahari used 1 of their regional skills-exchange visits to bring a bat expert based in Mauritius to the Comoros to help, advise and train Dahari staff how to catch the Critically Endangered Livingstone’s fruit bats, how to attach the GPS loggers and how to down-load the data. The pilot project was successful and now Dahari is working to gain further funding to expand the project. See project report in Annex 7 for details and as evidence.

Annex 3 Standard Measures

Code	Description	Total	Nationality	Gender	Title or Focus	Language	Comments
Training Measures							
1a	Number of people to submit PhD thesis	0					
1b	Number of PhD qualifications obtained	0					
2	Number of Masters qualifications obtained	3	Seychelliois Seychellois Malagasy	M M F		English English English	MSc's from UK University
3	Number of other qualifications obtained	2	Mauritian Comorian	M F		English English	Post-graduate diplomas accredited by UK University
4a	Number of undergraduate students receiving training	2	Seychellois Malagasy	F M	Undergraduate research project. SPF population survey methods, analysis and writeup. Field Assistant to Alexandra Rasoamanana during her MSc fieldwork for her thesis	English	University of Seychelles (co-supervised by the PO)
4b	Number of training weeks provided to undergraduate students	8 weeks	Seychellois Malagasy			English Malagasy	
4c	Number of postgraduate students receiving training (not 1-3 above)						
4d	Number of training weeks for postgraduate students						
5	Number of people receiving other forms of long-term (>1yr) training not leading to formal qualification (e.g., not categories 1-4 above)						
6a	Number of people receiving other forms of short-term education/training (e.g., not categories 1-5 above)	23	Malagasy x4 Seychelloisx3 Comorianx14 Mauritian x2	MMFF FFF Mx8,Fx6 FF	Regional Skills-exchange trips x 15 English language lessons x8 people		

6b	Number of training weeks not leading to formal qualification	150	Malagasy 4 weeks Seychellois 8 weeks Comorian 134 weeks Mauritian 4 weeks	MMFF FFF Mx8, Fx6 FF	Regional skills-exchanges x 22 weeks English language lessons x 4 months		
7	Number of types of training materials produced for use by host country(s) (describe training materials)						

Research Measures		**Total**	**Nationality**	**Gender**	**Title**	**Language**	**Comments/ Weblink if available**
9	Number of species/habitat management plans (or action plans) produced for Governments, public authorities or other implementing agencies in the host country (ies)	1	Seychelles		Species Conservation Strategy and Action Plan *Terpsiphone corvina*	English	Participatory process? YES
10	Number of formal documents produced to assist work related to species identification, classification and recording.						
11a	Number of papers published or accepted for publication in peer reviewed journals	2	English	MM	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. Labisko J, Griffiths RA, Chong-Seng L, Bunbury N, Maddock ST, Bradfield KS, Taylor ML, Groombridge JJ. 2019. Endemic, endangered and evolutionarily significant: cryptic lineages in Seychelles' frogs (Anura: Sooglossidae) *Biological Journal of the Linnean Society*, 126 (3) 417–435.	English	https://doi.org/10.11646/zootaxa.4329.4.1 https://doi.org/10.1093/biolinnean/bly183
11b	Number of papers published or accepted for publication elsewhere						Location?

12a	Number of computer-based databases established (containing species/generic information) and handed over to host country						
12b	Number of computer-based databases enhanced (containing species/genetic information) and handed over to host country						
13a	Number of species reference collections established and handed over to host country(s)						
13b	Number of species reference collections enhanced and handed over to host country(s)						

Dissemination Measures		**Total**	**Nationality**	**Gender**	**Theme**	**Language**	**Comments**
14a	Number of conferences/seminars/workshops organised to present/disseminate findings from Darwin project work	1	Malagasy, Mauritian and Seychellois	mixed	Avian reintroductions	English and French	Symposium
14b	Number of conferences/seminars/ workshops attended at which findings from Darwin project work will be presented/ disseminated.						

Physical Measures		**Total**	**Comments**
20	Estimated value (£s) of physical assets handed over to host country(s)	10,300	motorbike, scientific and fieldwork equipment
21	Number of permanent educational, training, research facilities or organisation established		
22	Number of permanent field plots established		Please describe

Financial Measures		**Total**	**Nationality**	**Gender**	**Theme**	**Language**	**Comments**
23	Value of additional resources raised from other sources (e.g., in addition to Darwin funding) for project work	321,588	All project partner organisations contributed (Seychelles, UK, Mauritius, Comoros, Madagascar)				

Annex 4 Aichi Targets

	Aichi Target	Tick if applicable to your project
1	People are aware of the values of biodiversity and the steps they can take to conserve and use it sustainably.	
2	Biodiversity values have been integrated into national and local development and poverty reduction strategies and planning processes and are being incorporated into national accounting, as appropriate, and reporting systems.	
3	Incentives, including subsidies, harmful to biodiversity are eliminated, phased out or reformed in order to minimize or avoid negative impacts, and positive incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity are developed and applied, consistent and in harmony with the Convention and other relevant international obligations, taking into account national socio economic conditions.	
4	Governments, business and stakeholders at all levels have taken steps to achieve or have implemented plans for sustainable production and consumption and have kept the impacts of use of natural resources well within safe ecological limits.	
5	The rate of loss of all natural habitats, including forests, is at least halved and where feasible brought close to zero, and degradation and fragmentation is significantly reduced.	
6	All fish and invertebrate stocks and aquatic plants are managed and harvested sustainably, legally and applying ecosystem based approaches, so that overfishing is avoided, recovery plans and measures are in place for all depleted species, fisheries have no significant adverse impacts on threatened species and vulnerable ecosystems and the impacts of fisheries on stocks, species and ecosystems are within safe ecological limits.	
7	Areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity.	
8	Pollution, including from excess nutrients, has been brought to levels that are not detrimental to ecosystem function and biodiversity.	
9	Invasive alien species and pathways are identified and prioritized, priority species are controlled or eradicated, and measures are in place to manage pathways to prevent their introduction and establishment.	
10	The multiple anthropogenic pressures on coral reefs, and other vulnerable ecosystems impacted by climate change or ocean acidification are minimized, so as to maintain their integrity and functioning.	
11	At least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes.	
12	The extinction of known threatened species has been prevented and their conservation status, particularly of those most in decline, has been improved and sustained.	**X**
13	The genetic diversity of cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and of wild relatives, including other socio-economically as well as culturally valuable species, is maintained, and strategies have been developed and implemented for minimizing genetic erosion and safeguarding their genetic diversity.	

14	Ecosystems that provide essential services, including services related to water, and contribute to health, livelihoods and well-being, are restored and safeguarded, taking into account the needs of women, indigenous and local communities, and the poor and vulnerable.	
15	Ecosystem resilience and the contribution of biodiversity to carbon stocks has been enhanced, through conservation and restoration, including restoration of at least 15 per cent of degraded ecosystems, thereby contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation and to combating desertification.	**X**
16	The Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization is in force and operational, consistent with national legislation.	
17	Each Party has developed, adopted as a policy instrument, and has commenced implementing an effective, participatory and updated national biodiversity strategy and action plan.	
18	The traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and their customary use of biological resources, are respected, subject to national legislation and relevant international obligations, and fully integrated and reflected in the implementation of the Convention with the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities, at all relevant levels.	
19	Knowledge, the science base and technologies relating to biodiversity, its values, functioning, status and trends, and the consequences of its loss, are improved, widely shared and transferred, and applied.	**X**
20	The mobilization of financial resources for effectively implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 from all sources, and in accordance with the consolidated and agreed process in the Strategy for Resource Mobilization should increase substantially from the current levels. This target will be subject to changes contingent to resource needs assessments to be developed and reported by Parties.	

Annex 5 Publications

Type * (e.g. journals, manual, CDs)	Detail (title, author, year)	Nationality of lead author	Nationality of institution of lead author	Gender of lead author	Publishers (name, city)	Available from (e.g. web link, contact address etc)
Scientific paper	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.	English	English	M	Zootaxa	https://doi.org/10.11646/zootaxa.4329.4.1
Scientific Paper	Labisko J, Griffiths RA, Chong-Seng L, Bunbury N, Maddock ST, Bradfield KS, Taylor ML, Groombridge JJ. 2019. Endemic, endangered and evolutionarily significant: cryptic lineages in Seychelles' frogs (Anura: Sooglossidae) *Biological Journal of the Linnean Society*, 126 (3) 417–435.	English	English	M	*Biological Journal of the Linnean Society*	https://doi.org/10.1093/biolinnean/bly183
Booklet*	NDE ISIKA IARAKA IARO AN'I MENABE ANTIMENA FA HARENANTSIKA Alexandra Rassoamanana 2019	Malagasy		F		
Management Plan*	Species Conservation Strategy and Action Plan, Seychelles paradise flycatcher, Vev, *Terpsiphone corvina* Rachel Bristol, 2016	Seychellois		F		

Annex 6 Darwin Contacts

Note - all project partners were involved in project development so this will not be repeated under the roles of each partner organisation.

Ref No	23-006
Project Title	*Translocating conservation success and skills-exchange across four Indian Ocean countries*
Project Leader Details	
Name	Professor Jim J Groombridge
Role within Darwin Project	Project Leader: overall responsibility for ensuring project was implemented; trouble shooting; lead advisory role on capacity building and the wider network building DICE played a central role in the training, capacity-building and reintroduction efforts by hosting the 3 MSc students from Seychelles & Madagascar; provided guidance/expertise on species conservation and reintroduction; and managed project finances
Address	Durrell Institute of Conservation and Ecology (DICE)
Phone	
Fax/Skype	
Email	
Partner 1	
Name	Mr Selby Remie
Organisation	Seychelles National Parks Authority (SNPA)
Role within Darwin Project	Selby is CEO of SNPA. SNPA's role in the project was to facilitate project activities in Seychelles by employing local project staff, providing logistical support and back-stopping, providing SNPA staff time, facilitating government permissions for flycatcher reintroductions, and sustainability post project completion (ongoing monitoring and management of new flycatcher population om Curieuse.)
Address	
Phone	
Email	
Partner 2	
Name	Dr Vikash Tatayah
Organisation	Mauritian Wildlife Foundation (MWF)
Role within Darwin Project	Vikash is the Conservation Director of MWF. MWF lead on all aspects of the Mauritius paradise flycatcher habitat rehabilitation and translocation. They employed and supported the project staff who undertook the reintroduction and the ongoing research and monitoring at the source and release sites. MWF will be closely involved with restoration of MPF post project.
Address	
Phone/fax	
Email	
Partner 3	

Name	Mr Gilles David Derand
Organisation	Durrell Conservation Training Ltd (DCT)
Role within Darwin Project	David is the Managing Director of DCT (and arm of Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust). DCT delivered the PDGDip course in Mauritius and provided co-supervision and support for participants during the course, Durrell Madagascar (another arm of Durrell) supported Malagasy MSc student Alexandra and collaborated with her for her MSc research project and on post MSc project development and implementation.
Address	
Phone	
Email	
Partner 4	
Name	Mr Hugh Doulton
Organisation	Dahari
Role within Darwin Project	Hugh is technical director at Dahari. Dahari organized all aspects of this project in Comoros including selecting participants for training on PGDip course and skills-exchanges, locating and hosting English teacher, and developing and implementing new project on habitat and/or species restoration (Livingstones fruit bat).
Address	
Phone	
Email	
Partner 5	
Name	Dr Rachel Bristol
Organisation	Self Employed independent consultant (based in Seychelles)
Role within Darwin Project	Rachel was the Project Officer on this project and oversaw, coordinated and lead the implementation of project activities on the ground. She was also the main liaison point between project partners, chaired the project steering group, lead the project M&E activities and ensured the all project partners and were kept up to date with project progress and upcoming activities.
Address	
Phone	
Email	