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## Darwin Initiative Main Project Annual Report

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

**Submission Deadline: 30<sup>th</sup> April 2018**

### Darwin Project Information

Project reference	<b>24-012</b>
Project title	Incentivising community-led marine biodiversity conservation on Ataúro Island
Host country/ies	East Timor
Contract holder institution	Blue Ventures Conservation
Partner institution(s)	Worldfish, Seventythree Ltd, Raja Ampat Local Homestay Business Enterprise Association, Ministry of Commerce Industry and Environment (Directorate of Biodiversity), Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Government of Timor-Leste, Ministry of Arts Culture and Tourism, Government of Timor-Leste
Darwin grant value	<b>£295,214</b>
Start/end dates of project	1 Apr 2017 - 31 Mar 2021
Reporting period (e.g., Apr 2017 – Mar 2018) and number (e.g., Annual Report 1, 2, 3)	April 2017 - April 2018 Annual Report 1
Project Leader name	Alasdair Harris
Project website/blog/Twitter	<a href="http://www.blueventures.org">www.blueventures.org</a>
Report author(s) and date	Nick Piludu 30/4/18

### 1. Project rationale

Please describe the problem your project is trying to address. For example, what biodiversity challenges is the project designed to address? Why are they relevant, and for whom? What human development and wellbeing challenges (poverty alleviation) is the project also intended to address? How did you identify these problems?

Briefly describe the location (with a map if possible) of the project.



Timor-Leste is located at the heart of the Coral Triangle, a region home to the world's highest levels of marine biodiversity. Fisheries underpin the livelihoods and food security of Timor-Leste's coastal communities, and environmental sustainability is deeply enshrined in Timorese culture through traditional environmental management practices such as Tara Bandu.

Yet recent decades have resulted in decimation of Timor-Leste's critically important marine ecosystems by overfishing and a proliferation of destructive fishing techniques, which threaten the resilience of the fragile marine ecosystems upon which the country's coastal communities depend.

Declining catches, rapid population growth and a lack of livelihood alternatives have pushed traditional fishers into deepening poverty, forcing communities to adopt increasingly unsustainable fishing practices to support dwindling catches, and perpetuating the low socio-economic development and high rural poverty seen in coastal zones. Decades of conflict, occupation and civil unrest have eroded traditional local-level marine management practices and customs.

Women are almost invisible in community and national-level decision making on fisheries and coastal management, despite the critical role that gleaning of shellfish, seaweeds and

fish from reefs by women and children plays in food security and family income. This lack of recognition means that women's fisheries are ignored in national policy discussions, and women in coastal communities have very low levels of participation in community decision making about coastal resources and fisheries.

These challenges have hindered progress in marine biodiversity conservation, with biodiversity conservation in Timor-Leste lagging behind neighbouring countries. Therefore, Blue Ventures aims to tackle these challenges through the implementation of locally-led fisheries management by establishing LMMAs and also through the creation of alternative livelihoods in the form of ecotourism, in order to address poverty alleviation.

## **2. Project partnerships**

Partners have been involved in different areas of the project, according to their expertise and mission. WorldFish was consulted during the development of the fisheries monitoring methodology, in order to ensure compatibility between the methodologies used by the two partners and promote data sharing. WorldFish was also engaged during consultations in Uaro-ana, as the village is a target site for the organisation, and activities were coordinated whenever possible. WorldFish also provided socioeconomic data that provide a baseline against which the project will measure its impact on household income.

Seventythree Ltd and the Raja Ampat Local Homestay Business Enterprise Association were engaged in the planning and delivery of a learning trip to Raja Ampat (see Annex 3, table 2 Publications section in this document: 'From Ataúro to Raja Ampat: a homestay adventure'), and continue to be engaged as we explore opportunities to deliver a return exchange trip.

The 2017 elections and resulting instability posed some challenges in engaging the partner Ministries. This notwithstanding, positive relationships were built with all three Ministries, most notably resulting in a Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Environment (now Ministry of Development and Institutional Reform), establishing a working relationship to promote locally-led ecotourism and marine management (see Annex 4.6a MOU(1-3)).

## **3. Project progress**

### **3.1 Progress in carrying out project Activities**

#### **Output 1. Local marine management and ecotourism development plans in place**

Ecotourism consultations (Activity 1.1) were completed before the project start in Beloi, and a homestay programme involving eight households started in January 2017. Beloi was established as the main new ecotourism site, with activities taking place in nine additional villages. Adara, on the west coast of Ataúro, was selected as a satellite site, with tourists staying in a local camp and diving in a LMMA. Consultations were also carried out in Uaro-ana (see Annex 1.1a, Uaro-ana consultation notes), but activities in the village were discontinued following lack of interest from the community who showed more interest in the establishment of an eco-resort rather than small-scale homestays, which resulted in putting further work in the village on hold. Preliminary visits were carried out in two potential additional sites, Behau and Baucau (see Annex 1.1e, Baucau notes), on the main island of Timor-Leste, which were visited in October, and in November and February, respectively. Visits included informal consultations with key stakeholders (e.g. local authorities, community leaders, and local business owners), a rapid evaluation of the potential for homestays, based on the standards selected for the Beloi homestays (see Annex 3.3a,

Criteria Homestay handout), and an exploratory snorkelling session to assess the potential for diving and marine resources.

Community consultations for natural resource management (Activity 1.2) have been carried out in Beloi, Ilik-namu and Behau, according to project schedule (see Annex 1.2a Consultation notes; 1.2b Ilik-namu consultations, 1.2c Cottonii Cooperative). Although consultations in Beloi did not produce a positive outcome, seven major consultations took place in Ilik-namu and two in Behau. Both communities showed interest in natural resource management (see narrative under Output 2 for more details). Agreements to regulate access and monitoring of Tara Bandu LMMAs were signed in January (see Annexes 1.1b, 1.1c, 1.1d; signed Tara Bandu Agreements) between BV and local authorities of Beloi and Vila, promoting further engagement with both communities.

Ten community members (eight women and two men) have been trained in participatory seagrass habitat monitoring (Activity 1.3), (see Annex 1.2d and 1.2e, Sample training materials and 1.3a, CBM certificates May 2017) by August, and a participatory habitat assessment (Activity 1.4, see Annex 1.4a Preliminary survey map) was completed in March 2018. Training was delivered according to schedule, but the assessment took longer to complete due to weather and illness.

Eight community members (100% women) from Ilik-namu have been trained in fisheries monitoring in March 2018 (Activity 1.5; see Annex 1.5; training schedule and 1.5b training photo) and the monitoring programme was started in Ilik-namu the same month (Activity 1.6; see Annex 1.6a; preliminary fisheries data). Both activities suffered delays from the original schedule due to the complexity of fisheries in Timor-Leste and resulting challenges in defining the monitoring methodology. Two operators still need to be trained to meet the indicator (target of 10); this activity will take place in mid-2018 in Behau as the first step towards establishing a second monitoring programme, replicating the methodology used in Ilik-namu.

A major data sharing session, (Activity 1.7), which focused on data from our reef and seagrass monitoring programmes, part of an event organised by Conservation International (CI), was delivered in Beloi in December (see Annex 1.7, CI stakeholder meeting).

**Output 2.** Locally-led fisheries management measures piloted and continued by communities

Seven major consultations, plus informal meetings with local authorities and community leaders, have been carried out in Ilik-namu ahead of schedule throughout the reporting period (see Annex 1.2b Ilik-namu consultations and c Cottonii Cooperative). This was prompted by the community's concern over decreasing catches, rather than results from participatory monitoring as originally planned. Consultations have been carried out under Tara Bandu, the Timorese customary law, which does not differentiate between fisheries regulations and LMMAs, and therefore covered topics including fisheries management (Activity 2.1), through regulations such as banning nets on reefs and seagrass, banning poison and dynamite fishing, as well as identifying a key reef to convert in a two-year no take zone (see Annex 2.1a, draft regulations). Other consultations also included the selection of key fisheries (tuna, grouper, fusilier, lobster, octopus and parrotfish) for management (Activity 2.2), and the definition of a work plan (Activity 2.3), to be implemented in mid-2018.

Similar consultations have been started in Behau as well, again ahead of schedule (See 2.1b Behau notes).

**Output 3.** Community members are trained and employed in ecotourism activities

Eight households were selected before the project start (Activity 3.1). The households received training in ecotourism, tour guiding (delivered by the Ministry of Tourism), food preparation (delivered by Agora Food Studio), and business management (delivered by Empreza Di'ak, see Annex 3.5, Training agreement), and given a small loan to set up their

homestays, alongside with agreed standards (see Annex 3.3, Kriteria homestay handout; Activities 3.3 and 3.5). Five additional families, from Uaro-ana, received peer-training in food preparation by the homestay association in August 2017. Fifteen community members received training in health and gender issues from Marie Stopes International in October 2017 and February 2018. Weekly English classes were started in February 2018.

The Ataúro Homestay Association was informally established in Beloi (Activity 3.2); however, legal paperwork has not been completed yet as instability in the government has widely slowed bureaucracy down. This notwithstanding, the homestay association has been supported in the establishment of temporary leadership in 2017, and in the election of a council in January, when a new Coordinator, Deputy Coordinator, Secretary and Treasurer were elected. A statute, needed for registration, was agreed in January 2018 (see Annex 3.2a, Homestay statute). The required documents are being prepared for registration should take place in mid-2018.

The eight established homestays began welcoming tourists in January 2017 (see Annex 3.1a, homestay monitoring tool). An exchange trip to Raja Ampat (Activity 3.4) was delivered ahead of schedule, in February 2017, with six community members attending (see 'From Ataúro to Raja Ampat: a homestay adventure' blog in publications list). The exchange trip allowed community members to discuss the process of establishing homestays with the local Raja Ampat Homestay Association (RAHA) and they found the trip to be extremely useful and a second exchange trip is currently being planned.

Training of the eight households (Activity 3.5) continued and not only included catering and tourist expectations but also in other key areas including men's health, gender roles and English classes. Support to the Atauro Homestay Association in management (Activity 3.6) is ongoing according to schedule, with monthly meetings and weekly phone calls

**Output 4.** Locally managed marine area (LMMA) established.

Consultations on LMMAs were carried out in Ilik-namu (Activities 4.1 and 4.3) ahead of schedule in parallel to consultations on fisheries (see Annex 1.2a-e and 2.1a-b). As mentioned, this is due to Tara Bandu not distinguishing between fisheries regulations and protected areas – both are covered by the same mechanisms. Regulations defining a key protected areas were drafted based on community input in November (see Annex 2.1a, Draft regulations).

Seven consultations (Activity 4.3) were held throughout the reporting period and the community agreed on closing a section of reef for two years and reopening it for regulated fishing at the end of the two-year period for three months. The cycle is then planned to be repeated; however, data coming from monitoring will inform further action. The no-take zone was mapped by GPS with community members in October 2017. In order to facilitate the inclusion of Tara Bandu law into national legislation, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed with the Ministry of Development and Reform, the authority for the environment (Activity 4.6, see Annex 4.6 MOU1-3).

Similarly, two consultations were carried out in Behau together with activities reported under Output 2 (see Annex 2.1b Behau notes and 4.1a Field notes).

### **3.2 Progress towards project Outputs**

Output 1. Local marine management and ecotourism development plans in place, using site identification, zoning and indicator information provided via stakeholder consultations and participatory community marine resource assessment and monitoring.

Satisfactory progress towards Output 1 has been made, with most indicators being met at the end of the reporting period. A key new ecotourism site, Beloi village, was identified before the start of the project, as well as a satellite site, Adara, to give a total of two ecotourism target sites (baseline zero). Following consultations and participatory assessments a new main site for CBNRM was identified in Ilik-namu (see Annex 1.2b Ilik-

namu consultations and 1.2c Cottonii Cooperative). A second CBNRM site, Behau, was identified (see Annex 2.1b Behau notes and 4.1a Field notes) and will be used to replicate activities carried out in Ilik-namu.

Ten community members (baseline zero) were trained in ecological assessment methods according to schedule, with women composing a large majority (80%) of the team (see Annex 1.2d, 1.2e Sample training materials and 1.3a, CBM certificates May 2017). The habitat assessment was started according to schedule, but took longer than expected to complete and ended on the last quarter of year one (see Annex 1.4a Preliminary survey map). Eight female community members (baseline zero) were trained in fisheries monitoring by the end of year one in Beloi (see Annex 1.5a Training schedule and 1.5b Training photo); and more operators will be trained in a different community in mid-2018 (to hit the target of 10). Participatory monitoring and data sharing sessions are ongoing (see Annex 1.6a Preliminary fisheries data).

#### Output 2. Locally-led fisheries management measures piloted and continued by communities

The project has engaged two communities (baseline zero) in local fisheries management. Progress towards the output started ahead of schedule in Ilik-namu, with the community actively engaging in discussion on fisheries management, identifying key fisheries and potential management measures, under Tara Bandu customary law (see Annex 1.2b Ilik-namu consultations, 1.2c Cottonii Cooperative, and 2.1a Draft regulations). The consultation process started in May 2017 and is ongoing; it is worth mentioning that this was disrupted or slowed down several times throughout the reporting period due to community events, political unrest, etc. Consultations are expected to regain momentum in mid-2018.

Consultations have also been started ahead of schedule in October 2017 in a second site, Behau (see Annex 2.1b Behau notes and 4.1a Field notes). Consultations are still at a very early stage.

#### Output 3. Community members are trained and employed in ecotourism activities

Quick progress was made at the beginning of the first year, and eight homestays (baseline zero) have been established ahead of schedule in one target community, Beloi village (see Annex 3.1a Homestay monitoring tool, 3.2a Homestay statute and 3.3 Kriteria homestay handout). Consultations in a potential second site, Uaro-ana did not produce a positive outcome (see Annex 1.1a, Uaro-ana consultation notes), and further engagement in the village has been put on hold. Further expansion on the island is being considered and will depend on tourism development so reaching the target of 12 may not be possible in Beloi. Mainland communities Behau and Baucau are currently being assessed as potential homestay sites (see Annex 1.1e Baucau notes).

Training opportunities have been provided regularly, covering food preparation, business management, ecotourism, tour guiding and English language focusing on the existing homestay association (sixteen people) but often including other community members (see Annex 3.5a Training agreement). Additionally, six new local members of staff were recruited for the project to focus on ecotourism activities, and trained by Blue Ventures, most notably providing training to Divemaster level to two members of staff.

#### Output 4. Locally managed marine area (LMMA) established.

Progress towards the output has been made ahead of schedule in parallel to output 2, as consultations on fisheries management consistently included LMMAs as well. An estimated 100% of target community has been directly or indirectly engaged in Ilik-namu (see Annex 1.2b Ilik-namu consultations, 1.2c Cottonii Cooperative and 2.1a Draft regulations); and an estimated 50% in Behau (see Annex 2.1b Behau notes and 4.1a Field notes). In Ilik-namu the LMMA has been zoned and mapped with GPS, and final formalisation should take place

in mid-2018. This will bring the total number of LMMAs in Atauro from one (baseline) to six, as four additional LMMAs were implemented by communities in 2017.

### 3.3 Progress towards the project Outcome

**Outcome:** Reducing fishing pressure and protecting priority biodiversity areas in Timor-Leste through community-based marine resource management and sustainable alternative livelihoods benefiting 9,000 people in coastal communities.

After identifying one key site for ecotourism activities (Indicator 1.1; baseline zero), the project then focused on establishing the homestay programme (Indicator 3.1, see Annex 3.1a Homestay monitoring tool), largely delivering Output 3 by training and employing members in ecotourism activities (Indicator 3.2). As well as establishing eight new homestays (baseline zero), the programme is supporting several additional businesses, including a local restaurant, a camping eco-resort, a handicrafts cooperative, kiosks and engaging an additional two households in providing laundry services, achieving the goal of increasing income in 25% households (baseline estimated at 0%, with no family known to work in tourism before the project start) in the target community, Beloi village (Indicator 0.1, see Annex 3.2b Volunteer Spending). The homestay programme has benefited 56 people directly (the households hosting homestays) and also a further 27 people through the additional businesses mentioned above.

The project established two participatory monitoring programmes (baseline zero), focusing on collecting data on seagrass and fisheries. Additionally, the project staff, supported by diving ecotourists, collects data on reef fish, coral, invertebrates, and cetaceans. The first year of the project established a baseline (no data available before the start of the project) that will allow for the monitoring of ecological change (Indicator 0.4) in order to protect key biodiversity areas in Timor-Leste.

Eight new female community members were trained in fisheries monitoring (Indicator 1.4, see Annex 1.5a; training notes and 1.5b; training photo) and are currently monitoring fishing catches (Indicator 1.5) twice a week as of March 2018 in Ilik-namu.

Fisheries management measures (Output 2) were discussed in a series of consultations in Ilik-namu (see Annex 1.2b Ilik-namu consultations), leading to a draft legislation that regulates fisheries, protects important habitats and establishes a core conservation area (Indicator 2.1). Although no measures have been implemented yet, consultations are progressing ahead of schedule, and should be put in place in the second year of the project, allowing for benefits to be reaped by the end of the project (Indicator 0.2; no fisheries management measure discussed or in place at the beginning of the project) and reducing fishing pressure. It is however worth mentioning that the increase in fisher income was estimated based on the assumption of finding a commercial species that would respond quickly to management measures, which was not the case in our first year. The indicator might have to be reconsidered in our second year.

Fisheries management was discussed together with the option of establishing an LMMA (Output 4), with progress being made in both Ilik-namu and Behau. In Ilik-namu, 100% of the community have been targeted through consultations and 50% in Behau, contributing towards Indicator 0.3. However, we are continuing to work on engaging more community members in order to achieve this. Thanks to the work of local communities and international partners, with which we are working closely (such as CI), the total number of LMMAs in Atauro went from one (baseline; no LMMA in place or discussed in our target site, Ilik-namu) to six by the end of the first year of the project (Indicator 0.3), which is twice as many as the goal by the end of Y4. The project team has been designated by communities as the monitoring partner for three of the six LMMAs (Output 1). Through ecotourism and scientific diving fees the project has already raised \$1,082, which has been put into the management

funds established by each community's co-management group. A data sharing session was held in Beloi in December 2017, in addition to informal sessions held in Ilik-namu throughout consultation period (see Annex 1.7a CI Stakeholder meeting), contributing to Indicator 2.2.

### 3.4 Monitoring of assumptions

#### **Assumption 1: Shift from fishing to ecotourism for income generation reduces number of people dependent on fishing.**

Comments: Although still very early to clearly confirm this, anecdotal information suggests that the assumption is still valid. Community members and homestay hosts report reducing fishing hours due to tourism income.

#### **Assumption 2: Knowledge from participatory monitoring is used to design community-led management plans.**

Comments: As consultations on marine management started much earlier than expected due to the community's enthusiasm and sense of urgency to take action, only very preliminary participatory monitoring data was used to inform management. The importance of this information was however thoroughly discussed, and data will inform consultations starting in year 2.

#### **Assumption 3: Income from local fisheries management and income from ecotourism acts as a catalyst for further local natural resource management.**

Comments: Assumption still valid, as demonstrated by communities' eagerness to engage in marine management.

#### **Assumption 4: Legislation and policies in Timor-Leste do not change, and/or the legal provision for allowing locally-led marine resource management is maintained.**

Comments: Assumption still valid; however, it is worth noting that Timor-Leste is going through a period of both instability and development, which might result in changes in relevant legal provision.

#### **Assumption 5: Fisheries management initiatives do not increase number of people fishing, but allow people to fish less and catch more.**

Comments: Assumption still valid.

#### **Assumption 6: Communities are interested in participating in monitoring, and results can be used to guide marine management and planning to improve fishing livelihoods.**

Comments: Assumption still valid, although communities showed more interest in directly managing marine resources, not quite understanding the importance of monitoring. This was discussed as a key part of management in the first year, and data collected by community teams will be used to inform management and planning starting in the second year.

#### **Assumption 7: Economically important marine fisheries resources exist with species that can respond quickly to management and will incentivise broader local engagement in fisheries management and marine conservation.**

Comments: Assumption only partially valid. Ataúro's fisheries are very unspecialised, and species exhibiting a quick response to management (e.g. octopus) are not considered important by local fishermen. This being said, very preliminary fisheries monitoring data conversely show that octopus are often caught, and the potential of managing the fisheries will be re-evaluated in the second year. Additionally, fishermen in Behau, the second site we have started working in, report both octopus and cuttlefish as main fisheries.

#### **Assumption 8: Sufficient local leadership and community cohesion for local management to be developed successfully and respected.**

Comments: Assumption partially valid. A high degree of community cohesion definitely exists in Ataúro, which promotes success in local management, especially under Tara Bandu customary law. However, local leadership is often weak, which has been affecting progress.

**Assumption 9: A site exists in Timor-Leste that can provide both the requirements for ecotourists (e.g. infrastructure, diving, safety) and also a nearby community that is keen to participate in provision of accommodation and services.**

Comments: Assumption still valid.

**Assumption 10: Blue Ventures can maintain the number of tourists currently joining ecotourism expeditions in Timor-Leste.**

Comments: Assumption still valid, although unexpected fluctuations in tourist numbers were recorded in the first year.

**Assumption 11: Timor-Leste continues to be a safe and attractive destination for ecotourists to visit.**

Comments: Assumption still valid, however as mentioned before, the country is going through a period of instability and has been without a fully functioning government for a year. Given its violent past there is a chance this might compromise safety in the upcoming months; in relation to this, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office mentions that “localised violence associated with campaign rallies has occurred in Dili. Further violence is possible” and that one “should avoid rallies, demonstrations and protests as the security situation could deteriorate without warning”<sup>1</sup>.

**Assumption 12: Incentives from improved local fisheries management and new income from ecotourism promote further local marine natural resource management.**

Comments: Assumption still valid.

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

Darwin projects are asked to contribute to a higher impact of biodiversity conservation and poverty alleviation.

- What contribution is your project making to this higher impact?
- For all projects, what contribution is your project making to human development and wellbeing (poverty alleviation)?

Please substantiate all comments with evidence and use indicators from your logframe where appropriate.

The project is making progress towards its expected outcome of protecting biodiversity and to work towards poverty alleviation. The homestay programme provided participating families with 1593 tourist nights, which averagely doubled monthly household income (Indicator 3.1) (1593 tourist nights at \$15, average income increasing from \$100 to \$250; see Annex 3.1a Homestay monitoring tool), as well as providing customers with a new local restaurant, camping resort, handicraft cooperative, kiosk etc. Estimated average spend on food, drink, souvenirs, laundry and other items in the community was \$3978 for the year, with an average spend of \$102 per person per expedition (see Annex 3.2b, Volunteer Spending).

Diving activities are also supporting the existing LMMAs (276 dives at \$2 in Haru Ina LMMA, 60 dives at \$2 in Watu Aii LMMA, 24 dives at \$2 in Vila LMMA, 133 dives at \$1.5 in Adara LMMA, for a total of \$1,082; Activity 1.1). The project is working with communities in establishing regulations for sustainable fisheries and LMMAs, which will improve biodiversity in critical habitats in the Coral Triangle. These efforts have been focusing on the community of Ilik-namu (Activity 1.6), where thorough consultations were carried out in the first year (see Annex 1.2a-e and 2.1b), leading to a draft legislation (see Annex, 2.1a Draft regulations) that should implement the first LMMA in the village in mid-2018. Four additional

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/timor-leste>

LMMAs were established by communities, with the support of Conservation International, in Ataúro.

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

The project has contributed to the following:

**SDG1 - No poverty.** The project has established a successful homestay programme in one community, Beloi Village, doubling the average household income in its first year (1593 tourist nights at \$15; see Annex 3.1a, Homestay monitoring tool). Additionally, the project has been supporting local businesses through the development of tourism (i.e. tourists using the homestay use local restaurants for lunch, spend 1-2 nights in another eco-resort, buy handicrafts and shop in local kiosks), (see Annex 3.2b, Volunteer Spending). Additionally, the project financially supported the management of four LMMAs, by organising regular dives and paying to access them.

**SDG3 - Zero hunger.** The project has been working with fishing-dependent coastal communities on establishing sustainable fisheries management and LMMAs, ultimately promoting long-term food security.

**SDG5 - Gender equality.** The project has been directly targeting women with training programmes (i.e. homestays, marine monitoring) with the specific goal of empowering them and promoting equality in Ataúro's patriarchal society. The project developed a partnership with Marie Stopes, who is delivering a series of workshops on gender equality.

**SDG14 - Life below water.** The project has contributed to SDG 14 in several ways, most notably by directly engaging local communities on Ataúro and mainland Timor on marine monitoring and management, promoting sustainable use of marine resources. The project has been collecting data in several LMMAs in Ataúro, which are regularly being provided to local authorities to inform marine management.

#### **5. Project support to the Conventions, Treaties or Agreements**

The project is contributing to the three main objectives of the CBD as planned, in particular Articles 6, 8, 10 and 11. Firstly, the project has been working participatively with fishers in Ilik-namu and Behau on marine resource management (articles 7 and 8; see Annex 1.2b Ilik-namu consultations, 1.2c Cottonii Cooperative, 2.1a Draft regulations, 2.1b Behau notes and 4.1a Field notes), taking steps towards community-led protection and conservation of critical ecosystems and ensuring coastal communities are able to benefit from biodiversity (articles 6, 10, 11, 14). The project has promoted full participation of communities in the establishment and maintenance of a marine protected areas in line with decision VII/28 on protected areas, aligning with the Programme of Work on Marine Biodiversity. The project has also fulfilled articles 7 and 8 of the basic principles of the Programme of work on marine and coastal biodiversity by working participatively with fishers to manage biodiversity with the goal of reducing poverty and protecting preferential access rights. Seven consultations were held in Ilik-namu and two in Behau, which focused on both fisheries regulations (Activity 2.1) and LMMAs (Activity 4.1), with a core conservation area being identified and mapped by GPS (Activity 4.3), and full implementation of marine management measures to take place in the second year of the project which will contribute towards sustainable fishing and therefore benefiting the target coastal communities

By reinforcing the effective management of marine resources through a community-managed MPA and taking practical actions to rebuild fish populations and protect key habitats, the project is helping to protect critical ecosystems and ensure local, poor

communities are able to benefit sustainably from biodiversity; helping Timor-Leste achieve CBD Aichi Biodiversity Targets 6, 10, 11 and 14.

Blue Ventures consults regularly with the CBD working group and the SDG national focal point through our partnership with the Ministry of Commerce Industry and Environment. We have maintained a close working relationship with the CBD focal point since 2013 through designing the Global Environment Facility (GEF) Dugong and Seagrass Conservation Project.

## **6. Project support to poverty alleviation**

The project has been working to support poverty alleviation by creating alternative livelihoods and supporting families to diversify their income such as establishing a successful homestay programme that is directly benefiting community members in Beloi. The homestay programme has produced 1593 tourist nights for the homestays which is a huge achievement for the project this year. Each tourist paid \$15 a night and this income has on average doubled the annual income for these households (from \$100 to \$250, see Annex 3.1a, Homestay monitoring tool), providing a total amount of \$24,000 to the Homestay Association. The homestay project has also been benefiting other members of the community in Beloi when tourists visit local restaurants for lunch, buy handicrafts and souvenirs and also when they shop from the local kiosks (see Annex 3.2b, Volunteer Spending). This has also increased the incomes of others not involved in the homestay programme.

Also, the consultations to implement fisheries regulations have helped to promote sustainable fishing with the hope of this taking effect in the near future. Both the homestay and fisheries regulation initiatives have positively impacted communities, alleviating poverty and promoting sustainability in the long-term. See narrative under sections 3.5 and 5 for further information.

## **7. Project support to gender equality issues**

The implementation of the homestay programme is proving to be gender transformative, promoting female leadership by directly engaging women in hosting clients and targeting them with specific training programmes (e.g. food preparation, which was designed to engage 100% homestay women). Female leadership is fostered in weekly communications, in which Blue Ventures' staff encourage women to take part in homestay meetings and voice their opinion, with the current Treasurer of the association being female. Anecdotally, since the programme start, homestay women have been engaging in conservation initiatives (e.g. habitat monitoring, beach cleanings), directly engaging with local authorities, and engaging with local and international media (e.g. ABC News Australia).

The community-led habitat and fisheries monitoring programmes have specifically targeted women, with 80% and 100% of the team, respectively, being comprised of women (see Annex 1.3a CBM certificates May 2017, 1.5a Training schedule and 1.5b Training photo). Anecdotally, participation in monitoring is empowering women to take part in informal conversations around their role in the community and on marine resource management, plus promoting acceptance of female participation with local authorities. The clearest example of this was provided by the village chief of Biqueli, who requested a contact list for fisheries and seagrass monitoring operators, in order to refer to them on ocean-related issues, and promoting their work in the village. This is a great achievement for gender equality and with more women being accepted into different roles, which in the past were only taken by men, this is only expected to increase in the future.

In parallel with the project activities, Blue Ventures has established a new partnership with Marie Stopes International, and facilitated two workshops that specifically targeted male

community members in Beloi. Using the homestay men as a gateway to the wider community, the workshops discussed issues such as men's health, gender roles, and equality. The two workshops were attended by 15 community members, and the feedback they provided will be used to inform further activities in the second year of the project.

## **8. Monitoring and evaluation**

Blue Ventures delivers projects using principles of adaptive management, as part of a cycle that moves from project design, implementation and monitoring, to reviewing results, and back to project design (adapting / revising strategy and plans). The outputs' and activities' contribution to the project outcome is detailed in a theory of change that we refer to at all stages in this cycle. Review happens at a range of frequencies, depending on the thoroughness of the review, with the broad strategy reviewed less frequently (usually every 3 years), and the day-to-day implementation of activities reviewed more frequently (at least monthly).

We use data from monitoring and evaluation activities (described below) to continually assess the rationale behind our theory of change, and the assumptions that underpin it. We review the relevance of the Output and Activities of the project as part of a monthly check-in with the project manager. This year we have also undertaken a higher-level review of the site-level strategy and as part of this we are reviewing our overall theory of change, using data collected over recent years to inform this. We do not anticipate any major changes from this review but rather intend that this process will confirm that the Outputs and Activities are addressing the intended outcome.

The indicators provided in the project proposal are outlined in the logframe. These are largely being used, with one potential exception (discussed below), and expected results for the reporting period have been met. Additionally, this year we have updated the country-wide strategy. This has involved input from our Monitoring, Evaluation & Learning Team to ensure that the outputs and activities in the strategy are contributing to the intended long-term impact of the project and that we are monitoring and evaluating these with the correct indicators and methodologies.

Indicator 0.2 might prove to be the exception, as it is based on the assumption that a commercially-valuable, fast-growing species could be identified (e.g. octopus or other invertebrates), allowing for the provision of regular financial benefits. This was not possible to do in the first year of the project, as the main CBNRM site, Ilik-namu (and Atauro in general) do not have specialised fisheries for invertebrates.

Participatory monitoring (habitat and fisheries) is proving to be a suitable approach and is progressing, collecting baseline biodiversity information to inform marine management. 360° video monitoring was not implemented, due to the methodology proving to be less effective than expected. A phone-based methodology was implemented for fisheries monitoring and by doing so, we can work towards achieving the project outcome of reducing fishing pressure and protecting priority biodiversity areas in Timor-Leste. On the homestay programme, tourist nights are closely monitored to assess progress, and this information will help to assess any areas which may need improving.

No major changes were made to M&E over the reporting period. Several steps were taken however to strengthen our work in this area, with a visit from our central Monitoring, Evaluation & Learning Team based in the UK. They visited the programme in September 2017, providing hands-on monitoring and evaluation support for the programme. Highlights included working with the Country Manager and Conservation Assistant to develop the methods and mobile monitoring form for community-based fisheries monitoring, and refining the underwater survey schedule to provide data on the impacts of Tara Bandu (LMMAs) on

reef health. The team also tested a Baited Remote Underwater Video (BRUV) set-up, which is expected to provide more data on the fish species of Ataúro's seagrass meadows. Results were mixed but we expect some exciting footage in the future!

## **9. Lessons learnt**

The project was designed based on experiences from Madagascar, where the establishment of participatory monitoring led to consultations on fisheries regulations, which in turn led to the implementation of LMMAs. This linear progress did not happen in the first year of the project, largely due to the framework we have been working under - the local customary law Tara Bandu. As discussed in previous sections, Tara Bandu does not differentiate between fisheries regulations and conservation areas, and consultations on both topics took place simultaneously. This has been noted in preparation for consultations in our second site, Behau.

Fisheries are very diverse on Ataúro, covering a range of target species, gear, and fishing methods. This required our standard fisheries methodology to be redesigned and adapted, which took several months. The methodology is now being successfully employed in Ilik-namu, and will be replicated in Behau with ease. Similarly, a key assumption was that fisheries that would quickly respond to management (e.g. octopus) and therefore provide quick economic benefits, would be identified. This was not the case in our main CNRM site, Ilik-namu, as no such fishery has been identified. This will likely mean that another source of income has to be identified to off-set the multi-species closures and promote the sustainability of marine management initiatives in the site (e.g. income from ecotourism).

The establishment of the homestays, based on a short intensive development phase, followed by an exchange trip to Raja Ampat (see 'Homestays: bringing the economic benefits of tourism to community families' blog in Publications Section), and continuous training and support, proved to be very successful and the model should be considered in future initiatives as well. The exchange trip and peer training was particularly well received by participants. Exchange trips are particularly useful for ideas sharing, and we would recommend other organisations to do the same in order to create a successful homestay project. In the first year, the homestays proved to be a powerful tool to build a relationship with the community, and build the trust needed to engage them in consultations on marine management. This was achieved through the regular meetings and communications required for the development and coordination of the homestays, and also by providing stable financial benefits and training opportunities to participating families. It is possible that the financial benefits provided by the homestays will act as a catalyst for further marine management in Beloi, taking the role that we originally expected temporary closures to have.

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

No comments yet received from the half year report.

## **11. Other comments on progress not covered elsewhere**

During the first year of the project, activities were successfully piloted in Beloi and Ilik-namu on Ataúro island. In this period, Blue Ventures reached out to communities on the mainland, and received enthusiastic feedback from Behau. Due to this interest, we have decided to target Behau as a second site to replicate the project activities, specifically community-based monitoring, fisheries regulations and LMMAs. This will allow us to extend our reach, benefit a larger number of coastal people, and test the replicability of the models implemented in Ataúro.

This said, some challenges have been encountered in engaging more remote communities (i.e. Ilik-namu and Behau). Both communities have poor phone service, and this made it difficult to reach out to key community members and organise activities, especially towards the end of the reporting period. Ataúro etiquette requires that higher-level activities (i.e. consultations on fisheries monitoring and management) are coordinated by local authorities and are not organised at a grassroots level; this proved to be a challenge as local authorities in Ilik-namu failed to disseminate information and organise consultations, especially again towards the end of the reporting period. While this will likely continue to be a challenge, we are working towards establishing a bigger network of contacts in the communities.

Difficult seasonal field conditions, which are likely to occur yearly, slowed down progress between June and August. Strong winds and currents affected the monitoring schedule, with several sessions being cancelled. Also, a dengue outbreak, which affected 75% of the international staff, also affected the delivery of the project and may prove to be a barrier to ecotourism development on Ataúro and in Timor-Leste. To target this, we are coordinating with our accommodation provider to ensure stagnant pools of water are cleaned up to prevent mosquito breeding. Also, regular fogging is now taking place at our base camp in Atauro to reduce the risk. All accommodation has mosquito nets that are fit for purpose and all ecotourists and staff are advised of the need for adequate clothing and insect repellent during evening and morning hours. Clear medical guidance and protocols have been established to ensure that all volunteers and staff are carefully monitored for signs and symptoms of dengue fever and that any suspected cases of dengue fever receive the appropriate care as soon as possible.

The 2017 elections failed to produce a clear majority, which caused instability in the country and largely paralysed the government, affecting both activity delivery and partnership building. New elections have been called for May 2018; should these produce a clear majority; a new government is expected to be in place by September 2018. We will maintain close communication with our team, follow all news sources and UK Government advice and take advice from in-country partners and advisers and the Government of Timor-Leste.

## **12. Sustainability and legacy**

Project activities were widely discussed on Ataúro and, to a lesser extent, on mainland Timor, with local authorities and communities. These raised interest in several communities, most importantly resulting in Blue Ventures being invited by the communities of Ilik-namu and Behau to support marine management. Additionally, the strength of the monitoring programmes established during the first year of the project resulted in Blue Ventures being formally invited to be the monitoring partner of three Tara Bandu LMMAs.

The project team has been building new partnerships throughout its first year, reaching out to both international (e.g. Marie Stopes International, Conservation International) and local (e.g. Konservasaun Flora no Fauna) organisations, raising the profile of the project in Timor-Leste and building a solid foundation to pursue potential future opportunities.

In its first year, the project put great effort into local capacity building, promoting long-term sustainability of project activities. The homestay association has been receiving training aimed at promoting full independence, and is making significant progress towards its goal. Ten community members have been fully trained in habitat monitoring and eight in fisheries monitoring, enabling independent data collection (see Annex 1.3a, CBM certificates May 2017). Two Timorese staff members have also been trained to PADI Rescue Diver certification, and will complete their Dive Master training in mid-2018.

All project activities have been extensively discussed with communities and stakeholders, promoting local support that will ultimately ensure sustainability. Our general approach of identifying near- and longer-term incentives for communities - for example homestays and

income from wider tourist spending - remains a key focus for sustaining community participation in local marine management.

Following the development and consolidation phase in the first year of the project, the priority for the homestay in the second year is to promote tourism independent of Blue Ventures, diversifying the customer base and building resilience. This will be achieved by providing information materials to tourism operators in Dili, listing the homestays on relevant websites.

### 13. Darwin identity

The logo was included in all presentations, and the Darwin Initiative was mentioned in all related posts in our blog Beyond Conservation (see Annex 3, table 2).

In March, we hosted a visit from representatives of the British Embassy in Jakarta, who were given an overview of the project and the progress made, visited the homestays, and observed a training session for fisheries monitoring

(see [tweet: https://twitter.com/HarryMacDonald0/status/974569159689306113](https://twitter.com/HarryMacDonald0/status/974569159689306113)).

In March, the Country Manager attended the Blue Solutions Fair in Pattaya, Thailand, to share lessons learnt during the project, and will present preliminary results at the IMCC5 in Malaysia in June 2018. Additionally, the Country Manager was invited by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries to submit an abstract to the PEMSEA EAS Congress 2018 to discuss lessons from marine management in Atauro.

### 14. Project expenditure

**Table 1: Project expenditure during the reporting period (1 April 2017 – 31 March 2018)**

<b>Project spend (indicative) since last annual report</b>	<b>2017/18 Grant (£)</b>	<b>2017/18 Total Darwin Costs (£)</b>	<b>Variance %</b>	<b>Comments (please explain significant variances)</b>
Staff costs (see below)			+2.4%	
Consultancy costs			-8.2%	
Overhead Costs			0.0%	
Travel and subsistence			1.5%	
Operating Costs			-7.9%	
Capital items (see below)			7.5%	

Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E)				
Others (see below)			-3.5%	
<b>TOTAL</b>				

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

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2017 - March 2018	Actions required/planned for next period
<p><b>Impact</b></p> <p>Incentivising community-led marine biodiversity conservation on Atauro Island</p>		<p>The project has successfully engaged in community-based natural resource management in two main communities, Ilik-namu and Behau, making progress towards the establishment of fisheries regulations and LMMAs (Output 2). This process will empower the two communities to take ownership and sustainably manage their own marine resources, while ensuring livelihoods are not damage through the implementation of alternative options.</p> <p>The project has additionally been working with two more communities, Beloi and Vila, on marine monitoring and ecotourism (i.e. homestay programme and paid dives in LMMAs) (Indicator 3.1). Both communities already implemented marine management measures, with Blue Ventures becoming the formal monitoring partner.</p> <p>The project engaged 18 community members (16 of which women) in</p>	

		<p>participatory monitoring (Output 1) as a way to empower communities to be in charge of their own resources.</p>	
<p><b>Outcome</b> Reducing fishing pressure and protecting priority biodiversity areas in Timor-Leste through community-based marine resource management and sustainable alternative livelihoods benefiting 9,000 people in coastal communities.</p>	<p><b>0.1</b> 25% households in target community have increased total household income as a result of ecotourism by end Y3 and continuing in Y4, against baseline to be established end Y1.</p> <p><b>0.2</b> Fisheries management benefits increase mean fisher incomes by 50% by Y4 (against Y2 baseline).</p> <p><b>0.3</b> Marine area managed/protected by communities on Ataúro increases from 1 area in Ataúro in Y1 to 3 areas by end Y4.</p> <p><b>0.4</b> Key biodiversity indicators (reef fish, coral, invertebrate) within locally managed/protected areas remain stable or increase by end Y4.</p>	<p>The project has successfully engaged four main communities in its first year (Indicator 1.1), identifying a main tourism site (Beloi) and a satellite one (Adara), and two CBNRM sites (Ilik-namu and Behau). Habitat and fisheries monitoring programmes have been established in Ataúro, and thorough consultations on fisheries regulations and LMMAs have been carried out in Ilik-namu, leading to the expected implementation of marine management measures (including complete protection for a priority biodiversity area), in mid-2018 (Output 1). A successful homestay programme was established as a sustainable alternative livelihood in Beloi (Indicator 3.1).</p> <p>The project has doubled average household income in the homestay households, providing a total amount of \$24,000 to the homestay association (\$250/month per household). Additionally, the project</p>	<p>The project will focus on promoting the homestays to a broader market through direct engagement of tourism operators in Dili and online advertising, increasing sustainable tourism in Ataúro.</p> <p>The community-based monitoring programmes in Ataúro will require ongoing support, and considerable effort will be put in analysing data, specifically for data sharing. A major data sharing session is being planned for August 2018.</p> <p>Following a period of slow progress, the project staff will be focusing on rebuilding momentum in Ilik-namu, in order to implement the discussed marine management</p>

		<p>has directly or indirectly been supporting a local camping eco-resort, restaurant, handicraft shops, and kiosks, as well as involving two additional female-led households in providing laundry services (see Annex 3.2b, Volunteer Spending), reaching an estimated 25% of households in the target community of Beloi (0.1).</p> <p>Fisheries management has been discussed in Ilik-namu, and measures have been drafted (Activity 2.1); however, they have not been put in place yet. Benefits have been estimated based on the assumption that a fishery with potential to respond to management quickly would be identified, but the assumption was not correct. This will need to be addressed in year two.</p> <p>Four new LMMAs have been established in Ataúro in the first year of the project (0.3). A baseline of key indicators, including reef fish, coral, invertebrate, seagrass and cetaceans was collected in the first year (0.4), allowing for monitoring in the following years.</p>	<p>measures, approve a work plan, and start building capacity for marine management through the establishment of a co-management group and the delivery of a training programme.</p> <p>The project will aim to replicate lessons learnt in Ataúro in the mainland community of Behau. A training programme on habitat (reef and seagrass) and fisheries monitoring will start in June 2018, in parallel with consultations on marine management.</p> <p>Effort will be put in reassessing assumption 7, and whether a commercially important fishery can be identified, as data collected as part of the participator fisheries monitoring programme might present further opportunities for management. If this will not be the case, the project will assess whether it will be necessary to focus on</p>
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			<p>providing other incentives (e.g. ecotourism, agriculture), in order to catalyse management in further sites and ensure sustainability of established measures. This being said, sufficient benefits could be provided by the permanent no-take zone approach that is favoured by Timorese communities.</p>
<p><b>Output 1.</b> Local marine management and ecotourism development plans in place, using site identification, zoning and indicator information provided via stakeholder consultations and participatory community marine resource assessment and monitoring.</p>	<p><b>1.1</b> At least 1 site for CBNRM and ecotourism activities identified by end of Y1.</p> <p><b>1.2</b> At least 10 community members (≥50% women) trained in participatory ecological assessment methods by end Y1 Q1.</p> <p><b>1.3</b> Participatory habitat status assessment completed by communities by end Y1 Q2.</p> <p><b>1.4</b> At least 10 community members (≥50% women) trained in fisheries monitoring procedures by end of Y1.</p> <p><b>1.5</b> Communities are conducting ongoing participatory ecological and fisheries monitoring, including quarterly feedback to community</p>	<p>Output 1 has largely been delivered in the first year of the project. Community consultations, leading to the selection of Beloi as a main tourism and homestay site, and Adara as a satellite site, were carried out before the start of the project (Activity 1.1, completed). Consultations on CBNRM were carried out in Beloi, Ilik-namu, and Behau, and the latter two have been selected as the target sites (Activity 1.2, completed). Ten community members have been trained in seagrass mapping and monitoring (Activity 1.3, completed, see Annex 1.3a CBM certificates May 2017), and a habitat assessment was delivered (Activity 1.4, completed). Data from the assessment is currently being processed and will be made available to communities and stakeholders in year 2. Following a long development phase, a fisheries monitoring training programme was delivered to eight women (Activity 1.5, almost completed - two more operators still needed to achieve full success), and a monitoring programme established in Ilik-namu (Activity 1.6, almost completed - the programme needs to be implemented in a second village in order to achieve full success). Both incomplete activities are expected to be completed in mid-2018 as we develop Behau as a second CBNRM site. A major data sharing session was delivered in December, as well as informal sessions held in Ilik-</p>	

	<p>leaders and managers by end of Y2.</p>	<p>namu (Activity 1.7, completed and ongoing).</p> <p>1.1 Complete. Main and satellite sites for ecotourism activities (Beloi and Adara, on Ataúro island) were identified in 2016 and these activities are continuing. Additional sites for diving activities (Biqueli, Vila, Uaro-ana, Akrema, Ilik-namu, Atrekru, Vatu'u) have also been identified. Main site for CBNRM activities (Ilik-namu, see Annex 1.2b Ilik-namu consultations and 1.2c Cottonii Cooperative) was identified in 2017, a second CBNRM site (Behau; see Annex 2.1b Behau notes and 4.1a Field notes) was identified in 2018.</p> <p>1.2 Complete. Ten community members (80% women) have been trained in seagrass assessment methods (both mapping and monitoring), based on the Seagrass Watch methodology by August 2017 (see Annex 1.2d and 1.2e Sample training materials, see activity 1.3) Seagrass was selected as a priority habitat for monitoring due to its importance for fisheries, abundance in the east coast of Ataúro, and the fact that it occurs in shallow water, therefore not requiring operators to be strong swimmers. In the second year, the project will expand the seagrass monitoring team, establishing a second team in Behau, as well as developing a reef monitoring team, which will employ a Reef Check methodology.</p> <p>1.3 Habitat assessment (seagrass mapping) completed by March 2018 (see Annex 1.3b and c). Data is currently being processed and will be made available in mid-2018. Participatory habitat mapping exercises were carried out with the community of Ilik-namu, aimed at identifying key habitats and areas for marine management, and Beloi, as part of initial consultations on marine management.</p> <p>1.4 Eight community members (100% women) trained in fisheries monitoring methods by March 2018 (see Annex 1.5a Training schedule and 1.5b Training photo).</p> <p>1.5 Eight Community members (see 1.4) monitoring catches</p>
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		<p>twice a week starting from March 2018, in Ilik-namu. (see Annex 1.6a Preliminary fisheries data). Seagrass monitoring will start in April 2018.</p> <p>Preliminary data was shared with local stakeholders during a session organised by Conservation International (see Annex 1.7 CI Stakeholder meeting). More regular sessions will be held in 2018 as enough data is collected and analysed.</p>
<p>Activity 1.1 Community consultations on ecotourism homestay work plan and activities at 2-3 villages, consulting communities and women's groups.</p>		<p>Approximately six community consultations were completed in Beloi village before the start of the project, with eight households ready to host ecotourists in January 2017. Adara, on the west coast of Ataúro, was selected as a satellite site; regular trips to the village are organised, with tourists staying at a local eco-resort and diving in a LMMA. A further two consultations (see Annex 1.1a Uaro-ana consultation notes) were held in Uaro-ana in August, but communities were less interested in homestays. Potential new sites Behau and Baucau have been scoped (see section 3.1; see Annex 1.1e, Baucau notes), and further engagement in both villages is being assessed.</p> <p>Ecotourism activities are supporting the implementation of locally-managed marine protected areas, established under customary <i>Tara Bandu</i> law, by monitoring protected reef and paying an access fee. Agreements were signed (see Annex 1.1b, c, d; Tara Bandu Agreements) with the Tara Bandu authorities in the villages of Beloi and Vila, covering the Tara Bandu of Haru Ina, Watu Aii and Vila Reef, allowing Blue Ventures to dive in the core areas for data collection on coral cover and health, invertebrates and fish. In addition to BV providing technical support, such as data sharing, each diver contributes \$2 per dive. A similar verbal agreement has also been made with the authorities of Biqueli, covering the Tara Bandu of Akrema and Uaro-ana. Additionally, recreational dives are carried out in the Tara Bandu in Adara for a \$1.50 access fee per diver.</p>

	<p>Activities in the next period will focus on fully assessing Behau and Baucau's potential for ecotourism.</p>
<p>Activity 1.2 Community, NGO and wider stakeholder consultations for natural resource management at 2-3 villages, with local consultations consulting both communities and women's groups.</p>	<p>Two community consultations (see Annex 1.2a consultation notes) were carried out in Beloi in March and May, but results suggested the community's needs for marine management were being met by other organisations. Agreements to regulate access and monitoring of Tara Bandu LMMAs were signed in January (see Annex 1.1.b, c, d; Tara Bandu agreements) between BV and local authorities of Beloi and Vila, promoting further engagement with both communities.</p> <p>Seven major consultations (see Annex 1.2b, Ilik-namu consultations and 1.2c Cottonii Cooperative), plus several informal ones, in Ilik-namu, started in May, showed more promise, with the community enthusiastically requesting support in establishing marine management. Consultations aimed at defining marine management measures were carried out in June, July, August, October, and February and were supported by regular phone calls and informal meetings with local authorities and key community leaders. It was noted that female participation in consultations was low, which is why the fisheries monitoring programme specifically targeted women (see Activity 1.5).</p> <p>Two consultations (see Annex 2.1b Behau notes and 4.1a Field notes) in Behau were started in October with local authorities and fishermen's representatives, and resumed in March. The community showed great interest in both fisheries monitoring and management, and both initiatives will start in the village in April 2018.</p> <p>Activities in the next period will focus on continuing consultations in Ilik-namu and Behau as our main CBNRM sites, and discussing further engagement in Baucau, Vila, and Beloi.</p>

<p>Activity 1.3 Train (minimum) 10 community members in habitat monitoring (minimum 50% women), including use of underwater 360° video.</p>	<p>A training course (five class sessions, plus field training, a swim test, and a knowledge review) for participatory seagrass mapping and monitoring, based on the Seagrass Watch methodology, was completed by eight operators in May (see Annex 1.2d, e Sample training materials and 1.3a CBM certificates May 2017). Training activities were postponed in June and July due to adverse weather and a dengue outbreak, but resumed in August, when two additional operators were certified, bringing the total to ten (eight women and two men).</p> <p>As additional community members showed interest in receiving the training a second course is planned for mid-2018.</p> <p>In order to include reefs in our community-based monitoring, Conservation Officer Jenny House was certified as Reef Check Director in November, and certified Field Scientist Roxane de Waegh as EcoDiver Trainer. A community-based reef monitoring training programme is tentatively scheduled for late 2018.</p> <p>Activities in the next period will focus on training additional habitat monitoring operators, largely from the homestay association, and establishing a more regular monitoring schedule.</p>
<p>Activity 1.4 Conduct participatory habitat assessments across southeast and northeast coastal zones of Ataúro.</p>	<p>Nine habitat mapping sessions were held with ten community members in May, August, October, November and February, completing the assessment, covering 6 km of coast between Beloi and Biqueli (see Annex 1.4a, preliminary survey map). Data will be analysed in mid-2018 and shared with local stakeholders.</p> <p>Activities in the next period will focus on data sharing, presenting results from the first year to stakeholders in Dili and Ataúro.</p>
<p>Activity 1.5 Train (minimum) 10 community members in fisheries monitoring, simple analysis and presenting information back to communities (minimum 50% women).</p>	<p>The methodology was developed between October and February, in parallel with outreach activities. The training programme was designed in February, following the finalisation of the smartphone-based methodology, and eight women from</p>

	<p>Ilik-namu completed the five-session (welcome session; phone and ODK use; fish ID, scales and photography; peer learning; review) training in March (see Annex 1.5a; training notes and 1.5b; training photo).</p> <p>One outreach session was carried out in Behau in March, and preparations to start a second monitoring programme in the village in mid-2018 are underway.</p> <p>Activities in the next period will focus on training additional operators in Behau, as well as sharing data from our first six months to stakeholders in Dili and Atauro.</p>
<p>Activity 1.6 Establish participatory fisheries monitoring programme in 2-3 villages for duration of project.</p>	<p>Following the training received in mid-March (see Activity 1.5), eight female community operators started collecting data in Ilik-namu in late March (see Annex 1.6a; preliminary fisheries data).</p> <p>A second programme in Behau, replicating the methodology used in Ilik-namu, is planned for mid-2018.</p>
<p>Activity 1.7 Disseminate results of participatory monitoring to communities, community leaders and women's groups on Atauro, including through use of 360° VR engagement tools showcasing underwater monitoring footage.</p>	<p>A major data sharing session, organised by Conservation International (CI) was held in Beloi in December. In addition to stakeholders from Atauro, a visiting group from Com, a community on the mainland that has been working on marine management with CI, attended our session, which focused on data from our reef and seagrass monitoring programmes (see Annex 1.7, CI Stakeholder meeting).</p> <p>Additionally, informal sessions were held in Ilik-namu as part of the consultations on marine management throughout the year. Processing data for sharing is our key priority for the second year, with several sharing events currently being planned.</p>
<p><b>Output 2.</b> Locally-led fisheries management measures piloted and continued by communities</p>	<p><b>2.1</b> Fisheries management measures (e.g. periodic fishing site closures), decided by the target local community in Y2, piloted by</p> <p>Progress towards output 2 has been more than satisfactory, with several activities being delivered ahead of schedule. Locally-led fisheries management measures (and LMMAs, see Output 4) were discussed with the community of Ilik-namu throughout</p>

	<p>end Y3 for <b>at least one key fishery species</b>.</p> <p><b>2.2</b> Community outreach events held at least twice a year, to give feedback of participatory monitoring and results of local resource management.</p>	<p>2017 (Activity 2.1, ongoing), producing a draft legislation (Tara Bandu) with implementation likely to start in mid-2018. At the moment, the communities have opted for a multi-species closure approach rather than closures targeting key species (Activity 2.2, completed). In other communities, we have used single species closures to catalyse longer-term management solutions but the communities in Timor-Leste have decided to skip this step and move straight to closed areas choosing a model which closes an area for two years and re-opens for three months. A work plan was proposed to the community in March 2018 (Activity 2.3, ongoing), to be approved in April 2018. Consultations started in potential second site Behau in October 2017.</p> <p>2.1 Fisheries management measures including LMMAs, were discussed in 2017 with the community of Ilik-namu (see Annex 1.2b Ilik-namu consultations and 1.2c Cottonii Cooperative), and draft legislation (Tara Bandu, see Annex 2.1a Draft regulations) was provided to the community for internal discussions in November 2017.</p> <p>2.2 One data sharing session held in Beloi in December 2017, in addition to informal sessions held in Ilik-namu throughout consultation period (see Annex 1.7a CI Stakeholder meeting).</p>
<p>Activity 2.1 Village level workshops, with communities and women's groups, to discuss fisheries management options based on participatory monitoring data, and discussions on key fisheries and threats.</p>		<p>Seven major consultations, plus several informal meetings and smaller meetings with local authorities and community leaders (see Annex 1.2b, Ilik-namu consultations and 1.2c; Cottonii Cooperative) on fisheries management and LMMAs were held in Ilik-namu. These started very early in the project, prompted by the community's concerns over decreasing catches and a sense of urgency to take action. Very little data were available at the beginning of the consultations, and although a series of measures was proposed and discussed with the community, it was also agreed that these might change as more data become available.</p> <p>Consultations were carried out between March and November,</p>

	<p>and produced a draft Tara Bandu legislation that the community is currently discussing internally. The working regulations include provisions such as banning nets on reefs and seagrass, banning poison and dynamite fishing and to identify a key reef to convert in a two-year no take zone (see Annex, 2.1a Draft regulations).</p> <p>Activities in the next period will focus on continuing consultations to ensure consensus in the community in Ilik-namu and Behau.</p>
<p>Activity 2.2. One key fishery selected for trial management measure through further consultations with communities and women's groups, with minimum 1 village.</p>	<p>One workshop in Ilik-namu produced a list of four key economically important fisheries: grouper, tuna, fusilier, and lobster. Management measures (see Activity 2.1) have been designed to prioritise recovery of these groups. Fisheries monitoring focuses on these four groups and adds parrotfish and octopus to the list as these are also interesting from an ecological and economic perspective, respectively.</p> <p>Activities in the next period will focus on analysing data from fisheries monitoring to assess the potential of octopus management and the effectiveness of the agreed measures.</p>
<p>Activity 2.3 Work plan agreed upon with community – including women's groups – for timeline for local fisheries management (e.g. location, duration, rules).</p>	<p>A timeline was broadly discussed throughout the consultations, and it was agreed that measures will be approved and implemented in mid-2018. It should however be noted that a number of factors, including the need for lengthy internal community consultations, disruption caused by religious celebrations and other community events, and fishermen being unavailable due to being out at sea often resulted in rescheduling planned activities. This will likely continue to require a degree of flexibility in the future.</p>
<p>Activity 2.4 Support provided to community and women's groups for implementation of work plan.</p>	<p>Activities are likely to start in middle of 2018.</p>
<p>Activity 2.5 Results of management measure evaluated with the community and improvements suggested and implemented.</p>	<p>Activities will start at the end of the two-year closing period opted for by the community.</p>
<p>Activity 2.6 Twice yearly outreach events with wider community – men and women – to disseminate results from local management and</p>	<p>See 1.7</p>

monitoring.	
<p><b>Output 3.</b> Community members are trained and employed in ecotourism activities</p>	<p><b>3.1</b> New locally owned ecotourism and homestay services are established in 1 target community (12 families) (Beloi) in Timor-Leste by end Y1, and in 2 further communities on the island by end Y3.</p> <p><b>3.2</b> 50% (approx. 300 people) of adults in target community (at least 50% women) receive training by Blue Ventures, and by trained homestay members, in ecotourism service provision as hosts, ecoguides and other income generating activities by end Y2.</p>
Activity 3.1 First round of homestay participants selected.	<p>Output 3 was largely delivered during the first year of the project. The project has selected eight households (Activity 3.1, completed) and provided ongoing training (Activity 3.5, completed and ongoing). Households achieved the agreed standards (Activity 3.3, completed) and participated in an exchange trip with the Raja Ampat Homestay Association (Activity 3.4, completed). The newly-established Atauro Homestay Association adopted a statute, elected a board, and is currently preparing the necessary paperwork for registration (Activity 3.2, delayed due to instability in the government). Registration is expected to be completed by mid-2018. The association is provided ongoing management support, with regular meetings and phone calls (Activity 1.7, completed and ongoing).</p> <p>3.1 Eight homestays established in Beloi in January 2017 and fully running throughout reporting period (see Annex 3.1a Homestay monitoring tool, 3.2a Homestay statute, and 3.3a Criteria Homestay handout).</p> <p>3.2 Total of 29 people took part in training programmes organised by the project. 16 people from the Homestay Association received training in ecotourism (50% women, 2016), business management (50% women, September 2017; see Annex 3.5a Training agreements 1 &amp; 2), food preparation (100% women, February 2018). Six additional community members (50% women) received peer-training in food preparation by the homestay association in August 2018. 15 community members (100% male, including eight members of the Homestay Association) received training in health and gender issues in October 2017 and February 2018.</p> <p>Eight households went through a period of training and development between late 2016 and early 2017 (see Annex 3.5a Training agreements 1 &amp; 2). This included receiving a small loan</p>

	<p>to improve their houses, alongside agreed standards (see Annex 3.3 Criteria Homestay handout), training on hygiene and food preparation and an exchange trip to Raja Ampat to receive peer training from the successful local homestay association (see Activity 3.4, see 'From Ataúro to Raja Ampat: a homestay adventure' blog in Table 2 Publications).</p> <p>The eight homestays started hosting tourists in January 2017. As of March 2018, there were 1593 tourist nights recorded (see Annex 3.1a, Homestay monitoring tool).</p>
<p>Activity 3.2 Homestay Association set up with legal paperwork completed, with equal representation of women within Association board.</p>	<p>The Homestay Association has been supported in the establishment of temporary leadership in 2017, and in the election of a council in January, when a new Coordinator, Deputy Coordinator, Secretary and Treasurer were elected. The association approved a statute (see Annex 3.2a, Homestay statute) and is now ready to start the registration process.</p> <p>It is worth mentioning that the registration was delayed in 2017 due to instability in the government, which caused disruption within government bodies. New elections have been called for May 2018 and the situation should return to normal shortly thereafter, allowing the association to complete the registration. Completing the registration is one of the key priorities for our second year.</p>
<p>Activity 3.3 Business plans developed and standards for homestays agreed upon.</p>	<p>Standards were agreed upon before homestays started hosting guests in 2017. These include standards for furniture, hygiene, food preparation, privacy, etc. (see Annex 3.3a, Criteria homestay handout).</p> <p>Future opportunities currently being discussed with the Homestay Association include the establishment of a new saving fund or a community fund.</p>

<p>Activity 3.4 Exchange trip to Raja Ampat, Indonesia, to meet and learn from a successful homestay group.</p>	<p>Six representatives took part in an exchange trip to Raja Ampat in February 2017. Participants discussed the process of establishing homestays with the local Raja Ampat Homestay Association (RAHA), receiving peer training as well as motivation to pursue the opportunity ('From Ataúro to Raja Ampat: a homestay adventure' in Annex 3, Table 2 Publications of this document). Participants reported the experience as being a fundamental part of the homestay development process. Funds for a return exchange trip, with members from RAHA visiting Ataúro, are currently being sought.</p>
<p>Activity 3.5 Training given on key areas such as health and safety, cuisine and catering, language and hospitality, budget management, tourist expectations and ecoguiding.</p>	<p>In September, the homestay association received training (see Annex 3.5a; training agreements 1 &amp; 2) on small business management from Empreza Di'ak, a local organisation that focuses on empowering local communities through business support.</p> <p>In October, we facilitated a workshop on men's health and gender roles by Marie Stopes Timor-Leste, who targeted the homestay men and other male community members. The training continued with a second session in February. The development of a more structured programme will be discussed with Marie Stopes in mid-2018.</p> <p>In January the homestay members started taking part in weekly English classes offered by Blue Ventures' staff.</p> <p>In February, the homestay women took part in a day-long training organised by Agora Food Studio, focusing on using local ingredients to prepare balanced meal and engaging homestay guests in food preparation.</p> <p>Continuing health, English, and food training is our key priority for the second year of the project.</p>

<p>Activity 3.6 Ongoing support to Homestay Association through monthly meetings focusing on continuous improvement through feedback, and facilitated induction of first guests.</p>	<p>Formal meetings to discuss progress, issues and future developments have been held monthly. These have been supported by weekly phone calls and informal meetings.</p>
<p>Activity 3.7 Workshops with further villages for subsequent expansion of homestay association.</p>	<p>See 1.1 Activities have not been carried out in the first year, but will be considered as the potential for Behau and or Baucau for ecotourism is assessed. These could include an exchange trip between the two communities.</p>
<p><b>Output 4.</b> Locally managed marine area (LMMA) established.</p>	<p><b>4.1</b> By end Y2, 100% of target community has been engaged in discussions on LMMAs.</p> <p><b>4.2</b> Community stakeholder group (at least 50% women) receives training on how to establish and manage an LMMA in Timor-Leste by end Y3.</p> <p><b>4.3</b> Target community delineates LMMA and develops zoning and management plan by end Y3, coming into effect by end Y4.</p> <p>Progress towards the delivery of output 4 was made ahead of schedule in the first year of the project. This was due to two factors, the widespread concern of communities in Atauro over declining fish catches and the resulting need to take action, and the nature of the customary law regulating natural resources in Timor-Leste (Tara Bandu, as mentioned under output 2). Workshops were held in Ilik-namu discussing LMMA benefits and potential management (Activity 4.1, almost completed), criteria (Activity 4.3, almost completed) and a key reef was identified, with LMMA borders mapped by GPS (Activity 4.5, ongoing). These activities produced a Tara Bandu draft legislation, which is now in the process of being approved. Following approval, the project will liaise with the Ministry of Development and Reform, with which a Memorandum of Understanding was secured, to transpose the local law into national law (Activity 4.6, ongoing).</p> <p>Consultations were also started in Behau, and are at a very early stage.</p> <p>4.1 In progress in both Ilik-namu (100% of community) and Behau (50% of community); consultations targeted local authorities, church groups, women's groups, fishermen, youth.</p> <p>4.2 Informal training provided during consultations in Ilik-namu; a more structured programme is scheduled for late 2018.</p> <p>4.3 LMMA delineated and zoned in Ilik-namu, with formal approval expected for mid-2018</p>

<p>4.1 Workshops with community (from activities 2.2 to 2.5) and women's groups to discuss potential benefits of developing an LMMA and locally relevant mechanisms for management (e.g. <i>Tara Bandu</i>).</p>	<p>As mentioned under Activities 1.2 and 2.1, consultations (see Annex 1.2a-e and 2.1a &amp; b) in Ilik-namu quickly moved towards marine management, both in the sense of fisheries regulations and the establishment of an LMMA under customary law <i>Tara Bandu</i>. The benefits of temporary closures and permanent no take zones were discussed with the community, who felt temporary closures would be too complex to manage and would not address their focus fisheries, which are largely composed by finfish.</p> <p>Two consultations (see Annex 2.1b Behau notes and 4.1a; field notes) held in Behau in October and March quickly identified the need for a <i>Tara Bandu</i> LMMA as one of the most urgent actions to take. Details have not been discussed yet and will be covered during consultations in mid-2018.</p>
<p>4.2 Training in LMMA management and what it means for the village, including exchange trips to the village of Adara to meet other villages engaged in LMMAs, with minimum 50% participation by women.</p>	<p>See 4.1. Activities have not taken place in the first year but are tentatively planned for late 2018.</p>
<p>4.3 Workshops to decide on LMMA criteria (e.g. size, zoning, rules), with minimum 50% participation by women.</p>	<p>Seven consultations were held throughout the reporting period (see Activities 1.2, 2.1, and 4.1 for details), and the community agreed on closing a section of reef for two years and reopening it for regulated fishing at the end of the two-year period for three months. The cycle is then planned to be repeated; however, data coming from monitoring will inform further action. The no-take zone (-8.204346, 125.629781), the core area of the LMMA, was mapped by GPS with community members in October 2017.</p>
<p>4.4 Workshops to draft a local management plan for the LMMA, with minimum 50% participation by women.</p>	<p>During the seven consultations carried out in Ilik-namu, the key principles for management, including a rotation schedule for the no-take zone, the need to protect sensitive habitats, the importance of monitoring, and the establishment of a co-management group, were discussed. These will be used to prepare a management plan following the formalisation of the LMMA.</p>

4.5 Delineation of LMMA and outreach by communities.	Although the key reef has been mapped by GPS, buoys have not been sunk yet as the community is carrying out last internal consultations before final approval. Completing the process in Ilik-namu is a key priority for the next period.
4.6 Support on any required administration with Ministries.	A Memorandum of Understanding (see Annex 4.6a, MOU) was signed between Blue Ventures and the Ministry of Environment in order to facilitate administrative work. Four meetings have also been regularly held with the Ministry of Fisheries, in the Dili offices and with the representative on Atauro, who has been overseeing the Tara Bandu work.

**Annex 2: Project’s full current log frame as presented in the application form (unless changes have been agreed)**

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
<p><b>Impact:</b> The livelihoods of coastal communities in Timor-Leste are improved and diversified through effective local management of inshore coastal resources and alternative livelihoods.</p>			
<p><b>Outcome:</b> Reducing fishing pressure and protecting priority biodiversity areas in Timor-Leste through community-based marine resource management and sustainable alternative livelihoods benefiting 9,000 people in coastal communities.</p>	<p><b>0.1</b> 25% households in target community have increased total household income as a result of ecotourism by end Y3 and continuing in Y4, against baseline to be established end Y1.</p> <p><b>0.2</b> Fisheries management benefits increase mean fisher incomes by 50% by Y4 (against Y2 baseline).</p> <p><b>0.3</b> Marine area managed/protected by communities on Atauro increases from 1 area in Atauro in Y1 to 3 areas by end Y4.</p> <p><b>0.4</b> Key biodiversity indicators (reef fish, coral, invertebrate) within locally managed/protected areas remain stable or increase by end Y4.</p>	<p><b>0.1a</b> Household income surveys conducted pre- (Y1) and post-ecotourism development (Y4);</p> <p><b>0.1b</b> Data from ecotourists documenting average spend per week on Atauro, collected via feedback surveys every 6 weeks.</p> <p><b>0.2</b> Participatory fisheries landings and market price monitoring.</p> <p><b>0.3</b> Documents formalising Taru Bandu and/or community endorsed zoning/delimitation maps.</p> <p><b>0.4a</b> Surveys of fish diversity (SpR/SDI) and/or fish biomass (kg/ha) protected within managed areas.</p> <p><b>0.4b</b> Surveys of benthic diversity (% cover of key benthic groups) within managed areas.</p> <p><b>0.4c</b> Commercially exploited</p>	<p>Shift from fishing to ecotourism for income generation reduces number of people dependent on fishing.</p> <p>Income from fisheries management incentivises further community-based natural resource management (CBNRM).</p> <p>Fisheries management initiatives do not increase number of people fishing, but allow people to fish less and catch more.</p>

		invertebrate abundance surveys within managed areas.	
<p><b>Output 1</b></p> <p>Local marine management and ecotourism development plans in place, using site identification, zoning and indicator information provided via stakeholder consultations and participatory community marine resource assessment and monitoring.</p>	<p><b>1.1</b> At least 1 site for CBNRM and ecotourism activities identified by end of Y1.</p> <p><b>1.2</b> At least 10 community members (≥50% women) trained in participatory ecological assessment methods by end Y1 Q1.</p> <p><b>1.3</b> Participatory habitat status assessment completed by communities by end Y1 Q2.</p> <p><b>1.4</b> At least 10 community members (≥50% women) trained in fisheries monitoring procedures by end of Y1.</p> <p><b>1.5</b> Communities are conducting ongoing participatory ecological and fisheries monitoring, including quarterly feedback to community leaders and managers by end of Y2.</p>	<p><b>1.1</b> Site selection matrix based on information gathered; selection of sites verified through ongoing activities.</p> <p><b>1.2</b> Record of completion of training in methods (test results/certifications).</p> <p><b>1.3</b> Participatory habitat status assessment survey database and summary results.</p> <p><b>1.4</b> Record of completion of training in methods (test results/certifications).</p> <p><b>1.5a</b> Resource monitoring database.</p> <p><b>1.5b</b> Feedback session documentation (meeting minutes, photos).</p>	<p>Knowledge from participatory monitoring is used to design community-led management plans.</p> <p>Communities are interested in participating in monitoring, and results can be used to guide marine management and planning to improve fishing livelihoods.</p>
<p><b>Output 2</b></p> <p>Locally-led fisheries management measures piloted and continued by communities.</p>	<p><b>2.1</b> Fisheries management measures (e.g. periodic fishing site closures), decided by the target local community in Y2, piloted by end Y3 for <b>at least one key fishery species</b>.</p>	<p><b>2.1a</b> Minutes and documents from meetings on community consultations and decisions.</p> <p><b>2.1b</b> Management plan documenting management measures, map of closure area(s)/ calendar of</p>	<p>Economically important marine fisheries resources exist with species that can respond quickly to management and will incentivise broader</p>

	<p><b>2.2</b> Community outreach events held at least twice a year, to give feedback of participatory monitoring and results of local resource management.</p>	<p>seasonal restrictions.</p> <p><b>2.1c</b> Catch monitoring data and analysis from before and after implementation of fisheries management measure(s).</p> <p><b>2.2</b> Photos of community events and sessions.</p>	<p>local engagement in fisheries management and marine conservation.</p> <p>Sufficient local leadership and community cohesion for local management to be developed successfully and respected.</p>
<p><b>Output 3</b> Community members are trained and employed in ecotourism activities.</p>	<p><b>3.1</b> New locally owned ecotourism and homestay services are established in 1 target community (12 families) (Beloi) in Timor-Leste by end Y1, and in 2 further communities on the island by end Y3.</p> <p><b>3.2</b> 50% (approx. 300 people) of adults in target community (at least 50% women) receive training by Blue Ventures, and by trained homestay members, in ecotourism service provision as hosts, ecoguides and other income generating activities by end Y2.</p>	<p><b>3.1</b> Contracts and MoUs with target community to provide ecotourism facilities and provisions.</p> <p><b>3.2a</b> Census data to establish number of people in population.</p> <p><b>3.2b</b> Photographs from training workshops and exchange trip to Raja Ampat.</p> <p><b>3.2c</b> Certificates from training as hosts/ ecoguides.</p>	<p>A site exists in Timor-Leste that can provide both the requirements for ecotourists (e.g. infrastructure, diving, safety) and also a nearby community that is keen to participate in provision of accommodation and services.</p> <p>Blue Ventures can maintain the number of tourists currently joining ecotourism expeditions in Timor-Leste.</p> <p>Timor-Leste continues to be a safe and attractive destination for ecotourists to visit.</p>

<p><b>Output 4</b></p> <p>Locally managed marine area (LMMA) established.</p>	<p><b>4.1</b> By end Y2, 100% of target community has been engaged in discussions on LMMAs.</p> <p><b>4.2</b> Community stakeholder group (at least 50% women) receives training on how to establish and manage an LMMA in Timor-Leste by end Y3.</p> <p><b>4.3</b> Target community delineates LMMA and develops zoning and management plan by end Y3, coming into effect by end Y4.</p>	<p><b>4.1a</b> Meeting minutes, and attendance record sheets from village meetings.</p> <p><b>4.1b</b> Census data to establish number of people in population.</p> <p><b>4.2a</b> Training attendance sheets (include gender).</p> <p><b>4.2b</b> Copies of training documents, materials and participant assessments.</p> <p><b>4.3</b> Management plans/documentation formalising establishment of LMMA through Tara Bandu.</p>	<p>Incentives from improved local fisheries management and new income from ecotourism promote further local marine natural resource management.</p> <p>Legislation and policies in Timor-Leste do not change, and the legal provision for allowing locally-led marine resource management is maintained.</p>
<p><b>Activities</b> (each activity is numbered according to the output that it will contribute towards, for example 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 are contributing to Output 1)</p> <p><b>Output 1: Local management and ecotourism plans in place, using site identification, zoning and indicator information provided via participatory community marine resource assessment and monitoring.</b></p> <p>1.1 Community consultations on ecotourism homestay work plan and activities at 2-3 villages, consulting communities and women’s groups.</p> <p>1.2 Community, NGO and wider stakeholder consultations for natural resource management at 2-3 villages, with local consultations consulting both communities and women’s groups.</p> <p>1.3 Train (minimum) 10 community members in habitat monitoring (minimum 50% women), including use of underwater 360° video.</p> <p>1.4 Conduct participatory habitat assessments across southeast and northeast coastal zones of Atauro.</p> <p>1.5 Train (minimum) 10 community members in fisheries monitoring, simple analysis and presenting information back to communities (minimum 50% women).</p> <p>1.6 Establish participatory fisheries monitoring programme in 2-3 villages for duration of project.</p> <p>1.7 Disseminate results of participatory monitoring to communities, community leaders and women’s groups on Atauro, including through use of 360° VR engagement tools showcasing underwater monitoring footage.</p>			

**Output 2: Locally-led fisheries management measures piloted and continued by communities**

- 2.1 Village level workshops, with communities and women's groups, to discuss fisheries management options based on participatory monitoring data, and discussions on key fisheries and threats.
- 2.2 One key fishery selected for trial management measure through further consultations with communities and women's groups, with minimum 1 village.
- 2.3 Work plan agreed upon with community – including women's groups – for timeline for local fisheries management (e.g. location, duration, rules).
- 2.4 Support provided to community and women's groups for implementation of work plan.
- 2.5 Results of management measure evaluated with the community and improvements suggested and implemented.
- 2.6 Twice yearly outreach events with wider community – men and women – to disseminate results from local management and monitoring.

**Output 3: Community members are trained and employed in ecotourism activities**

- 3.1 First round of homestay participants selected.
- 3.2 Homestay Association set up with legal paperwork completed, with equal representation of women within Association board.
- 3.3 Business plans developed and standards for homestays agreed upon.
- 3.4 Exchange trip to Raja Ampat, Indonesia, to meet and learn from a successful homestay group.
- 3.5 Training given on key areas such as health and safety, cuisine and catering, language and hospitality, budget management, tourist expectations and ecoguiding.
- 3.6 Ongoing support to Homestay Association through monthly meetings focusing on continuous improvement through feedback, and facilitated induction of first guests.
- 3.7 Workshops with further villages for subsequent expansion of homestay association.

**Output 4: Locally managed marine area (LMMA) established.**

- 4.1 Workshops with community (from activities 2.2 to 2.5) and women's groups to discuss potential benefits of developing an LMMA and locally relevant mechanisms for management (e.g. *Tara Bandu*).
- 4.2 Training in LMMA management and what it means for the village, including exchange trips to the village of Adara to meet other villages engaged in LMMAs, with minimum 50% participation by women.
- 4.3 Workshops to decide on LMMA criteria (e.g. size, zoning, rules), with minimum 50% participation by women.
- 4.4 Workshops to draft a local management plan for the LMMA, with minimum 50% participation by women.
- 4.5 Delineation of LMMA and outreach by communities.
- 4.6 Support on any required administration with Ministries.



### Annex 3: Standard Measures

**Table 1 Project Standard Output Measures**

Code No.	Description	Gender of people (if relevant)	Nationality of people (if relevant)	Year 1 Total	Year 2 Total	Year 3 Total	Total to date	Total planned during the project
Established codes								
3	Number of people to attain other qualifications: Rescue Diver certification	1 - male 1- female	Timorese	2				2
7	Training materials for use by host country	NA	NA	1				2
14A	Workshops to disseminate data	NA	Timorese	1				8
23	Value of resources raised from other sources: other funders			£91,323.16				£255,600.00

In Table 2, provide full details of all publications and material produced over the last year that can be publicly accessed, e.g. title, name of publisher, contact details, cost. Mark (\*) all publications and other material that you have included with this report.

**Table 2 Publications**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Type</b> (e.g. journals, manual, CDs)	<b>Detail</b> (authors, year)	<b>Gender of Lead Author</b>	<b>Nationality of Lead Author</b>	<b>Publishers</b> (name, city)	<b>Available from</b> (e.g. weblink or publisher if not available online)
A fisherman's journey into deeper seas	Blog post	Christina Saylor, 2017	Female	USA	Blue Ventures	<a href="https://blog.blueventures.org/fishermans-journey-deeper-seas-scuba-diving-conservation-timor-leste/">https://blog.blueventures.org/fishermans-journey-deeper-seas-scuba-diving-conservation-timor-leste/</a>
The crocodile's children	Blog post	Nick Piludu, 2017	Male	Italy	Blue Ventures	<a href="https://blog.blueventures.org/crocodiles-children-community-led-marine-management-atauro/">https://blog.blueventures.org/crocodiles-children-community-led-marine-management-atauro/</a>
Sea change	Blog post	Christina Saylor, 2017	Female	USA	Blue Ventures	<a href="https://blog.blueventures.org/sea-change-atauros-first-female-scuba-diver-lends-voice-marine-conservation-efforts/">https://blog.blueventures.org/sea-change-atauros-first-female-scuba-diver-lends-voice-marine-conservation-efforts/</a>
Collaborating to save seagrass	Blog post	Christina Saylor, 2017	Female	USA	Blue Ventures	<a href="https://blog.blueventures.org/welcome-visitors-families-on-atauro-pioneer-the-islands-first-homestay-association/">https://blog.blueventures.org/welcome-visitors-families-on-atauro-pioneer-the-islands-first-homestay-association/</a>
Welcome visitors: Families on	Blog post	Christina Saylor, 2017	Female	USA	Blue Ventures	<a href="https://blog.blueventures.org/welcome-visitors-families-on-atauro-pioneer-the-">https://blog.blueventures.org/welcome-visitors-families-on-atauro-pioneer-the-</a>

Ataúro pioneer the island's first homestay association						islands-first-homestay-association/
From Ataúro to Raja Ampat: a homestay adventure	Blog Post	Martin Muir, 2017	Male	U.K.	Blue Ventures	<a href="https://blog.blueventures.org/from-atauro-to-raja-ampat-a-homestay-adventure/">https://blog.blueventures.org/from-atauro-to-raja-ampat-a-homestay-adventure/</a>
Homestay: bringing the economic benefits of tourism to community families	Factsheet	Blue Ventures, 2017	NA	NA	Blue Ventures	<a href="https://bjyv3zhj902bwx8106gk8x5-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/Blue-Ventures-Factsheet-Homestay-November-2017-Low-Res.pdf">https://bjyv3zhj902bwx8106gk8x5-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/Blue-Ventures-Factsheet-Homestay-November-2017-Low-Res.pdf</a>

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

See folder of Annexes shared electronically.

## Checklist for submission

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