

Darwin Plus: Overseas Territories Environment and Climate Fund Annual Report

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

Submission Deadline: 30th April 2020

Darwin Plus Project Information

Project reference	#25-027
Project title	Sustaining snow leopard conservations through strengthened local institutions and enterprises
Territory(ies)	Nepal
Lead organisation	Snow Leopard Conservancy
Partner institutions	Mountain Spirit and Ennovent ** (Other Partners dropped out of project , see report for descriptions)
Grant value	GBP 311,807
Start/end dates of project	July 1, 2018 to September 30, 2021 * (Project extension approved April 6, 2020 pending submission of revised logframe)
Reporting period (e.g. Apr 2019-Mar 2020) and number (e.g. Annual Report 1, 2)	April 1, 2019 to March 31, 2020 Annual Report #2
Project Leader name	Brian Peniston
Project website/blog/social media	Snowleopardconservancy.org
Report author(s) and date	Brian Peniston, Shailendra Thakali and Rodney Jackson

1. Project summary

The project focuses on improving the security and resilience of the snow leopard population, its primary prey base and other biodiversity in the Thamo, Thame and Thameteng valleys in Sagarmatha National Park and Buffer Zone in Eastern Nepal and the Nar and Phu valleys located within the Annapurna Conservation Area Project in Central Nepal. It aims to achieve this by 1) improving herder grazing and guarding practices while reducing human wildlife conflicts; 2) piloting snow leopard linked enterprises; and 3) enabling local institutions and stakeholders to compete for conservation investments and influence evolving local government policies under Nepal's new Constitution. When designed, snow leopard predation was believed to be the biggest threat to livestock. However, survey evidence gathered during year 2 suggests that wolf predation may now be the greatest threat in the Sagarmatha National Park sites. Snow leopards, however, remain the main predator in the Nar and Phu valleys. A snow leopard prey base and human interaction study this year found that the average annual livestock loss to snow leopards at 2.5 and 3.5 in Nar and Phu respectively. Snow leopard population surveys, using camera traps and possibly also fecal DNA analysis, were planned for year 2 in Nar and Phu valleys, but this work was delayed by heavy snowfall in winter 2019 and Nepal's country wide coronavirus lockdown in spring 2020. A change request to extend the project timeline for six months was submitted, approved and the log-frame modified accordingly.

2. Project stakeholders/partners

The project was designed to work with three official partners, who participated in the Darwin funded planning workshop held in Kathmandu in July 2017. During this workshop, the roles and responsibilities of each project partner were agreed upon. Partnerships with two partners remain operational — Mountain Spirit and Ennovent. Mountain Spirit (MS) is responsible for the overall project coordination and community mobilisation. Originally, The Mountain Institute (TMI) was designated as the lead organization to oversee the management of the project in Nepal, including responsibility for all activities in the Annapurna Conservation Area. MS was to lead activities in the Sagarmatha National Park and Buffer Zone, and the Global Primate Network (GPN) was to take the lead for all biological monitoring. These partnership arrangements, however, were changed during this reporting period for a number of reasons. Due to substantial loss of capacity and leadership changes in TMI, overall project management responsibilities were transferred to MS under the direction of the Nepali program manager, Dr. Thakali. TMI, however, continued to provide government liaison function, oversaw financial management, and produced the environmental safeguard training manual. Unfortunately, in 2019/20 The Mountain Institute declared bankruptcy, closing down its operations globally, including Nepal. Thus the partnership with TMI has been officially dissolved. The partnership with GPN was also formally dissolved in early 2019 for two reasons. First, GPN failed to meet its contractual obligations to SLC (note that funding for GPN primarily came from other Snow Leopard Conservancy funds and not from Darwin Initiative sources). Secondly, GPN closed its operations due to internal problems, and no longer exists as a functional organization. Management and coordination among partners primarily occurred through bi-weekly coordination meetings with the Nepal based Project Manager. With one primary partner, coordination duties are simplified and the Nepal base manager (Dr. Thakali) spends approximately 2-3 days a week working with Mountain Spirit using their offices as home base when not in the field or quarantined in national lockdown.

The Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation (DNPWC) and Sagarmatha National Park (SNP) are also key project partners. The project matched SNP's contribution this year to conduct prey and predator surveys. Project funds were used to cover these studies in the Thamo and Thame valleys, whereas Sagarmatha National Park's (SNP) funds were used to cover other remaining valleys. DNPWC and SNP are regularly informed of and engaged in key project activities, typically through face to face meetings, depending on the scope of planned work at their worksites.

Another key partner is the National Trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC) and their key local body, the Annapurna Conservation Area Project (ACAP) who have jurisdiction for the Nar and Phu valley worksites. Coordination is through regular telephone and face-to-face meetings. Approval to conduct biological sampling from NTNC took longer than anticipated, as there are a number of ongoing inter-institutional jurisdiction issues between DNPWC, NTNC and ACAP that took longer than anticipated to resolve. These jurisdictional issues are the result of newly created government structures and unclear devolution of powers and authority. Such issues are national in nature and not unique to this project.

The Pasang Lhamu and Narpa Bhumi Rural Municipalities are two other key partners. Both municipalities provided letters of support which were required to get approvals from the Social Welfare Council for project operations in these respective municipalities. Working relationships with the municipality officials is strong, and due to this, the project was successful in organizing 9 training programs jointly with rural municipalities during this reporting year.

3. Project progress

3.1 Progress in carrying out project Activities

Output 1: Local Governance Strengthening

Activities 1.1 to 1.3: Using training manuals generated in year one, and refined in year 2, Ten (10) Training programs were delivered this year and 209 people were trained. These included a Training of Trainer training (ToT); 4 Environmental Safeguards and Governance Trainings (ESG); 4 Appreciative Planning and Participatory Action Trainings; and a Food Preparation and Bakery training (as an alternative livelihood strategy). Prior to delivering training to participants, 2 special Training of Trainers were conducted for MS members and TMI staff and 23 people were trained (including 13 women). Trained MS staff members were used as training assistants. Total of 164 persons were trained in Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) and Appreciate Planning and Participatory Action (APPA) skills, including 46 women. 22 women from Nar Phu were trained in a-7-day Food Preparation and Bakery Training, as the first step toward business planning skills. The team developed Nepali-language manuals for both trainers and thematic areas. Several photos of trainings and manuals covers are attached.

While mostly on target, training programs in the Khumbu region had to be postponed three times due to stakeholder involvement and attention to individual livelihood needs during the trekking season in June, unavailability of the municipality officials for training during July/August due to the fiscal year-end closing and also the major difficulty of flying to Lukla during the monsoon season. Training in Khumbu is now rescheduled to occur during Year 3.

Discussion of content and feedback: ESG and APPA trainings were organized in coordination with rural municipalities and focused on providing new planning skills and orientating them to the constitutional changes plus their roles and responsibilities for ensuring environmental safeguards, and promoting conservation measures in their respective municipalities. Out of 8 trainings, 2 (APPA and ESG) were organized at Chakyu which is the headquarters for the Narpa Bhumi Rural Municipality. The municipality took a lead role, provided field logistics, and supported the training venue at the newly built municipality building. There were 37 participants, including 8 women. Participants included elected officials of the municipality, staff, local youth and members of women groups. Similarly, two trainings (APPA and ESES) were organized at two different sites, Ghat and Khumbu, of the Pasang Lamu Rural Municipality, and attended by 45 people, mostly municipality officials, administrative staff, members of women groups and youth groups. Women participants in ESG training was low (only 5) but they outnumbered men in the APPA training (15 women). The higher involvement of women participants was due to their active participation in the snow leopard saving and credit groups established by SLC some eight years ago. These members are involved in the Thamo/Thame valleys with snow leopard conservation awareness raising programs linked to tourism (e.g., cultural singing and dance shows).

As per feedback received from participants during training programs in Chyakhu and Khumbu, 2 ESG and 2 APPA training sessions were organized in Kathmandu during February/March 2020. Local people from both project areas regularly visit Kathmandu for the winter sojourn. The project made good use of this Kathmandu time to organize trainings for them, involving 88 persons, including 20 women.

At the special request of the Narpa Rural Municipality and local entrepreneurs, a customized training on food preparation and bakery was organized in Kathmandu at the Nepal Academy of Tourism and Hotel Management (NATHM): 22 women participated at this training program, a 7 day program especially tailored at request of the participants who learned how to make 22 different food items, mainly from potatoes, and 10 different bakery items like bread loaf, pizza, cake and cookies. The trainees hope to increase incomes from sales to tourists and local residents, based upon demand. The prospects of a growing domestic and local market appears promising.

The project focuses on improving the security and resilience of the snow leopard population, its primary prey base and other biodiversity in the Thamo, Thame and Thameteng valleys in Sagarmatha National Park and Buffer Zone in Eastern Nepal and the Nar and Phu valleys located within the Annapurna Conservation Area Project in Central Nepal. It aims to achieve this by 1) improving herder grazing and guarding practices while reducing human wildlife conflicts; 2) piloting snow leopard linked enterprises; and 3) enabling local institutions and stakeholders to compete for conservation investments and influence evolving local government policies under Nepal's new Constitution. When designed, snow leopard predation was believed to be the biggest threat to livestock. However, survey evidence gathered during year 2 suggests that wolf predation may now be the greatest threat in the Sagarmatha National Park sites. Snow leopards, however, remain the main predator in the Nar and Phu valleys. A snow leopard prey base and human interaction study this year found that the average annual livestock loss to snow leopards at 2.5 and 3.5 in Nar and Phu respectively. Snow leopard population surveys, using camera traps and possibly also fecal DNA analysis, were planned for year 2 in Nar and Phu valleys, but this work was delayed by heavy snowfall in winter 2019 and Nepal's country wide coronavirus lockdown in spring 2020. A change request to extend the project timeline for six months was submitted, approved and the log-frame modified accordingly.

New Co-financed Activity: In year two, Snow Leopard Conservancy started working with RESOLVE to develop and test motion sensitive surveillance cameras linked with Artificial Intelligence (AI) for field identification of potential predators like snow leopard, wolf, brown bear and feral dogs, and to be linked with more effective noise and light devices. As part of stage one trials, SLC has collected some 6,500 images of domesticated dogs to input into the AI systems to help differentiate between predators and domestic dogs that are proving to be increasingly important depredators of wildlife in India as well as elsewhere. Work has been slowed down by travel restrictions due to Covid-19. This initiative is expected to lead towards improved livestock practices (Activity 2.7).

In early year two, a small grant to study livestock depredation by snow leopards in the Narpa valley was completed (April 2019). The majority (39.4 %) of predation occurred in summer, predominantly during night-time (40.7 %) in absence of guards in pastures. Snow leopards were responsible for 61.0% of livestock kills. Other factors resulting into livestock kills included 27.6 % to natural disasters, 7.1 % to starvation, 2.3 % to diseases, 1.6 % to accidents and 0.3 % to golden jackal (*Canis aureus*). In year two, twelve (12) Foxlights were distributed to Khumbu herders. Their initial responses have been very encouraging. A total of 40 Foxlights in Kathmandu await distribution to herders in Manang. Clearing customs proved to be extremely time consuming, The project is developing specific criteria along with an evaluation form for assessing the effectiveness of the Foxlights. These are expected to provide additional incentives for herders to improve herding and guarding practices (Activity 2.5)

A preliminary Feasibility Assessment of Wildlife Damage Relief Fund took place in Sagarmatha National Park in year one. Central Government Officials continue to resist permitting local government bodies to register and operate their own compensation or relief funds, although this is clearly mandated by Nepal's new Constitution. Progress remains blocked in Sagarmatha National Park communities and will no longer be considered a priority for action by the Darwin project (at least for the immediate future). However, officials from Nar and Phu identified this as a key area for follow up action following the recently completed environmental safeguards and governance training. (Activity 2.8) Some progress is expected once the national lockdown is lifted in year 3.

As per the recommendation of the Reviewer in Annual report 1, Activity 2.7 has been moved to Output 3. It is the culmination of Activities 3.1 -3.6 and has been eliminated from Output 2.

Output 3: Private Sector generating conservation incentives:

The overall target of this putout is to establish a Pilot Snow Leopard Trails project in partnership with the private sector. Originally planned for year 2, due to keen private sector interest it was expedited in year 1.

The Market study for Manang has been completed and is hereby shared as evidence (Activity 3.1). As this information entails proprietary marketing information, SLC requests Darwin not to share this beyond internal sources and reviewers. Ennovent and Trail Angels remain the main international partners for this snow leopard enterprise activity and they have identified local entrepreneurs Tashi Ghale and Rinzin Lama as their local partners. Tashi Ghale has been active in posting snow leopard photographs and videos to promote the Snow Leopard Trails Project (a photo and a short video are attached in support of this). (Again ownership of these images belongs to Mr Ghale and SLC requests that they only be shared internally). (Activity 3.1). Day-to-day route descriptions have been shared but only in outline form. (Activity 3.2) The Austrian partner *Trail Angels/Fair Trails* had to postpone a scheduled trip to refine marketing and branding materials and to cement their relationship with local communities in March and April 2020 due to Covid-19 (Activity 3.3 and 3.4). The trip had first been delayed due to personnel changes within Ennovent and subsequent challenges in recruiting a suitably qualified replacement. All activities are now contingent upon lifting of the Covid-19 lockdown and resumption of internal as well as international air travel to Nepal. The goal of this initiative is to provide major local economic incentive for snow leopard conservation, but that is likely to be disrupted through early summer of 2020 at the earliest. The first paying visitors are planned for Fall of 2020, but again this is dependent upon the willingness of high-end travellers to visit Nepal post coronavirus.

Defining the precise benefit sharing models remains under discussion and forms a vital part of the activities for Year 3, since these were delayed in year 2. Without clear benefit sharing mechanisms, the risk is that profits and incentives will be captured by hoteliers and restaurant owners, and thus less likely to trickle down to the herders suffering livestock losses and who may be most prone to retaliatory killing of snow leopards and other livestock predators. Monitoring the pilot and incorporating feedback to improve the services being offered will only take place after the first paying visitors have come and the economic viability of the initiative can be assessed. (Activity 3.7) The earliest this may occur is late in Year 3, but more likely in the spring of 2021.

Output 4: Project Management, Evaluation & Reporting.

One Year 1 project reviewer suggested that reporting on this output is not required as such activities are considered routine management activities, best responded to under the M&E Section 3.4. However, due to the impact from the Covid-19 pandemic, both internationally and within Nepal, a revised log frame adding six months for Year 4 with the necessary change request was generated and submitted to Darwin. Budgetary totals remain consistent with the approved grant amounts, but the time frame to complete all tasks has now been extended by 6 months (Year 4, Quarters 1 and 2). Many of the original assumptions have also been updated, and several targets reduced as the original proposal underestimated the amount of outward migration from project sites, based on estimates from national population statistical manuals.

3.2 Progress towards project Outputs

Progress on Output 1: Local Governance Strengthening is proceeding largely on target. Training manuals have been produced, reviewed, and revised. They were field tested in Nar, Phu and Khumbu valleys, and 8 training programs were delivered, and 164 persons trained in addition to 23 people who received “Training of Trainer” training in Kathmandu. 4 trainings were conducted in the field and 4 in Kathmandu taking advantage of local people who travel to Kathmandu for the winter sojourn. The project plans to incorporate feedback from participants for improving future training programs and to finalize the manuals, to be done in Year 3.

Progress on Output 2 Facilitate Biodiversity monitoring: The project made good progress but the camera trap survey planned for Manang in November was delayed due to early and heavy snowfall. They had heavy snow six times which made mobilization of staff and local people by NTNC/ACAP to set up of camera traps impossible. The survey was then rescheduled for March end, but is now delayed further due to Covid-19 pandemic and the lock down of the country restricting all travel. Nepal remains still in lockdown with no official decision when it will end as of this writing. This makes it very difficult to reschedule planned activities, including the snow leopard camera-trap survey.

The project, however, completed three other biological monitoring activities – the blue sheep population dynamic survey which suggests the Nar Phu valleys has enough large wild prey to support 15 or more snow leopards. Secondly, the livestock depredation pattern monitoring in SNP found that beginning in 2017 wolves appear to have overtaken snow leopards as the main livestock predator. The third monitoring report focused on human-wildlife conflict found the average household in Nar and Phu lost US\$ 489 and US\$ 766, respectively, to the snow leopard depredation. This is very a significant socio-economic loss given the poor economic base of the region. More biological monitoring is being planned for year 3.

Progress on Output 3, Private sector generating incentives for snow leopard conservation: Despite rapid early progress and keen private sector interest, progress stalled in the last 2 months. First, Ennovent had personnel changes within their staff and difficulty in recruiting a replacement. Trail Angels/Fair Trails remains their key international partner, but development of critical marketing and branding materials has been delayed due to Covid-19.

On the positive side, as a result of the recently held Environment, Social and Governance Training, local participants identified a desire for bakery training as an alternative income stream and diversification from traditional adventure (but unsteady) tourism. Twenty-two (22) women from Nar and Phu villages were trained in Food Preparation and Baking. Most of trainees were tea-shop and hotel owners and this training is expected to increase their incomes, once tourism resumes in the Nar-Phu valley in the post-Covid period.

SLC partner Mountain Spirit is in the process of developing a proposal to seek UNDP Small grant funding to strengthen alternative livelihoods as tourism revenues are expected to plummet to zero in the short term due to Covid-19 travel concerns.

3.3 Progress towards the project Outcome

- The project outcome is based on multi-year, higher-level aspirations but the advent of the global Covid-19 pandemic significantly delayed progress towards these goals at the end of year 2. Local level institutions were strengthened through 4 separate trainings in Environmental Governance and Safeguards and 4 in Appreciative Planning and Participatory Action (APPA) trainings conducted this year. The framework for developing a Snow leopard Trail enterprise was established, but two proposed trips by private sector partners had to be postponed, first due to heavy snows and second due to coronavirus health concerns and Nepal's countrywide lock down. Significantly negative tourism impacts are to be expected, possibly extending through spring 2021 or beyond. The United Nations World Tourism Organization reports that international tourist arrivals could decline by 20-30% and this would translate into a loss of 300 to 450 billion US\$ in international tourism receipts in 2020. With 96 countries imposing complete travel bans, economic impacts are expected through at least September and likely longer.
- The project requested a change request to extend project life for another 6 months and which was approved on April 3, 2020, pending review and approval of changes to the logframe. A few minor changes in indicators are being proposed, but for the above reasons targets are being lowered, with the timeframe for completion being extended by 6 months. We still expect to strengthen local institutions and capacities to incorporate environmental issues into government planning, although implementation lags as local officials remain in Kathmandu due to Covid-19. Foxlights have been deployed in Sagarmatha National Park but their effectiveness has yet to be assessed, because of limited access following heavy snow this past winter (2019/20). The supply of Foxlights in our Kathmandu store scheduled

for Nar and Phu valley herders also await deployment. The blue sheep survey confirmed prey populations are high in Nar and Phu valleys and can sustain healthy snow leopard populations. However, scat collection surveys were first delayed by bureaucratic permissions, and later by heavy snows resulting in two field trip postponements. Unfortunately, once permission was granted and weather cleared, Covid-19 hit causing the current delays. The carnivore survey in Sagarmatha National Park confirmed that wolves are a greater threat to domesticated livestock than snow leopards within the park. This report is being finalized pending approval and release by the Government of Nepal. (The wolf study was undertaken as a partnership and co-funded by Snow Leopard Conservancy/Mountain Spirit and Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation).

3.4 Monitoring of assumptions.

- Our main assumption that the Government of Nepal would expediently grant all necessary biological sampling permissions has proved to be incorrect. Delayed permissions have resulted in nearly a 1 year delay, and then the field teams could not be deployed due to heavy snow (another 2 delays). Now Covid-19 has caused further, likely indefinite delays. We also underestimated obstacles caused by contested jurisdictional authority between the central and local government authorities, which is still playing out at a national level.
- Recruiting talented Citizen Scientists remains a challenge although several strong candidates have finally been identified for Nar and Phu valleys. They remain stuck in Kathmandu however. Snow Leopard Conservancy engaged a young teacher to work on depredation issues during the school holidays but she quit after she moved to another valley to look after the family's lodge business. She has been replaced by another young Sherpa who spend 75% of time in the Khumbu region. We have revised downward the number of citizen scientists we expect to recruit as a result.
- The wolves study demonstrated that wolves have overtaken snow leopards as the dominant predator in Sagarmatha National Park.
- Training assumptions remain generally valid, although implementation has been delayed due to seasonal migration, weather delays and the coronavirus lockdown preventing virtually all movement within Nepal. Migration was anticipated and weather delays were considered, but the coronavirus pandemic was totally unforeseen, indeed beyond our wildest expectations.
- The Snow Leopard Trail enterprise also experienced several unplanned delays. Heavy snow fall delayed the first planned Ennovent trip to pilot-test the trek, refine daily modules and create marketing materials. Then a second trip was delayed due to Covid-19 and the first paid customers are now only expected to arrive in fall 2020 at the earliest. This may well also be delayed for another 4- 6 months. Establishing a strong branding and marketing aspect for the private sector activities was consequently delayed, especially since the planned visit entailed filming along the trail, its lodges and natural heritage, all deemed a critical component for successfully recruiting interested high-paying clients beyond the initial pilot trip. As of the time of writing, Nepal is expected to be completely closed to all international travel until at least the end of June 2020, which would probably result in disrupting the fall 2020 and spring 2021 travel as well. People are not likely to travel international if they have to spend 14 days in quarantine at their destination point.
- Unfortunately, the project did not predict the global pandemic which, with severe winter snowfall has disrupted so many of its activities. All international travel to Nepal is presently stopped, initially until the end of April, but likely to be extended through the end of June. All domestic travel is curtailed, again until mid-May at the least (more likely longer). Tourist numbers have dropped to almost zero, a wholly unanticipated and catastrophic outcome for Nepal that depends so heavily on this sector for both foreign revenue and domestic employment.

4. Project support to environmental and/or climate outcomes in the UKOTs

There have been little or no changes to the project's relation to Defra's commitment to UKOTs. Please see the Year one annual report for specific comments. The project continues to support SDC target 15.4 especially focused on conservation of mountain ecosystems and their biodiversity, long term environmental conservation objectives. Project activities in year one and year two all contributed to conservation of snow leopards and their prey in their native high mountain habitats, based on the best available scientific evidence. The Snow Leopard Conservancy continues to be a member of the United Nations Mountain Partnership, as well as the Global Snow Leopard Environmental Protection Plan (GSLEP). The blue sheep and wolf studies are cited as evidence for data based implementation of conservation measures.

The planned national snow leopard census has been delayed due to issues outside the control of the project. We continue to contribute to formulating consistent methodologies for conducting the planned national snow leopard census. Once the Covid-19 lockdown has been lifted, the approved snow leopard camera-trapping survey, including scat collection (if permitted) and genetic sampling in Nar and Phu will be conducted. The camera-trap survey may be the first study contributing to the national snow leopard census.

It is too early to assess any changes in poverty alleviation, given advent of Covid-19 and disruption to the wildlife premium enterprise. The drastic and sudden decline in mountain tourism could mean little or no measurable improvement during the project's lifetime, even with the approved 6 month extension. Expected tangible incentives for herders and those local households involved in trekking, especially focused on cultural heritage, snow leopards and nature are therefore being downgraded and we are providing more emphasis to alternative livelihood strategies. Unfortunately, remote mountain communities have few scalable enterprise options beyond tourism, but exploring possibilities has become an important focus for the remainder of the project life. Most changes in poverty status are better measured by assessing broader wellbeing indicators, which track more subtle and gradual change, such as new entrepreneurial skills-sets and community ability to adapt to climate change, food and water security, political forces, etc.

5. OPTIONAL: Consideration of gender equality issues

The major gender related activities conducted during this reporting period involve the support and training provided to the Savings and Credit (S&C) groups in Sagarmatha National Park. The local government structures in Nepal (*Gaun Palika*) provide mechanisms for preferential funding to women's groups and groups composed of indigenous people, with a defined number of women representatives. As mentioned above, women participated in all environmental governance and in safeguards trainings but with less than 50% representation. New Government Structures mandate a minimum number of women holding positions and thus the project is working closely with these elected women representatives.

The Thame Mineral Water Enterprise is entirely women owned and operated. The project was working with management and members to strengthen different aspects of their enterprise, but this has been put on hold due to new protected area regulations. In year two, Sagarmatha National Park imposed more restrictions and is trying to ban all plastic water bottles, effectively closing down this operation. Glass bottles are not feasible at this site. There are possibilities to convert water bottling activities into a community filtered water refilling station, but financial viability is very limited as the primary valley for snow leopard viewing is located well off the heavily travelled Everest base camp route.

6. Monitoring and evaluation

Project monitoring and evaluation systems remain as designed and outlined in the original proposal and year one annual report. The attitude surveys carried out by GPN in year one were inadequate; therefore, revised surveys were designed and scheduled to be field tested in

March 2020, but delayed due to national lockdown. These forms are linked with the veterinary training planned for April 2020, now rescheduled for October 2020. Permission was granted for the biological sampling (camera trapping) survey, also delayed due to heavy snows, and the coronavirus lockdown.

7. Lessons Learned

Output 1: Changing Government of Nepal regulations and policies on biological sampling resulted in significantly delayed baseline data gathering, largely because it required much longer time and far-greater effort to process permissions than originally anticipated. These delays are not unique to the project, but disappointing nonetheless. There is very little that NGOs can do to speed up such unnecessarily burdensome and bureaucratic approval processes of government. This is particularly evident in light of continuing pushback to ongoing devolution of powers overseeing natural resources, biodiversity conservation and environmental management.

For Output 3: Private sector: Private sector partners have been slower to develop clear benefit sharing mechanisms with community members than expected. We assumed private sector operators would be more efficient than non-government organizations, learning that will be factored into future partnerships as more private sector partnerships are developed. Over reliance on nature and culture tourism as the primary economic drivers and incentive for snow leopard conservation appears somewhat misguided. Neither was Covid-19 anticipated nor is period of time the global tourist sector may take to bounce back known. However, it does highlight the fickle nature of tourism, especially that dependent on foreign visitors. Training local government bodies including Gaun Palika leaders also took longer than expected, but at the same time it has resulted in higher levels of interest and enthusiasm than we had anticipated.

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

Two areas of weakness were identified in the first annual report, namely lack of evidence to for demonstrating stated progress and some redundancy in the logframe. This report addresses the perceived lack of evidence by attaching completed surveys and technical reports or photos as evidence. Where reports have been fully reviewed and edited as of this writing, we either indicate this, or attach the reports for sharing with DI reviewers. Further, we have submitted a change request and a revised logframe that hopefully will reduce such redundancy. The revised logframe indicating changes with respect to targets, time frames, assumptions and some indicators, was submitted for review and approval by DEFRA. These changes are hereby incorporated and described within this annual report.

9. Other comments on progress not covered elsewhere

The exit strategy for the privatization of the Snow Leopard Trail was expedited in year one; however, as noted throughout this report, the Covid-19 pandemic is delaying pilot testing, including marketing, branding and sales models, all important components for client recruitment and generation of benefits. Covid-19 is expected to severely impact global tourism prospects and it is quite possible that tourist visitations may not recover until the spring of 2021.

Therefore, the project is placing greater emphasis on identifying alternative income activities and products, but community consultations are also delayed by the national coronavirus lockdown.

10. Sustainability and legacy

All project activities are confined to Nepal. We hold regular discussions with government and the National Trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC) that presently administer the Manang project area under ACAP. The biological baseline initiatives, while severely delayed due to permitting matters, comply and fully integrate with international snow leopard and prey count methodologies and GON's proposed National Snow Leopard census. We now have permission to conduct the camera-trapping survey and await lifting of the lockdown to start that work. This will be undertaken by NTNC, co-funded by this Darwin Initiative grant. In partnership with

Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation (DNPWC) SLC's subcontractor completed a 4-month wolf study in Sagarmatha National Park (see above for a summary of results). The final report awaits DNPWC approval before it can be released, as it was a co-funded activity. Permissions and protocols for analysing any genetic materials collected as part of the camera-trap survey are likely to face significant government scrutiny and delay.

Following strong interest and rapid advancement on strengthening the private sector engagement in the *Snow Leopard Trail*, progress recently slowed down by personnel changes in the partner organization, weather delays and now the Covid-19 pandemic. Local guides have produced some impressive introductory visual materials highlighting the areas' natural and cultural attractions, attached as evidence.

Consultation with the Thame Mineral Water Company under a snow leopard-linked enterprise has also stopped due to changing DNPWC regulations regarding banning plastic water bottles inside the National Park boundaries. As note earlier, a glass bottling plant is not feasible for the community enterprise site is located in a lesser visited valley well off the main Everest Base camp trek. Alternatives are being explored, but due to remoteness and levies on local communities, scalable options may turn out to be very limited.

Work aimed at strengthening Local Government awareness of the importance of conservation and the need for programming selected activities into the government's annual planning and budget cycles is an on-going activity. Results from recently completed environmental governance and safeguard trainings are promising as the participants, comprised of village residents and municipality representatives were quick to grasp key concepts and have committed to developing pilot activities. Unfortunately, these trained officials remain in Kathmandu due to the National Covid-19 lockdown. Pilot activities will hopefully be integrated into this year's annual development budgets and plans. The project discovered that 5 year plans are not routinely developed, so the project will therefore focus on one-year planning protocols and opportunities.

11. Darwin identity

This Darwin Initiative has been presented in SLC's Facebook blogs and Twitter feeds for its donors and the interested public. These stories form part of SLC's news archives, including its Annual Report read by several hundred people. SLC's work in general, including that of Founder, Dr Rodney Jackson was featured in a professionally filmed YouTube clip based on a site visit to Manang to highlight his selection as one of 6 finalists for the prestigious 2018 Indianapolis Prize (<https://youtu.be/52V8UFXY3dM>). Photographs by the acclaimed Nepali photographer, Tashi Ghale, a resident of Manang routinely appear on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram posts, many of which are re-posted by the general public and SLC's supporters.

Going forward, SLC has developed a close and productive working relationship with a young videographer who made a 10 minute clip on using drones to survey snow leopard prey species in Mongolia (https://youtu.be/ZSszMTNKN_4). Currently, we are seeking funds so this individual can document community-based conservation projects, including the Darwin Initiative in Nepal for dissemination on YouTube and Instagram, along with permanent posting on the SLC website.

Reports of wolf sightings in Sagarmatha National Park by sub-consultant Dr. Lhakpa Norbu Sherpa appears in English and Nepali language news outlets in Kathmandu.

12. Safeguarding

SLC adheres to equal employment provisions applied to all employee recruitment, and imbedded in consultancies or partnership agreements, with safeguarding provisions aimed at protecting all beneficiaries, project staff, volunteers, and downstream partners working on its projects, including the Darwin Initiative.

All SLC staff, consultants and Board of Directors sign Conflict of Interest disclosures as part of their employment and/or contractual agreements. Employees are given a 30-page Employee

Handbook that covers policies or topics from harassment to Professional Conduct; Standards of Conduct; to transparency, treatment of confidential information and anticorruption measures.

SLC has endorsed a set of Guiding Principles and professional standards for implementing its programs and for working with range-country partners and others. All staff, field associates, consultants and partner associates are expected to provide & ensure a safe environment for employees and the persons or institutions that they contact professionally. We are in the process of including additional guidelines and language to address issues related to the Safeguarding of all project personnel in all contractor and partner agreements. These will help supplement our performance and value-based expectations and operational guiding principles already shared with all partner organizations.

We will continue to monitor all employees, contractors and partner's performance for compliance with these set of norms. Any transgression, reported and/or rumoured will be investigated by the Project Manager in Charge and SLC's designated manager.

The Covid-19 has led to procedures for ensuring the health and safety of all project staff. For the immediate term, all face-to-face meetings are suspended and contact is by telephone, email or Zoom meeting only. Prior to the National lockdown in Nepal two sets of governance trainings took place, but participants were required to maintain social distance, common surfaces were disinfected, buffet meals were replaced with individual boxed lunches and wearing of masks highlighted. Reinitiating travel, face-to-face meetings, interviews, contact etc will follow guidelines for suggestions issued by Government of Nepal and the WHO..

13. Project expenditure

Please expand and complete Table 1. If all receipts have not yet been received, please provide indicative figures and clearly mark them as Draft. The Actual claim form will be taken as the final accounting for funds.

Table 1: Project expenditure during the reporting period (1 April 2019 – 31 March 2020)

Project spend (indicative) in this financial year	2019/20 D+ Grant (£)	2019/20 Total actual D+ Costs (£)	Variance %	Comments (please explain significant variances)
Staff costs				
Consultancy costs				
Overhead Costs				
Travel and subsistence				
Operating Costs				
Capital items				
Others (Please specify)				
TOTAL				

Highlight any agreed changes to the budget and **fully** explain any variation in expenditure where this is +/- 10% of the budget. Have these changes been discussed with and approved by Darwin?

Annex 1: Report of progress and achievements against Logical Framework for Financial Year 2019-2020 –

NOTE: Reporting is on the approved logframe from original proposal as of March 31, 2020. A change request to modify the logframe has been submitted (April 30, 2020) and is under consideration. We have tried to reference areas of requested change in the comments of this logframe where possible.

Project Monitoring and Evaluation

Measuring Impact

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2019 - March 2020	Actions required/planned for next period
<p>Impact</p> <p>Snow leopard populations are sustained and their prey and habitat protected through institutionalized conservation finance and stewardship at local levels and can be replicated to other sites.</p>		<p>Prey and Habitat surveys completed and demonstrate suitable prey and habitat conditions. See blue sheep report. Private sector operators pilot implementation delayed due to travel restrictions from Covid -19. Nar & Phu Local Government Officials state high interest to incorporate conservation into Annual Plans and Budgets</p>	
<p>Outcome: Strengthened local institutions & livelihoods, diversified enterprises, reduced livestock losses, and climate-smart villagers committed to sustaining stable snow leopard and prey populations and better overall biodiversity</p>	<p>0.1 Stable Snow Leopard Density of $\pm 0.5- 1.0 /100 \text{ km}^2$ (Khumbu) & $\geq 1.0-2.0/ 100 \text{ km}^2$ (Manang)</p> <p>0.2 > 9 local institutions (+/- 50 Officials) in 2 sites report 25% increase in enterprise & conservation supported activities targeting 750 households</p>	<p>0.1 Prey and Habitat surveys completed and demonstrate suitable prey and habitat conditions. See blue sheep report.</p> <p>0.2 Nar & Phu Local Government Officials state high interest to incorporate conservation into annual plans and budgets</p>	<p>0.2 and 0.3: Request to reduce target numbers due to lower population in revised logframe</p> <p>Need to Evaluate effectiveness of</p>

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2019 - March 2020	Actions required/planned for next period
	<p>0.3 Up to 750 households in 2 sites engaged in snow leopard & biodiversity protection activities</p> <p>0.4 Depredation & human wildlife conflicts reduced by 30% over 3 years</p> <p>0.5 Community understanding increased by 30% of important linkages between climate change, pasture management impacts & snow leopard populations, Baseline Year 1, Results Year</p>	<p>0.3 Private sector operators pilot implementation delayed due to travel restrictions from Covid-19.</p> <p>0.4 Low depredation rates reported in Khumbu, due partially to reduction in livestock as a livelihood strategy. Depredation rates appear stable in Nar & Phu due partially to high rates of available ungulates for prey. Foxlights reported to be a successful deterrence</p>	<p>pilot project after initiation</p> <p><i>Foxlight effectiveness survey needed in Year 3, along with additional deployment. Trial AI based camera deterrent planned in Year 3 and 4</i></p>
<p>Output 1. 1. Training and Capacity building provided for local government and stakeholder institutions; (Savings & Credit Groups, Buffer Zone Sub Committees, Conservational Area Management Committees, Herder User Groups & local Rural municipality (<i>Gaun Palika</i>) governments);</p>	<p>1.1 20 officials from Two local government institutions trained (6 workshops x 3 days each) in: a) transparent governance; and b) finance management, funds, mobilization & mediation in 2 sites (Year 1: 3 trainings; Year 2: 1 Training; Year 3: 2 trainings)</p> <p>1.2 Conservation Mainstreamed into annual and 5 year plans agreements, measured against the baseline of zero (*NOTE: These are new Government of Nepal Structures under the new Constitution): Assessed in Year 2 & Year 3</p>	<p><i>1.1 8 Governance and Environmental Safeguards and APPA trainings completed in Year 2. 209 individuals trained. Full descriptions including evaluations include in text</i></p> <p><i>1.3 Trained Nar and Phu Officials committed to including increased conservation activities into annual plans but remain in Kathmandu due to internal travel restrictions. The project discovered that Five Year plans are not produced and this component is being eliminated in the revised logframe..</i></p>	

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2019 - March 2020	Actions required/planned for next period
	1.3 Conduct 4 training in 50 formal and informal leaders from 9 local stakeholder groups (5 communities in Manang and 4 in Khumbu, representing +/- 750 households) in Human Wildlife Conflict mediation & preventative measures; Years 2 & Year 3	<i>1.3 Trained Nar and Phu Officials committed to reviewing and trying to improve wildlife compensation schemes for local use. This is a priority for Year 3 and 4. The project is also teaming up with RESOLVE to pilot new AI based camera deterrence mechanisms</i>	
Activity: 1.1 Two Training Manuals produced, a) transparent governance, and b) mediation/conflict/resource mobilization		2 Manuals produced in Year 1 and refined in Year 2 (in Nepali language).	Completed
Activity 1.2: One Trainer of Trainers conducted (for TMI and MS staff)		ToT Training conducted, 23 persons trained	Completed
Activity 1.3: Eight Governance trainings conducted in 2 sites over 3 years		8 Governance Training completed in Year 2. Photos attached. 3 trainings for Khumbu site postponed for Year 3	Completed in Nar & Phu. Khumbu trainings postponed to Year 3.
Activity 1.4: Before and After Training skill assessments x 8 trainings		Training effectiveness assessed and described in text.	Completed for Nar & Phu. Khumbu to do in Year 3
Activity 1.5: Number of conservation activities in One Year Rural Municipality Plans		Trainees committed to complete this task but return to their villages delayed due to National lockdown and travel restrictions	In progress, once trainees reach villages. Needs to be assessed in Year 3

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2019 - March 2020	Actions required/planned for next period
Activity 1.6: Number of conservation Activities in 5 Year Rural Municipality		Eliminating this activity. Project staff discovered that there are no 5 year plans at local level.	Eliminated. Recommended to cut in revised logframe
Activity 1.7: Total amount of revenues raised from Gov't of Nepal sources for local conservation recorded		Not accomplished yet	Measure after Trained Officials return to their villages and annual plans are developed.
Activity 1.8: Four Herder and Human Wildlife Mediation and prevention trainings; 2 trainings x 2 sites; years 2 and 3		Trainings completed in Year 1 but repeat training is required. Herder training and veterinary training planned for March postponed due to international travel restrictions and National Covid-19 Lockdown	Rescheduled for Oct-Nov 2020
Activity 1.9 Number of Trained Herders practice some form of preventative measures on their lands/herds		32 herders received and using Foxlights in Year 1. 20 additional Foxlights distributed in year 2. 40 additional Foxlights in Kathmandu await deployment. 30 additional Foxlights purchased and await deployment to Nepal	Foxlight effectiveness criteria being developed for use in Year 3 and 4
Output 2. Local Communities (750 households) protect & stabilize or improve snow leopard & prey numbers, habitat conditions in Manang and Khumbu sites	2.1 Annual rate of change assessed for snow leopard abundance in 1 site (Manang), through (a) DNA baseline survey (Year 1) & repeated in Year 3; and (b) annual camera trap surveys (Year 1-3	2.1 Measuring annual rates of change is not feasible as population changes are much more gradual except when there are extreme circumstances such as heavy poaching pressure. Small sample size & associated variability affect statistical power for detecting change. Permission for survey obtained but camera-trap and scat collection	

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2019 - March 2020	Actions required/planned for next period
	<p>Manang, potential expansion to Khumbu Years 2&3)</p> <p>2.2: Stable Prey and Habitat demonstrated by Year 3 in 2 sites</p> <p>2.3: 5-15 local Protected Area rangers trained in camera trapping, prey & habitat surveys (Year 1 in Manang; Year 2 in Khumbu)</p> <p>2.4: 30-50 herders trained on improved livestock guarding and husbandry techniques, documenting and monitoring annual livestock depredation losses at Manang and Khumbu (Year 1&2)</p> <p>2.5: 50-75% of trained herders confirm value of improved livestock practices, including use of cost-effective, deterrents (e.g. Foxlights, guard dogs) and adopt climate-smart practices, including improved pasture management</p> <p>2..6 20 “Citizen Scientists” (Snow Leopard Scouts) trained Manang in wildlife monitoring techniques and linked to development of <i>Snow Leopard Trails</i></p> <p>2.7 People’s attitudes & understanding of clear linkages between increased revenues, climate smart agri-pastoralism &</p>	<p>surveys delayed due to weather and now Covid-19 lockdown.</p> <p>2.2 Stable conditions demonstrated in Nar & Phu,(see attached blue sheep survey for full description). Habitat of Khumbu described in Wolf survey (report forthcoming in Year 3)</p> <p>2.3: Protected Area rangers trained during wolf study in Sagarmatha National Park. (Actual number trained will be in the final report).</p> <p>2.4 32 herders trained in corral improvements and use of Foxlights. 8 additional herders trained in Year 2. Herder training planned for March 2020 postponed and rescheduled for October 2020 due to Covid-19</p> <p>2.5: Foxlight effectiveness criteria and refined herder perception surveys being designed in Year 3. Grazing land management practices to be assessed during planned and postponed March veterinary training.</p> <p>2.6 GPN trained Snow Leopard Scouts in year 1. Without the Snow Leopards Trails work and employment possibilities they unlikely to serve as effective monitors. One Snow Leopard entrepreneur is very effectively monitoring and photographing snow leopards on a regular basis</p> <p>2.7: GPN completed attitude and perception surveys in year 1. Data was incomplete however and their contract</p>	

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2019 - March 2020	Actions required/planned for next period
	snow leopard conservation increased by 30% in Manang, Baseline Year 1; Results: Year 3	was terminated. A revised and improved perception survey is being redesigned for use in year 3. The first field trial was planned in March 2020 but was postponed to October 2020 due to International and National travel restrictions.	
<p>Activity 2.1.:</p> <p>2.11 Establish baseline snow leopard and/or prey/habitat</p> <p>2.12 Conduct non-invasive faecal survey, (if permitted)</p> <p>2.13 Develop manual and conduct camera trap survey</p> <p>2.14 Develop manual and Conduct Prey and Habitat surveys</p>		<p>2.11: Habitat survey completed for Manang (as part of blue sheep survey) and attached.</p> <p>2.12 and 2.13 Camera trap and faecal Survey permission granted, delayed due to snow and National Lockdown;</p> <p>Survey methodology included in Blue Sheep survey. 8 Snow Leopard Committee member trained and 3 have used techniques in Year 2</p>	<p>2.11-2.13: Conduct camera trap and possible faecal (scat) survey when Covid-19 lockdown lifted</p>
Activity 2.2: Conduct Herder/Livestock Owner Attitude Surveys		Herder attitude survey completed in year 1, but was unsatisfactory. GPN partnership terminated. Survey redesign under process. Initial survey field testing postponed from March 2020 until Oct 2020	Continue survey redesign, field test new instrument and conduct survey
Activity 2.3: Develop Manual / Implement & Monitor Livestock Protection Measures for Herders		Manual produced but needs amendment to include Foxlight effectiveness criteria; Domestic dog photos collected for AI analysis and testing in RESOLVE AI systems. Livestock depredation survey completed, & described in text.	Develop Foxlight effective criteria, distribute Foxlights; Pilot deterrence systems with RESOLVE

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2019 - March 2020	Actions required/planned for next period
Activity 2.4: Establish & Monitor <i>Snow Leopard Trails</i>		Advised by Year One Reviewer to move to Output 3. A revised logframe without this activity submitted to Darwin	Eliminate this activity from logframe. Redundant for Output 3
Activity 2.5: Preliminary Feasibility Assessment of Wildlife Damage Relief Fund		Existing compensation schemes in Khumbu assessed, and found adequate but bureaucratic. DNPWC Officials resist devolving these powers to Local Government Authorities. Nar & Phu Local Government want to refine compensation schemes for their area.	Nar and Phu <i>Gaun Palika</i> Officials prioritized designing new system for Year 3. Dropped for Khumbu due to lack of DNPWC support.
Output 3. Snow leopard linked enterprises identified, piloted and offering conservation incentives	<p>3.1 18 local stakeholder institutions (approximately 50-60 officials) trained in business planning, t2 trainings, (Manang and Khumbu) +/- 750 households, Year 1</p> <p>3.2 One product based enterprise identified and feasibility assessed in Manang linking enterprise and snow leopard & biodiversity conservation; Year 2</p> <p>3.3 One service design completed for snow leopard trail at Manang site, with local stakeholders, serving 5-8 communities, +/- 50-80 HHs; Year 1</p>	<p>3.1: 22 Women training in Food Preparation and Bakery;</p> <p>3.2 Snow Leopard Trail enterprise designed but implementation delayed (see text for details).</p> <p>3.3 Service design completed in year 1 by Ennovent.</p>	<p>Additional Business plan training to be conducted in Year 3</p> <p>Pilot implementation after lockdown is lifted</p> <p>Completed</p>

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2019 - March 2020	Actions required/planned for next period
	<p>3.4 One implementation strategy developed and verified to pilot snow leopard trail in Manang; Years 2 and 3</p> <p>3.5 30+ Households receive cash incentives from Income generated through Snow Leopard Trail trekking in 4 communities in Manang; Year 3</p> <p>3.6 10+ Pilot snow leopard linked micro-enterprise projects serving 750 households identified and funded through small grants project in Manang and Khumbu, Years 2 & 3. (Done by TMI and MS)</p>	<p>3.4 Implementation strategy designed. 2 marketing and branding trips postponed.</p> <p>3.5 Community benefits sharing mechanism not yet designed.</p> <p>3.6: Bakery training conducted for 22 women in Nar and Phu. Khumbu water supply project support stopped as plastic water bottle ban took place in Khumbu. TMI no longer a partner since they went bankrupt.</p>	<p>Delayed until Year 3 due to lockdown, in Oct 2020</p> <p>Design and pilot benefit sharing mechanism in Yr 3</p> <p>Additional workshops to identify alternative income streams planned in year 3, once lockdown is lifted.</p>
Activity 3.1: .1 Complete market study in Manang to identify at least one snow leopard-linked product, Year 1		Completed Year 1, report attached as annex	Completed
3.2 Complete Service Design for pilot snow leopard trail in Manang, including route, platform, partners, and pricing, Year 1		Completed Year 1, report attached	Completed
3.3 Train local community members in developing and managing the Snow Leopard Trail, Year 1&2		Completed Year 1, training ongoing Year 2	Follow up on the job training
3.4 Develop detailed Implementation Strategy to pilot the trail in Manang, Year 1		In progress	In progress

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2019 - March 2020	Actions required/planned for next period
3.5 Enlist the trained community members and Kathmandu travel agents as partners in piloting the trail, Year 2		Community member entrepreneurs identified and trained	Completed, retraining “on the job” and by mentoring
3.6 Initiate the pilot of the snow leopard trail along the identified route and villages, in partnership with key local stakeholders, Year 2 and Year 3		Initiation delayed due to National Lockdown, 2 Marketing and Branding trips postponed	Planned in Year 3
3.7 Monitor the pilot and incorporate feedback to improve the service, Year 3		Pilot paying clients identified but trip cancelled due to Covid-19 pandemic; Delays likely in Year 3 and perhaps into Year 4	Planned in Year 3

23. Provide a project implementation timetable that shows the key milestones in project activities. Complete the following table as appropriate to describe the intended workplan for your project (starting from Q2 July 2018)

Please add/remove columns to reflect the length of your project. For each activity (add/remove rows as appropriate) indicate the number of months it will last, and shade only the quarters in which an activity will be carried out. The workplan can span multiple pages if necessary.

	Activity	No. of months	Year 1			Year 2				Year 3			
			Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Output 1	Local Governance Strengthening												
1.1	Two Training Manuals produced, a) transparent governance, and b) mediation/conflict/resource mobilization			X									
1.2	One Trainer of Trainers conducted (for TMI and MS staff)			X									
1.3	Eight Governance trainings conducted in 2 sites over 3 years				X				X				
1.4	Before and After Training skill assessments x 8 trainings				X				X				
1.5	Number of conservation activities in One year Rural Municipality Plans							X			X		
1.6	Number of conservation Activities in 5 Year Rural Municipality										X		
1.7	Total amount of revenues raised from Gov't of Nepal sources for local conservation recorded							X			X		
1.8	Four Herder and Human Wildlife Mediation and prevention trainings; 2 trainings x 2 sites; years 2 and 3					X				X			
1.9	Number of Trained Herders practice some form of preventative measures on their lands/herds						X				X		
1.10	In-service Training & Follow-up				X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
Output 2	Facilitate Biodiversity Stewardship by Local Institutions												
2.1	Establish Baseline Snow Leopard and/or Prey / Habitat		X	X	X	X							
2.1.1	Conduct Non-invasive Faecal Genetic Survey			X	X	X						X	X
2.1.2	Develop Manual & conduct camera trap surveys				X			X					X
2.1.3	Develop Manual & Conduct Prey & Habitat Surveys			X	X	X						X	X

2.2	Conduct Herder / Livestock Owner Attitude Survey			X									
2.3	Develop Manual / Implement & Monitor Livestock Protection Measures for Herders					X	X				X	X	
2.4	Establish & Monitor Pilot <i>Snow Leopard Trails</i>						X	X			X	X	X
2.5	Pilot Feasibility Study for Wildlife Damage Relief Fund				X			X	X				X
Output 3	Private Sector Generating Incentives for Snow Leopard Conservation in one or more sites												
3.1	Complete Market study in Manang to identify at least one snow leopard linked product		X	X	X	X					X		
3.2	Complete Service design for pilot snow leopard trail in Manang including route, platform, partners and pricing		X	X	X								
3.3	Train Local community members in developing and managing the trail		X	X	X								
3.4	Develop Detailed Implementation Strategy to Pilot the trail in Manang			X	X								
3.5	Enlist the trained community members as partners in piloting the trail					X	X	X	X				
3.6	Initiate the pilot of the snow leopard trail along the identified route and villages, in partnership with key local stakeholders					X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
3.7	Monitor the pilot , incorporating feedback to improve services									X	X	X	X
3.8	Develop criteria to assess Snow Leopard linked Micro Enterprise Projects and initiate small grants 10+ projects (done by Mountain Institute and Mountain Spirit) ^{2/}				X				X			X	X
Output 4	Project Management, Evaluation & Reporting												
4.1	Complete Annual Work-Plans		X	X		X				X			
4.2	Monitor Key Indicators			X		X			X		X		X
4.3	Progress / Final Reports & Disseminate Findings & Lessons Learned		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

13.1	Foot Notes	13.2	13.3	13.4
13.5	1/	13.6 Institutions affecting habitat, natural resources & alpine ecosystems (especially over-exploitation), and those involved in livestock husbandry, tourism, etc.		
13.7	2/	13.8 Using criteria linked with and/or supporting biodiversity conservation objectives (especially conservation of snow leopards, their prey & habitat)		
13.9		13.10	13.11	13.12

Annex 3 Onwards – supplementary material (optional but encouraged as evidence of project achievement):

Checklist for submission

	Check
Is the report less than 10MB? If so, please email to Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.uk putting the project number in the Subject line.	
Is your report more than 10MB? If so, please discuss with Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.uk about the best way to deliver the report, putting the project number in the Subject line.	
Have you included means of verification? You need not submit every project document, but the main outputs and a selection of the others would strengthen the report.	
Do you have hard copies of material you want to submit with the report? If so, please make this clear in the covering email and ensure all material is marked with the project number. However, we would expect that most material will now be electronic.	
Have you involved your partners in preparation of the report and named the main contributors	
Have you completed the Project Expenditure table fully?	
Do not include claim forms or other communications with this report.	